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REPORTS

FROM

COMMISSIONERS:

SIXTEEN VOLUMES.

—(5.)—

GLOUCESTER ELECTION COMMISSION.

Session

24 *January* — 28 *August* 1860.

27

VOL. XXVII.

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REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

1860.

SIXTEEN VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

FIFTH VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

GLOUCESTER ELECTION:

[2586.] REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS appointed to inquire into the Extensive and CORRUPT PRACTICES at the last *Gloucester* Election; together with the MINUTES of EVIDENCE taken before them - - - - - - - - - - - p. 1

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REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE

EXISTENCE OF CORRUPT PRACTICES

AT THE

LAST GLOUCESTER ELECTION,

TOGETHER WITH THE

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THEM.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1860.

[2586]

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COMMISSION.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, to our trusty and well-beloved James Vaughan, Esquire, Lucius Henry Fitzgerald, Esquire, and Richard Griffiths Welford, Esquire, greeting. Whereas the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled, have by a joint Address humbly represented unto Us, that a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to try a Petition complaining of an undue Election and Return for the City of Gloucester, have reported to the House that there is reason to believe that Corrupt Practices have extensively prevailed at the last Election for the City of Gloucester, and have humbly prayed that We will be graciously pleased to cause Inquiry to be made, pursuant to the Provisions of the Act of Parliament passed in the Sixteenth Year of Our Reign, intituled "An Act "to provide for more effectual Inquiry into the Existence of Corrupt Practices at Elections "for Members to serve in Parliament," by the appointment of you, the said James Vaughan, Lucius Henry Fitzgerald, and Richard Griffiths Welford, as Commissioners for the Purpose of making Inquiry into the Existence of such Corrupt Practices:

Know ye, that We, in compliance with the Prayer of the said joint Address, have authorized and appointed, and do by these Presents, in pursuance of the Power vested in Us by the said Act, authorize and appoint you, the said James Vaughan, Lucius Henry Fitzgerald, and Richard Griffiths Welford, to be Commissioners for the Purpose of making Inquiry, under the said Act, into the Existence of the Corrupt Practices in the said joint Address referred to.

Given at Our Court at Saint James, the Twentieth Day of August 1859, in the Twenty-third Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

G. C. LEWIS.

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REPORT

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

We, the Commissioners appointed under Your Majesty's Royal Sign Manual, to inquire into the Existence of Corrupt Practices at Elections for the City of Gloucester, having completed the Inquiry which we were commanded to make, humbly submit this our Report to Your Majesty.

Having made the necessary preliminary arrangements, we proceeded to Gloucester, and opened the Commission in that city on the 26th day of September 1859. From that day to the 15th day of October we prosecuted our inquiry by daily sittings at the Shire Hall for the examination of witnesses, when, in consequence of the holding of the Quarter Sessions for the County of Gloucester, we were compelled to adjourn until the 22d day of October. On that day we resumed our inquiry, and continued it until the 28th day of October, when we concluded our investigation at Gloucester. Subsequently, with the consent of Your Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, we have held four meetings in the City of Westminster for the further examination of witnesses.

We beg leave to express our acknowledgments to the Mayor, for the courteous attention which he displayed, and to the authorities officially connected with the city, as well as to the inhabitants in general, for the assistance which they afforded us in the discharge of our duties.

In bearing testimony to the services rendered by our Secretary, Mr. C. E. Coleridge, we beg leave to state that the preliminary inquiries which he instituted, by our direction, at Gloucester, greatly facilitated us in the prosecution of the objects of the Commission.

The evidence clearly established the existence of corrupt practices at the Election of 1859, into which we were commanded by Your Majesty to inquire, and also at the preceding Election in 1857, the corrupt practices at which we were authorized to investigate by the 6th section of the statute of the 15th and 16th years of Your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to provide for the more effectual Inquiry into the "Existence of Corrupt Practices at Elections for Members to serve in Parliament."

The election next preceding, viz. that of 1855, was an uncontested election, and no corrupt practices having been proved to have been committed thereat, we considered ourselves precluded by the prohibitory words of the section last mentioned, "that where the "Commissioners do not find that Corrupt Practices have been committed at an Election, "they shall not inquire concerning any previous Election," from extending our inquiries into the details of any election antecedent to that uncontested election. In the course of the inquiry, however, we thought it expedient to obtain, and we received general information, as to the expenses and practices attending some of the earlier elections.

It will be observed, that in this Report we have departed from the order in which our investigation was conducted, having deemed it advisable to adopt a chronological arrangement in tracing the history of the corrupt practices which we found in existence in Gloucester.

The city of Gloucester is an inland port situated on the river Severn, and possessing an easy communication with the Bristol Channel by means of the Gloucester and Berkeley Canal, which is navigable for vessels of heavy burthen, it had acquired before the commencement of the Russian war a considerable trade in timber and corn; this trade was greatly injured by that war, and although it is now recovering from the depression the war produced, it has not yet regained the prosperity which it had previously enjoyed.

The population of Gloucester at the last census amounted to 22,332 persons, but, owing to the fact that 5,026 are resident beyond the Parliamentary boundaries of the city, the electoral population does not exceed 17,306 persons. The city contains fourteen parishes and one hamlet, of which five parishes are partly within and partly without the Parliamentary boundary.

Gloucester at a very early period enjoyed the distinction of sending representatives to Parliament. As far back as the twenty-third year of the reign of Edward I. we find it in the possession of that privilege, and from that remote period down to the present time its enjoyment of the privilege has been uninterrupted. Until the Reform Act the

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elective franchise had been from time immemorial exclusively vested in the freemen, a body of persons whose claims to be admitted to the freedom of the city were derived either from their birth as the sons, or from their servitude as the apprentices of freemen. At the period of the Reform Act the constituency numbered about 2,000 electors, but of these no less a number than 1,200 were disfranchised by the operation of that Act, the thirty-second section of which rendered the continued exercise of their franchise dependent upon residence within a radius of seven miles from the Parliamentary boundary. Since that time the number of the freemen has, from various causes, gradually decreased, and accordingly we find that at the last election they did not exceed 534 out of the gross number of 1,721 electors. The greater portion of the freemen reside within the city, but as many as 197 reside beyond the Parliamentary boundary. The whole constituency, which appeared by the register of the electors in force at the last election to be composed of 534 freemen and 1,187 householders, when subjected to the necessary deductions in respect of duplicate qualifications, was stated to amount to about 1,500 electors. The constituency is now divided into two political parties, Conservative and Liberal, which are also locally distinguished as the Blue and Yellow parties.

Before we direct our attention to the elections of 1859 and 1857, the corrupt practices at which have formed the principal subjects of our inquiry, it will be necessary to take a cursory retrospective glance at the system which preceded and followed the introduction of the Reform Bill. Immemorial as the origin of electoral corruption appears to be in Gloucester, there are some facts which stand out in bold relief to denote the extent to which it had grown nearly half a century ago.

Colonel Webb's own statement was vouched in proof of the assertion that the contest in 1816 had cost him 27,500*l*., and Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley testified to the fact that his expenditure at the election of 1818 amounted to upwards of 16,000*l*. The non-resident freemen, who previous to the year 1832 comprised the great bulk of the constituency, were brought, and often with their wives and families, at every contested election, from all parts of the kingdom to Gloucester, and there maintained at the expense of the candidates till the close of the election; the cost of taking up the freedom of those who, though qualified to be, had not yet been admitted to the privileges of, freemen, was defrayed by the candidates; treating was universal; largesses, in the shape of payments for nominal services rendered by the voters in the character of special constables, flag-bearers, bandsmen, chairmen, and messengers, were freely distributed; and to crown all, head money, as it is generally believed, was paid to the electors at the Christmas succeeding each election as a reward for past, and a propitiation for future favours.

By this system purity of election was wholly destroyed, and money rather than principle determined the voter in the exercise of his franchise. The Reform Act, although it mitigated, failed to destroy the evil thus introduced. It lopped off indeed a large and costly portion of the constituency, but it retained the portion most calculated to infect by its presence the new class of electors whom it had created.

The freemen who by the Reform Act were reduced to 800 in number, and since then have decreased to their present number of 534, would probably have been diminished in a much larger ratio had not their numbers been maintained by the continuance of a practice which has long been in mischievous operation in Gloucester. Before a man entitled to be free can be admitted to the privileges of a freeman, a payment of 13*s*. 6*d*. is required to be made in discharge of the expenses incurred by him in "taking up his freedom." This sum a considerable number of the embryo freemen are either unable or unwilling to pay, and they therefore apply to the agents of the respective political parties to which their fathers belonged to defray the cost. It would be impossible now to ascertain the number of those who have owed their political existence as freemen to these gratuitous payments since the passing of the Reform Act, but we learnt from Mr. Probert, junior, one of the registration agents of the Liberal party, that the freedom of as many as 41 freemen had been "taken up" by both parties during the years 1857, 1858, and 1859; and Mr. J. Browne, the registration agent for the Conservative party, stated that he had himself "taken up" the freedom of at least 100 freemen since the Reform Act, the greater portion of whom would not have cared to have acquired their freedom at their own expense.

Such a system is essentially corrupt, and the evidence which we have received, and to which we shall hereafter refer in detail, has left on our minds a strong impression that the perpetuation by such means of a class of electors whose hereditary corruption has greatly deteriorated the character of the constituency, is most calculated to nourish and permanently maintain the demoralization which we have found prevailing at Gloucester.

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Although the elections immediately subsequent to the Reform Act were comparatively pure, their purity, such as it was, did not spring from the class who had before been familiar with corruption. It was incidentally stated to us by Mr. J. Browne, and we mention the fact as illustrative of this view, that at the first election subsequent to the Reform Act, which was, he said, the only occasion on which he had committed bribery, he had himself bribed six voters, of whom four were freemen, with a sum of 5*l.* each to record their votes for Mr. Hope.

To the demoralization thus produced many of the witnesses pointed as the principal cause of the corruption which has subsequently prevailed. From the passing of the Reform Act down to the present time few elections have been uncontested, and if we may rely upon the general evidence which was presented to us, equally as few have been wholly free from corrupt practices. In the year 1832 Mr. Hope first appeared as the candidate of the Conservative party, and for 20 years he maintained a doubtful struggle with Admiral Berkeley for the representation of Gloucester. Though eminently popular with his own party, and much respected even by his opponents, Mr. Hope's varying success was attributed by his opponents not so much to his political strength as to the liberality of his expenditure. Of the extent of that expenditure the evidence that was presented to us was vague and unsatisfactory; but there is good reason to believe that the election of 1837 was in an especial degree costly and corrupt. It is possible indeed that this description might be properly applicable to all the elections preceding the election of 1852, unless we except that of 1847, which, according to Mr. Helps, who was then Mr. Hope's agent, was not corrupt, though Mr. Hope's expenditure at that election exceeded 2,000*l.*

The election of 1852 was stated to be remarkable for the purity with which it had been conducted, and it leads to the inference that if candidates would honestly resolve to be pure, corrupt practices at elections would soon cease to exist. Mr. Hope, Admiral Sir M. F. F. Berkeley, and Mr. Price were the candidates who then sought the suffrages of the electors, and they unanimously adopted an agreement, which Mr. A. G. Phillpotts, in his anxiety to introduce electoral purity among the constituency, had submitted to them; of which it will suffice to say that it provided for the discontinuance of all expenses, either not actually necessary or not consistent with purity of election, and for the appointment of a referee, to whose decision all questions arising out of the election should be submitted for final determination. Although an opinion was somewhat confidently expressed that its provisions had not been strictly observed by the Liberal party, we have no reason to think that the objects proposed by that agreement were not fully secured. At that election Mr. Hope was defeated, the numbers polled being respectively, Hope, 766; Berkeley, 786; Price, 851.

Admiral Berkeley stated, that he was informed by Mr. Hope, in the moment of defeat, that he would never return to Gloucester; "that he had been deceived by his party, who had represented to him that he could win the election without resorting to bribery." A vacancy, however, having occurred in 1853, by the appointment of Admiral Berkeley as a Lord of the Admiralty, the opportunity was seized by the Conservative party once more to nominate Mr. Hope, although absent, to contest the representation. The contest resulted, as did that of 1852, in the defeat of Mr. Hope, and the political connexion which had existed between that gentleman and the city of Gloucester for upwards of 20 years was then completely severed.

The Conservative party were not discouraged by the defeat or the secession of their leader. In the hope of repairing their loss, they founded, in 1853, a Conservative Association, which, enrolled as a friendly society, was in reality a political club, by the rules of which all were excluded from membership who would not pledge their allegiance to the cause of conservatism. They sought to strengthen their cause by acquiring a party ascendancy in the municipal corporation, and rendered, by corrupt expenditure, upon one occasion at least, the election of a town councillor as costly as that of a Parliamentary representative.

As the time drew near when a general election might be expected, the Conservative party were anxious to secure a candidate. Sir R. W. Carden, an Alderman of the city of London, was mentioned as a gentleman not unlikely to respond to their wishes. Two deputations waited upon him in London, and invited him to become a candidate, and upon the assurance that the expense would not be considerable, probably not more than 450*l.*, as he stated before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1857, or from 500*l.* to 600*l.*, as he stated to us, he consented in March 1857 to accept their invitation. No inquiries were made, and no information was afforded as to the character of the constituency. The principal fact which was adduced

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to influence the mind of Sir R. Carden was the ascendancy which the Conservatives had lately obtained in the municipal corporation, a powerful argument in itself, as indicative of a change in the politics of many of the constituency, if it had not been rendered worthless by the means which had been adopted to obtain it.

Neither locally nor commercially connected with Gloucester, Sir R. Carden became the competitor at the election which took place in the month of March 1857, with the two former members, Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price, for the representation of Gloucester. The "victim of hypocrisy," as he described himself to have been at St. Alban's, he pointed to the disfranchisement of that place as the result of his endeavours, and expressed on the hustings his determination to owe his seat, if elected, "to the basis of his own character, and to the free and unbiassed suffrages of the electors." The Liberal party confident in their strength, and in the promises of support which they had received, regarded the issue as certain. Having defeated in 1852 the most popular candidate the Conservatives ever had, they thought it reasonable to conclude that a gentleman holding the same political opinions, but wholly unknown to the constituency, could not be successful in 1857. The Conservative party, on the other hand, while they admitted that a candidate locally connected with Gloucester would have a better chance of success than one not so connected, denied that the majority over Mr. Hope in 1852 had been honestly obtained, and further relied for success on the accession of strength which successive registrations had since that period, as they contended, afforded them. As the close of the contest approached, representations were made to Admiral Berkeley and to Mr. Price, as well as to their agents, Mr. Robert Wilton and Mr. Viner Ellis, which left no doubt in their minds that the fidelity of many of their supporters would probably yield to the temptation of their opponents, if their wavering faith were not supported by the same means which had been used to corrupt it. They were informed that one of them must be defeated if money were not supplied to neutralize the efforts on the Conservative side, but they resisted all solicitation, and refused to contribute one shilling for the purposes of bribery. The result was such as might have been expected. Admiral Berkeley, who before the election had informed the Government, of which he was then a member, that "no "stranger could beat him by fair means," and who had obtained a far larger number of promises than he had received in 1852, was defeated by a majority of 33. The numbers polled being respectively, Carden, 743; Berkeley, 710; Price, 717.

The evidence which we have received places it beyond all doubt that hardly had Sir R. Carden announced himself as a candidate before the agencies of bribery and treating were employed to secure his election. Several of the most active of the subordinate agents of the party informed us, "that they began to treat and to bribe "the electors as soon as there was an idea afloat that there would be an election." A fortnight before the election is the shortest period assigned by Mr. John Ward, an active Conservative canvasser, for the commencement of treating, and the votes of a considerable number of the outlying freemen were secured at least as early, not by any definite promise, but by a general assurance "that if any money were going they should "receive their share of it." The machinery of corruption—both at this election and at that of 1859—was organized and set in motion, on the part of the Conservatives, by Mr. Alderman Whithorn, who acted as the paymaster or treasurer of his party, and got together the funds which were required for corrupting the constituency. What Mr. Whithorn did was known to few who claimed to be respectable; his acts were shrouded in darkness, which the more prudent and responsible agents of the party cared not to penetrate. Paid canvassers were associated with himself in working the machinery of corruption, men who understood their business, and required not to be told, when they received the funds intended for bribery, to what purpose they were to be applied. On the morning of the polling day Mr. Whithorn located himself in a room in connexion with the committee-rooms of his party. Thither flocked the owners and the brokers of votes. Some were brought; others came of themselves, and there bargained with Mr. Whithorn himself for their price. Some were taken to the Upper George, and there received their share of the spoil. Upon that occasion no less than 109 voters received bribes for the votes which they gave to Sir R. Carden—besides many others whom the bribery agents were unable to particularise. That Sir R. Carden was aware by what arts his majority had been obtained, when he boasted at the declaration of the poll that he had received the unparalleled number of 612 plumpers, we do not believe, but we think that he exposed himself to the suspicion at least of dissimulation, when, being distinctly informed by Mr. Phillpotts, a few days after the election, that that election had been procured by the purchase of votes, he contented himself with forwarding the letter which contained so

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grave an allegation to his agent, Mr. Lovegrove, without challenging inquiry or instituting any examination into its truth.

Upon this occasion, Sir R. Carden was accompanied to Gloucester by his friend Mr. Julian Bernard. On the evening of the nomination Mr. Whithorn discovered, from the reports of the agents, that the election could not be gained except by the purchase of a larger number of votes than he had anticipated. An advance of 300*l.* had been voluntarily made by Sir R. Carden to Mr. Lovegrove the day preceding the election, but no portion of that sum was available for the purchase of votes, without which success was hopeless. It not being deemed judicious to apply to Sir R. Carden for a further advance of money, Mr. Whithorn resorted to the expedient of borrowing the funds which he required for the purpose of bribery. From Mr. Bernard, as well as from other persons, he sought assistance and obtained it. The sum of 540*l.* was raised, of which Mr. Bernard contributed 200*l.*, by two separate cheques of 100*l.* each. The first cheque was paid immediately before, and the second within two or three days after the election, and both were repaid by Sir R. Carden after the hearing of the petition. To the payment of the first cheque we believe that no guilty knowledge attaches on the part of Mr. Bernard, but with regard to the second cheque we think that the opinion expressed by Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove, that the purpose to which it was to be applied must have been known to Mr. Bernard, at least equal in weight to Mr. Bernard's avowal of ignorance as to the object for which it was required. Apart from that opinion it is difficult to understand, except from the force of some suspicion which Mr. Bernard entertained as to the mode of its application, why he should have awaited the issue of the petition, which had been presented against the return of Sir R. Carden, before he communicated to that gentleman the fact that he had advanced the sum of 200*l.* for the purposes of his election at Gloucester; nor is it less difficult to understand how Sir R. Carden should have repaid the money without some explanation having been required or afforded, unless, from the force of a like suspicion, he thought it judicious to forbear from inquiring into the circumstances under which that advance had been made. We point attention to this transaction with some little particularity because it was the prelude to a more important part, which was played by Mr. Bernard at the election of 1859, and because it throws light upon the obscurity in which the proceedings of that election were wrapped. Of this, however, we shall speak hereafter.

Although the Liberal candidates and their principal agents had refused to sanction the corrupt expenditure of money at the election of 1857, the Liberal party was not wholly free from the practices which they had condemned in their opponents.

Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk, an important subordinate agent of that party, to whom had been confided the duty of employing the messengers and of paying the travelling expenses of the outvoters, finding himself in the forenoon of the polling day not only without the means of purchasing votes, but even of paying the bonâ fide travelling expenses of the voters who had come from distant places for the purpose of voting, obtained, between the hours of 12 and 2 o'clock on that day, three several sums of money, viz., 10*l.* from Mr. Hughes, 10*l.* from Mr. S. Jones, and 94*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. R. Potter, amounting, in the aggregate, to a sum of 114*l.* 10*s.* The concurrent testimony of several witnesses abundantly establishes the fact that, up to this time, bribery had not been practised by the Liberal party. The total abstinence from corruption which had been so rigidly insisted upon by Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price had produced, indeed, great irritation in the minds of some of their more zealous supporters, "because," as we were told by Mr. Moss, who remonstrated with Mr. R. Wilton and Mr. Ellis for their obedience to the instructions of their principals, "he thought that, "they were losing the election through not paying a few men for their day's work, "and because while the other side were doing so much in the shape of bribery they "were doing nothing." A similar feeling appears to have actuated Mr. Brewer Monk. Word had been brought to him by Mr. W. Probert that for the want of money they were losing their best men,—applications were made to him in vain by voters who suggested that they could obtain what they wanted on the other side,—and strongly impressed with the belief, that, if defeated, they should owe their defeat to the corrupt practices of the Conservatives, he distributed a portion of the funds which he had obtained to some trusty associates for the purpose of being employed to promote the success of the Liberal candidates, and in the exercise of their discretion they employed part of the funds in the purchase of votes.

We have been unable to discover evidence of any other illegal expenditure by the Liberal party at the election of 1857, and we think that we are warranted in concluding, both from the negative testimony of the most active Conservative agents, whom we successively questioned on this point, and also from the statement of the actual expenditure submitted to us by the agents of Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price,

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that beyond the extent to which it was carried by Mr. B. Monk, bribery was not practised at that election by the Liberal party. For this illegal expenditure, however, Mr. T. B. Monk was not alone responsible. We think that Mr. R. Potter acted a far more culpable part in advancing the sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* when he suspected, as he told us himself, that bribery was contemplated at the time that he parted with the money. Mr. Potter, who was a partner in the firm of which Mr. Price was the chief, went to the office of the firm for the purpose of procuring the money upon hearing from Mr. T. B. Monk that he was in want of funds for the purposes of the election, and this circumstance awakened at first in our minds a suspicion of complicity on the part of Mr. Price; but independently of Mr. Price's denial, that he was aware of what had been done, we are satisfied, as well from the unpremeditated manner in which that advance was made by Mr. Potter, as from the fact that no entry was made of it in the books of the firm till the month of April 1858, that Mr. Price was wholly ignorant of the proceedings of his partner.

The accounts delivered to the election auditor by the agents of the respective candidates by no means represented the actual expenditure; they respectively amounted to —Carden, 616*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*; Price, 233*l.* 16*s.*; Berkeley, 239*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*; while the actual expenditure was proved to have amounted to — Carden, 1,708*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*; Price, 390*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*; Berkeley, 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

The accounts which had been so delivered on the part of Sir R. Carden were known by Mr. Lovegrove at the time to be most imperfect, and we think there is ground for believing that they were prepared with the express purpose of concealing the real extent of the expenditure. It was then known that the friends of Admiral Berkeley had resolved to petition the House of Commons against the return of Sir R. Carden, and it may well have been thought that if the petition were prosecuted a true disclosure of the actual expenditure might imperil the safety of his seat. Whether this opinion is well conceived we shall proceed to inquire hereafter, when we enter upon a consideration of the duties of the election auditor, and of his value and efficiency as a means of preventing bribery.

Two petitions were subsequently presented to the House of Commons; one by the Liberal party, complaining of the return of Sir Robert Carden, and the other by the Conservative party complaining of the return of Mr. Price. In both petitions bribery was alleged as the ground for setting aside the return, but neither was successful in its result. The most remarkable feature which characterized the trial of these two petitions before a Committee of the House of Commons was the hardihood with which the chief agents of bribery on either side presented themselves as witnesses to contradict the particular cases in which they were charged as being implicated. The failure of that prosecuted against the return of Sir Robert Carden was stated before us to be due to the false testimony alleged to have been given by Mr. Whithorn in the case of a voter named Robert Dowers, who had charged himself with having been bribed, and had alleged that the money was given to him by Mr. Whithorn. The evidence given before the Committee of the House of Commons was reproduced before us, together with some additional testimony which we thought it right to call for, and, although we have been compelled to come to a conclusion at variance with that at which the Committee then arrived, and have found as a fact that Robert Dowers received money as the consideration for his vote, andreceived that money, indirectly at least, from Mr. Whithorn, we are unable to say that the evidence at all satisfied our minds that Mr. Whithorn had wilfully stated what he knew to be false, when he denied on oath that he had bribed Robert Dowers.

The Liberal party bore with evident discontent the double defeat which they had sustained. They were convinced that their strength at the election of 1857 had been undermined by bribery, and were suspicious that their petition had been defeated by the employment of means still more foul. To regain the position which they had lost was now the object of their most strenuous endeavours. They established a politico-benevolent association which they called the Reform Club, of the same hybrid character as that which had been organized by the Conservatives in 1853, and based it upon rules similar to those which their opponents had adopted. Its members comprised the most ardent supporters of Liberal principles, and their zeal increased with their influence and their numbers.

An opinion, founded upon what appeared to them a careful analysis of the constituency, to which we shall hereafter have occasion to refer, was entertained that, excluding the venal portion of the constituency, they had a majority of 150 over the Conservative party, and this opinion determined the leading members of the Reform Club to wrest from their opponents the seat which was then occupied by Sir R. Carden.

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Upon Admiral Berkeley their hopes were naturally fixed as the candidate of their choice; but Admiral Berkeley, who had in the beginning of 1859 yielded to the expressed desire of the Liberal party that he would become their candidate on this, as he had been on many previous occasions, having been compelled by private considerations to decline the candidature, a deputation was appointed in the middle of March to proceed to London for the purpose of securing a candidate. The instructions which they received to guide them in their choice were simple. Besides being a general supporter of Liberal principles, it was essential that he should be an advocate of the vote by ballot, a qualification strongly insisted upon by the members of the Reform Club, from the belief that its adoption would render bribery impossible. They proceeded to London, and after an interview with Mr. Price, who declined to recommend a second Liberal candidate, they held a conference with Mr. Charles James Monk, whom they met at the Reform Club in London, on Sunday the 27th of March, upon the subject of the representation of Gloucester. Mr. Monk, who was a son of the late Bishop of Gloucester, was at that time bent upon becoming a candidate for Cricklade, which place he had unsuccessfully contested at the election of 1857, but the representations which were made to him by the gentlemen who formed the deputation, Mr. Innell and Mr. John Pleydell Wilton, had the effect of inducing him to attend a second meeting, which was fixed for the evening of the same day. At that meeting Mr. Moffatt, then member for Ashburton, was present as Mr. Monk's friend and adviser, having acted for him in a similar capacity previous to his becoming a candidate for Cricklade. Mr. Monk was assured that, though bribery had been practised to a considerable extent by the Conservative party at the preceding election, so great a change had since taken place in the political feelings of the people,—so much had the Liberal strength been increased,—and so much had Sir R. Carden's popularity waned, that no amount of bribery would suffice to secure that gentleman's re-election. Mr. Moffatt was told, when he inquired about the probable cost of a contest, that the joint expense of two Liberal candidates would not be more than 1,200*l.*, or at the outside could not exceed 1,500*l.*; and Mr. Price, who had casually heard of the meeting, and was present during a part of the time, expressed it to be his opinion that, looking at the average cost of his own elections, Mr. Monk's expenditure ought not to exceed 500*l.* Influenced by the prospects of success which were thus held out to him, Mr. Monk, on the following morning, decided to abandon Cricklade, and to come forward as the second Liberal candidate for the representation of Gloucester. As soon as it was announced, in the early part of April, that Parliament would be dissolved, Mr. Monk, acting upon the advice of Mr. Moffatt, went to Gloucester, and actively commenced his canvass. Had Mr. Moffatt then permitted Mr. Monk to shift for himself, and to provide for the pecuniary exigencies of the contest out of his own resources, the complications which have followed probably would not have arisen. But instead of doing this, Mr. Moffatt voluntarily undertook to provide the funds for the expenses of the contest, for after telling Mr. Monk, as we learnt from Mr. Monk himself, "to go to Gloucester, and canvass, and stick to the place till the election comes "off," he added, "you need not trouble yourself about any expenses connected with the "election. If any money is wanted for the preliminary expenses I will provide it "myself, or if I go to Mr. Ralli (who, we may here state, is the father-in-law of "Mr. Monk,) I suppose he will have no objection to advance me some money for the "purpose." Mr. Price also told us that immediately after Mr. Monk had accepted the invitation to stand for Gloucester, Mr. Moffatt had a conversation with Mr. Price, in which the former said, "I shall be much obliged if you will write to me when the "election comes off, and let me know how the canvass goes on, and if there is anything "you wish to say on the business of the election you may write to me." Mr. Moffatt, however, had no recollection of such a conversation, and denied that he ever intended anything he might have said to Mr. Price to bear the construction Mr. Price had placed upon it.

Whatever may be the understanding which this permissive language was intended to convey, it is certain that great suspicion has been cast upon it by the mysterious manner in which effect was subsequently given to that understanding. Mr. Price having joined Mr. Monk in his canvass at Gloucester,—for although at first reluctant from private considerations again to come forward, he had consented to do so,—was soon afterwards informed that great difficulty was experienced, both from the want of money, and from the fact that no agent had yet been appointed to conduct Mr. Monk's election. Mr. Price having been spoken to several times by Mr. J. P. Wilton and Mr. Innell about providing money for Mr. Monk, and having understood from them that money was urgently needed for the payment of messengers, availed himself of Mr. Moffatt's invitation to communicate with him, and wrote him a letter, which, as far as Mr. Moffatt's memory serves, was received by him about the

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10th of April, and was to the following purport:—"He would be glad if the money "which he had before stated would be required for preliminary expenses were made "ready whenever Mr. Monk should appoint an agent to pay a portion of his expenses. "Mr. Monk," he said, "had not appointed an agent, and therefore the money could not "be sent at present, but he wished me to make an arrangement by which the money "could be sent down by hand to Gloucester when an agent was appointed," and he said, "that in case I was going out of town I had better speak to Sir William Hayter, "who would probably be the last member in London, and give the money to him to "be sent down when the agent was appointed."

Mr. Price, in stating to us the causes which induced him to write to Mr. Moffatt, and speaking from his own recollection of the contents of the letter, said,—

"I knew that Mr. Monk had great difficulty in selecting an agent, and consequently that there was a great difficulty in the payment of the preliminary expenses. I thought that was precisely the kind of difficulty which Mr. Moffatt had contemplated when he invited me to communicate with him, and I wrote a very short letter to him in Mr. Ellis's office, stating that the canvass had been far more satisfactory than I had had any reason to anticipate, but that Mr. Monk had not yet selected an agent; that things were consequently in a good deal of confusion; that I hoped he would select one soon, and that in the meantime I thought it expedient that a sum of 500*l.* should be provided ready to be transmitted to his agent as soon as he was appointed—of course my object in mentioning that, was that these gentlemen (viz., Mr. John P. Wilton and Mr. Innell) had so repeatedly spoken to me on the subject of money."

And subsequently Mr. Price stated—

"that he remembers suggesting to Mr. Moffatt that if he was going down to Ashburton he had better leave the money with Sir W. Hayter, who he knew would most likely be the last member in town.'

From the statement of Mr. Moffatt, it will be observed, that Mr. Price does not substantially differ, but he assents in a qualified manner only, as will appear by reference to his evidence, to that part of it in which he is stated to have suggested the mode in which the money should be conveyed to Gloucester. In the absence of that letter which, unfortunately, has not been preserved, we are unable to determine what were its exact contents, but whatever they were there is no reason to doubt that upon its receipt Mr. Moffatt made a communication to Sir W. G. Hayter, the nature of which, and the steps to which it led, are thus related by that gentleman himself:—

"I beg to say that some short time previous, I cannot say specifically the day, I had a conversation with Mr. Moffatt in the House of Commons with reference to the Gloucester election. Mr. Moffatt told me that he had been in communication with Mr. Price respecting the probable expense that would be incurred by the election at Gloucester, and especially with regard to the expense that might be incurred by Mr. Monk, for whom Mr. Moffatt, as I understood, was acting as a friend, and he told me, or it was the result of that communication, that very probably a sum of money would be required to be sent down by some private hand to Gloucester, on behalf of Mr. Monk, and he asked me if I knew anybody that would take it down. I said that I did not, but that I would inquire and let him know. A day or two afterwards, or I think the next day, I saw a person of the name of Webb, who was the chief clerk of a parliamentary agent of the name of Gilbert. Webb told me he understood I had inquired for Mr. Gilbert, and that anything he could do he should be very ready to serve me in. I then stated to him exactly what Mr. Moffatt wanted, and I asked him if he knew of a person, and he said he would recommend a person who could be entirely relied upon. Subsequently I gave him a short note. He said the man's name was Thompson. I gave him a short note of introduction for Mr. Thompson to Mr. Moffatt, and the terms of the note were to this effect, 'the bearer is quite trustworthy,' or something like that."

It naturally occurred to us to inquire of Sir W. Hayter why Mr. Moffatt should have applied to him to find a person to take money to Gloucester. Sir W. Hayter informed us, "that he did not think it unnatural that Mr. Moffatt should apply to him; "holding the position he did he thought he would be the most likely man for him to "apply to," for, added Sir William, "I was at everybody's call."

Some difference of opinion existed in the minds of Mr. Moffatt and Mr. Price as to the date of the letter to which we have before referred, and that difference rendered it at first impossible for us to determine the sequency of events, but the evidence subsequently given by Mr. Patch, who was in the employment of Mr. Gilbert at the time Sir W. Hayter sent to his office, and who was enabled to fix that time as the 14th of April, when read in juxta-position with the evidence given by Sir W. Hayter, renders it most probable that the letter was received by Mr. Moffatt some time between the 10th and 14th of April.

Sir W. Hayter was at that time occupying apartments, which he had taken in Ryder Street for the more convenient transaction of business connected with the promotion of the interests of his own political party at the general election. To these apartments Mr. G. Webb went, and received the letter from Sir W. Hayter, which he afterwards

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gave to Thompson. Sir W. Hayter stated that he was deceived as to the character of Thompson, believing that Gilbert, whom he had known in Somersetshire for 15 or 16 years, as an active and intelligent electioneering agent, would not have sent him such a man as Thompson. He also stated that neither Mr. Price nor Mr. Moffatt made any suggestion to him, or gave him the slightest notion that such a man as Thompson was wanted to go down, and that he himself did not intend to send such a man as Thompson, although he thought it better to send a man who had been somewhat engaged in electioneering matters. Had the selection been made by Sir W. Hayter, or had he been cognizant of Thompson's previous history, the gravest suspicions must have attached to him. A bribery agent of long experience would hardly have been selected by any one familiar with the antecedents of his life, if the object of his employment had been the conduct of the election on the principles of purity. Recommended, however, as he had been by Webb, Thompson on the 19th of April presented to Mr. Moffatt the credentials which had been obtained from Sir W. Hayter. The impression that he produced upon Mr. Moffatt was most unfavourable, and looking to the fact that he informed Mr. Moffatt that he should expect to receive for his remuneration 100*l.* if he won the election, and 50*l.* if he lost, we are surprised that Mr. Moffatt's suspicions should not have been awakened to a true appreciation of his real character. Mr. Moffatt contented himself, however, with informing Thompson that he would refer the matter to Sir W. Hayter, and lulling his suspicions, if he had any, to sleep, or forgetting them amid the pressure of his own affairs, he began to put things in train for providing the necessary funds. Having ascertained, in a personal communication with Mr. Ralli on the same day, that he was willing to advance the sum of 500*l.* for defraying the expenses (the legal expenses as Mr. Ralli states that he understood) of Mr. Monk's election, he proceeded to Ashburton, for which place a contest was then impending, and thence wrote a letter on the day following to Sir W. Hayter, containing a draft for 500*l.* addressed to Mr. Ralli in these words, "Please pay to Mr. Richard Thompson, the bearer of this, and taking his receipt for "the same, the sum of five hundred pounds sterling, in pursuance of your wishes "expressed to me yesterday," which was to be delivered to Thompson upon the receipt of a further communication from Mr. Price. Before that arrived, Sir W. Hayter was himself compelled to proceed to Wells for his own re-election, but before leaving town he enclosed the draft in an envelope, which he placed in his despatch box, and informed Mr. Parkes who, with other political friends, had been in the habit of frequenting the apartments in Ryder Street, that upon the receipt of instructions from Mr. Price, the envelope was to be delivered for conveyance to Gloucester. Mr. Price having informed Mr. J. P. Wilton and Mr. Innell, in answer to urgent inquiries, that Mr. Moffatt had obtained the sum of 500*l.* to be paid to Mr. Monk's agent when he was appointed, was told by them, that as no agent had been appointed, and as they had invited Mr. Monk to become a candidate, he ought to look upon them in the light of his agents, and Mr. Innell having stated that they were agreed that under the circumstances the money should be sent to Mr. John P. Wilton, Mr. Price wrote a letter, a few days before the nomination, to Mr. Moffatt, requesting that the money should be sent to Mr. J. P. Wilton, King Street, Gloucester, and that letter having been forwarded by Mr. Moffatt to Ryder Street, the envelope containing the draft for 500*l.* was, on the 26th of April, delivered to Thompson, who on the same day obtained the money and took his departure for Gloucester.

However guileless might have been the minds of those by whose instrumentality the money was lodged in the hands of Thompson, his conduct leaves little doubt that he believed that the money had been intrusted to him for the purpose of bribery. Before quitting London, he took steps to procure the assistance of a confederate named John Clarke, with whom he had been associated in the corruption of many a contested election. Thompson himself was, as he wished us to believe, incapable of actual bribery, and an associate therefore was needed to distribute the money, of which he had the command. Arrived in Gloucester, their first object was to secure secrecy, and thereby to baffle future inquiry. Thompson assumed the name of Thornton, and Clarke that of Brettels, in conformity with a practice which they had long observed. Thompson then presented himself to Mr. J. P. Wilton, whom he informed of the business which had brought him to Gloucester. The money was urgently wanted by Mr. Wilton, but not so the services of Thompson and Clarke, and Thompson therefore remained in Gloucester without having the opportunity afforded him of exercising his vocation. Thompson at first evinced considerable hesitation in supplying Mr. J. P. Wilton with money, telling him, according to the evidence given by Clarke, "I do not know whether we are justified in paying you the money, because we came down here

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to disburse it ourselves." Within three days, however, he paid Mr. Wilton various sums of money, amounting in the aggregate to 399*l.*

But Thompson was informed that more money was required, and the following telegram therefore was sent on the 28th of April by Thompson to Webb (the same individual by whom he had been recommended to Sir W. Hayter):—

"I want a repetition of my medicine—if got send Clarke with it—he lives at one Northport "Street, Hoxton."

From Webb the following telegram was received in reply on the 29th of April:—

"I have seen P., and submitted the case—all the rest from home—can't do more."

The meaning of these telegrams we thought it not difficult to interpret. Our impression was that they signified that Thompson required a further supply of money, but that Webb was unable to procure more in consequence of the absence from London of all the political parties to whom he was known, excepting one, the initial letter of whose name was P. Who then was P.? The only answer that we could obtain from either Webb or Thompson was that it indicated Patch, and yet, almost in the same breath, we were told that Patch, who, as we have before observed, was connected with Mr. Gilbert's office, was a person with whom, in consequence of a quarrel between them, Webb had broken off all communication. No person could credit such a suggestion as this; and even Mr. Gilbert, when he was examined, could lend no countenance to so palpable an absurdity. We entertained a strong belief that P. was intended to represent Mr. Parkes, the gentleman who took charge of Sir W. Hayter's correspondence upon his departure from London, from whose hands the envelope containing the draft had already come, and to whom therefore it was not improbable that Thompson and Webb should consider themselves at liberty to apply. Whether it did so or not we were unable to determine. Mr. Parkes, who was examined by us, was confident that he had only seen Webb upon one occasion, and that no application had been made to him at any time. But we utterly discredit the statement of Webb that it applied to Patch.

As more money could not be obtained in London, Mr. J. P. Wilton wrote to Mr. Moffatt, who was then at Ashburton, to request him to send him a further supply, but Mr. Moffatt declined to comply with that request, and recommended Mr. Wilton to apply to Mr. Pandia Ralli, jun., who was, as he had been informed by Mr. Wilton, then staying at Gloucester. It is certain, however, that no such application was made, as we were informed by Mr. Ralli himself, and, beyond the sum of 399*l.* which had had been obtained by Mr. Wilton from Thompson, and the sum of 200*l.* sent after the election by Mr. Moffatt to Mr. J. P. Wilton, the money which was spent in bribery by the Liberal party was contributed by its own local supporters.

It is necessary to state, before concluding the history of this part of the transaction, that Mr. Price had suggested that the money should be sent to Mr. J. P. Wilton, not from any knowledge that Mr. Wilton was about to plunge into the tide of corruption, but from the circumstance that his position and the activity which he had displayed in connexion with Mr. Monk's candidature pointed him out, in the absence of any regularly appointed agent, as the most proper person to receive the funds which were required for the payment of Mr. Monk's necessary expenses. Mr. A. G. Jones was appointed by Mr. Monk to be his election agent so late as the 27th of April, and we entirely acquit Mr. Price of any knowledge, or indeed of any suspicion as to the mode in which the money previously transmitted to Gloucester at his suggestion was intended to be applied. But we have been unable to discover why Mr. Monk should have been so utterly ignored both by Mr. Price and by Mr. Moffatt in all the arrangements in which he was so deeply interested, when no corrupt expenditure on his behalf was either contemplated or suspected. From the moment that Mr. Monk commenced his canvass a deep mystery reigned over the pecuniary arrangements of his election. Mr. Ralli was applied to for an advance of 500*l.*, not because Mr. Monk was unable to provide that sum, but because, if Mr. Ralli's account be accurate, Mr. Moffatt did not think it expedient "that a candidate should interfere in the expenses of the "election till the election was over." Mr. Moffatt, indeed, has questioned the accuracy of Mr. Ralli's recollection upon this point, but, however that may be, there is no doubt that both before and after the election, Mr. Moffatt, and not Mr. Monk, was made the channel through which funds were conveyed to Mr. J. P. Wilton.

It was not until early in June, two months after the election, that Mr. Monk was made acquainted with the fact, that Mr. Moffatt had, previous to the election, sent down money to Gloucester, and not even then with the mode in which that money had been conveyed or the person to whom it had been consigned. On the 2d of June Mr. Monk gave Mr. Moffatt a credit on Mr. Ralli for 500*l.*, of which the latter availed himself to

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the extent of 200*l.*, and transmitted this sum to Mr. J. P. Wilton in discharge of outstanding claims on Mr. Monk the payment of which Mr. Wilton had applied for. Mr. Moffatt told us that he had no hesitation in saying that he believed "these claims "included expenditure for purposes not legal," which was the reason which induced him to recommend that 200*l.* only should be sent to Mr. Wilton, a sum which he deemed would be sufficient to discharge all legal claims, and at the same time leave Mr. Monks's total expenditure within the amount which had been originally stipulated for. Mr. Monk having informed us that he knew in the beginning of June that the money came from Mr. Ralli, we directed his attention to the evidence which he gave before the Committee of the House of Commons in the month of July last. A member of the Committee having put this question, "Mr. Monk, you have no notion where that money came from?" Mr. Monk is reported, in the minutes of evidence taken before the Committee, to have given this answer, "I *have* no knowledge," and on this manifest contradiction being pointed out to him, he stated that his reported answer was a mistake, and that, considering the question which was addressed to him an unfair one, he did not choose to answer that question, but replied, "I *had* no knowledge whatever." We offer no comment on this explanation of a contradiction which somewhat surprised us, as neither version of the answer which Mr. Monk gave would have inculpated him in the corruption practised at Gloucester at the last election.

The evidence, as it affects the part taken by Sir W. Hayter and Mr. Moffatt, does not lead us to the conclusion that either of those gentlemen was cognizant of the bribery to which the money entrusted to Thompson was subsequently applied. Had not Thompson been employed, and had the money reached its destination through a banker, or been conveyed by a clerk to Gloucester, as Mr. Price stated it to have been his intention when he requested that it might be sent by "private hand," no suspicion could possibly have attached either to Sir W. Hayter or Mr. Moffatt, neither of whom had any knowledge of Mr. Wilton's intended proceedings, nor any motive for sending the money to him in particular, other than the directions they had received from Mr. Price; and having regard to the circumstances under which Thompson was employed, the fact of his employment had in reality no influence on the transactions which afterwards took place at Gloucester, and does not, in our opinion, make the case stronger against them than it would have been if the money had been sent by a clerk. Although we think Mr. Moffatt did not give proper effect to the suspicion which his interview with Thompson must have excited in his mind, yet we give credit to his emphatic statement that the money was sent down "with a bonâ fide belief that it was to be spent "in perfectly legal expenses."

As regards Sir W. Hayter, we are of opinion that he,—relying on the fact which had been communicated to him by Mr. Moffatt that the money was provided at the instance, and was to be sent down in obedience to the instructions of Mr. Price,—relying also upon the character of Mr. Price as a guarantee for the legitimate expenditure of the money, and upon the character of Gilbert that his application would have resulted in the selection of a responsible person,—had no reason to infer that the money would be employed in any other than a legitimate manner, and did not intend that such a person as Thompson should be entrusted with its conveyance to Gloucester. We therefore exonerate both Sir W. Hayter and Mr. Moffatt from the charge of being accessories to the bribery which was subsequently practised at Gloucester.

As soon as Mr. Monk had been accepted as the second candidate of the Liberal party the most active measures were adopted to secure his return. Nor was the Conservative party less energetic. A numerous array of solicitors, whose influence it was no doubt supposed would be equivalent to their professional remuneration, were retained upon either side. So reckless were both parties of expense, that there was hardly a professional man in Gloucester, as we were told by Mr. Helps, who was not employed upon one side or the other. To this costly item of expenditure reference was made by the deputation in London, and Mr. Monk told us that he had no reason to doubt, from his experience at Cricklade, that the sum of 1000*l.* might be legitimately expended, when he learnt "that he was expected to retain the services of a whole army of solicitors." That so large a professional staff cannot be required in a constituency of 1500 electors admits, we think, of no denial; and for the purpose of showing how little their services are really needed for obtaining an honest expression of opinion, we may point to the fact that at the election of 1852, confessedly the purest known to Gloucester, only one solicitor was retained upon either side. The election which took place on the 30th April 1859 was distinguished by no such moderation. The practices which had somewhat fallen into desuetude were revived in all their ancient vigour. The Liberal party took the lead in indirectly bribing the voters through their colourable employment as messengers, and constrained the Conservatives to adopt a practice from which they had at first abstained. The Conservatives,

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on the other hand, first set the example of direct bribery, and sought to secure the votes of those whose antecedents were known to be corrupt, by representing "that they "should be done by this time as they had been done by before." An idea early prevailed among the electors that neither party would rely for success upon purity of election, and the canvassers often received the significant answer from those whose votes they solicited, "that their minds were not yet made up," an answer which plainly told them that the persuasive influence of money would be necessary to bring their minds to the requisite point of decision. Whatever the intention of the candidates or their principal agents may have been, it is certain that purity of election was regarded by the subordinate agents as a delusion. Mr. Walter Clutterbuck and Mr. John Ward, two of the most active canvassers on the Conservative side, boldly told us "that if they had "thought no money had been forthcoming for bribery they should have stopped at "home;" and we find from the evidence of Mr. Ward that so early as the 6th of April they commenced canvassing and making promises to the men who from past experience they knew would require to be bribed. In acting thus, Mr. Clutterbuck only acted up to the opinion which he had formed respecting the character of the constituency. He proclaimed it to be one of the most corrupt in England,—according to him, few were free from contamination; and he declared his belief "that taking the four streets of the city "of Gloucester, there were not ten persons on either side of the street who were free "and unbiassed," which he afterwards interpreted to mean "that those who are not "directly bribed, or who do not give bribes, have influence of some kind exercised "over them, or exercise it themselves over others." Mr. Clutterbuck may have given expression to what he honestly believed to be the truth, but his statement met with an indignant denial, as indeed might have been expected, from members of both political parties, and Mr. Price stated, "that with the exception of 200 or 300 venal voters whom "everybody knows, he did not believe there was a more respectable or more honest "constituency in England." Unquestionably, however, a feeling exists that everyone should get something out of an election, and to the prevalence of that feeling, rather than to the existence of any system, Mr. Clutterbuck referred as a principal cause of the prevailing corruption. To the like effect it was stated by Mr. Buchanan, a gentleman long connected with Gloucester, "that it seemed to him to be a scramble "which should get most;" and, as illustrative of the tone of society among the lower orders, he mentioned, "that in a conversation between two poor men during the "progress of the election he heard one of them say, 'I be not going to let them have "'my vote for nothing; look at the four and twenty lawyers that be having their 25*l.* "'down and two guineas a day. I will not let them have my vote for nothing.'" To this opinion may be added that of Mr. John Ward, who said "that he knew that it was "utterly impossible for any man to win the election at Gloucester unless he spent a great "deal of money," and he expressed his belief, which was to some extent confirmatory of the opinion advanced by Mr. Walter Clutterbuck, "that there were between 400 and 500 "voters who were open to direct or indirect influence, that forces some of them to vote "against their principles, whilst others yield to the bribe." The substitution of money for principle is the moral disorder which has attacked the political life of the people of Gloucester. Nobody dreams that the disorder can be arrested so long as candidates are willing to supply money without questioning the purposes to which it is to be applied, and so long as agents are not deterred by the fear of punishment from expending it in bribery. It would be, perhaps, beyond the province of our duty to suggest a remedy for this undoubted evil, but we beg to refer to the opinion expressed by Admiral Berkeley, that "bribery cannot be put a stop to unless severer measures of repression upon the "briber are resorted to," and that if it were wished to repress bribery, "the punish- "ment must be imposed on the briber, and not on the poor man who is tempted by a "bribe." At a future period we shall recur to this subject, but it may be convenient at this point to mention another cause to which the corruption of the two last elections is greatly attributed. All the witnesses concurred in thinking that the existing demoralization has been largely fomented by the manner in which the municipal election contests have been conducted. Mr. David Mowbray Walker, indeed, laid great stress upon this, and expressed an opinion "that the great cause of the demoralization that has got "into the constituency of Gloucester is the scandalous expenditure of money year "after year in contested elections for the town council." Other witnesses, however, such as Mr. R. Wilton, Mr. Helps, and Mr. Carter, did not give their entire assent to this opinion, and we concur with them in regarding that expenditure as an auxiliary rather than as a primary cause, of the corruption. Before the year 1854, a practice seems to have prevailed at the municipal elections of paying the poorer voters 2*s.* 6*d.* for their day's time, in order to prevent their sustaining loss by attending to vote. But when the contests began to be fierce struggles for party ascendancy, and municipal

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elections were regarded as demonstrations of party strength, the douceur of 2*s.* 6*d.* became gradually increased in amount, until at last 10*s.*, 1*l.*, and even considerably more, was paid for a vote at a municipal election.

Large sums were thus spent, and the worst practices were freely resorted to. To provide the necessary funds, for few candidates were perhaps either able or willing to defray the expenses of their own elections, subscriptions were collected, not only from their local adherents, but sometimes also from their parliamentary representatives. Thus we find that Sir R. Carden was induced by Mr. Lovegrove to contribute in the year 1858 the sum of 50*l.* towards a fund for securing the return of Conservative councillors, and Mr. Price, who, when first returned to Parliament in 1852, gave positive instructions to his agent, Mr. Ellis, not to pay any money towards the expenses of municipal contests, has upon one or two occasions yielded to the solicitation of personal friends, and contributed various sums, amounting altogether to 70*l.* since his first political connexion with Gloucester. The effect of bribery at municipal contests is twofold in its operation; for first, as Mr. Price informed us, it inclines the voters at parliamentary elections to be faithful to the party from which they received the money at municipal elections, supposing that no more powerful inducements are held out by the other side; and, secondly, it is the means of establishing an organization which is most effectively used for party purposes at a parliamentary election. In every way, therefore, the connexion which is thus established between parliamentary and municipal contests is a most serious evil, as tending to increase the growth of and to perpetuate corruption among the electors, and as rendering hopeless the return to electoral purity at a parliamentary election, as long as the demoralization which characterizes the municipal elections continues to exist.

In a constituency so prepared for the practice of bribery, it was naturally to be expected that it would be extensively resorted to, if only the means were afforded for its indulgence. Nor were those means wanting. The Liberal party comprised among its members many individuals of strong political convictions, who, entertaining a decided hostility to Sir R. Carden, were determined to employ against him the means by which they believed that he had succeeded at the election of 1857. There can be no doubt that the professions of purity proclaimed by Sir R. Carden on the hustings, when contrasted with the practices by which it was believed that his election had been gained, had produced great bitterness of feeling among his political opponents. Mr. Wilkes, a solicitor, who at the last election himself spent 90*l.* of his own money (not, however, without an expectation of being ultimately repaid,) in bribery, to promote the success of the Liberal candidates, having quoted to us some passages from the speech which was delivered by Sir R. Carden at the election of 1857, and amongst others the following,—"Every promise he had received had been given by independent honest "voters, he pledged his word that he would not buy a single vote, and he believed "those associated with him had the same honour and integrity," said, "that the "Liberal party believing him and his friends to be pure, determined that they would "be pure themselves, whereas, instead of being pure, Sir R. Carden's party resorted "to bribery." That, he told us, was one reason which induced him to make the pecuniary sacrifice he did. To somewhat the like effect we were informed by Mr. Thomas Robinson, a corn merchant at Gloucester, who supplied 285*l.* of his own money for the purpose of bribing voters, that the reason which induced him to take part in the last election was the manner in which the Liberal party were treated in 1857. He said, "that Sir R. Carden came down with professions of purity in his mouth, saying he "would not spend a shilling to get in, when it is a positive fact that his friends were "bribing to an enormous extent. They resorted to those means, and turned out an "old and tried representative of ours, who had worn his hair grey in our service, "and I was much annoyed at the manner in which we were treated, and resolved that "at the next election I would do what I legitimately could to turn him out."

There was another circumstance also which made these gentlemen believe that it was necessary for them to bribe, if they would avoid such a defeat as they had sustained in 1857. Mr. Robinson went on to say, "that representations were made that certain "parties were offering considerable sums to our voters. They did not go into names "and details, but that was what was represented; and I advanced the money to "secure our own men. I knew the temptation was great when a five or ten pound "note was offered to them to go over to the other party." Now it is not only perfectly clear that Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward began to promise money to the voters at the outset of their canvass, which was fixed as having commenced on the 6th of April, but it was stated in evidence by Mr. Harry Jacobs, a general factor, who was one of the principal bribers on the Liberal side, that a man named James Taylor, who had formerly worked for him, came to him three or four weeks before the election and told him that

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he could have 5*l.* for his vote for Sir R. Carden; and Mr. Jacobs said that the fear which this circumstance excited first led him, from the dislike which he bore to Sir R. Carden to interfere in the election in the manner in which he did. On the other hand Mr. Lovegrove stated, "that the Conservatives first contemplated the resort to corrupt practices "only about a week before the election," but that it had come to his knowledge from the commencement of the contest that offers and other inducements had been made to voters to poll for Price and Monk. It appears to be highly probable that neither party were very scrupulous in the means they employed from an early period to obtain votes. Mr. Lovegrove informed us, "that it is a fact beyond doubt that every canvasser connected with the "Liberal interest, from the moment Mr. Monk put his "foot into Gloucester, was supplied with money, and was treating and doing all those "acts as though money was not of the slightest consequence." And Mr. Brewer Monk, speaking from the opposite side, rather confirmed this, when he said, "we knew that "they (the Conservatives) would resort to those means, because we knew there was no "chance for them unless they did, consequently we were prepared to meet them." Mr. John P. Wilton, who, in his interview with Mr. Monk in London, had assured him of the superior strength of the Liberal party, and felt confident that, in the absence of corruption, they should win the election by a large majority, first saw reason to change his opinion about a fortnight before the election. From the reports of canvassers, and from the rumours, as he told us, which generally prevailed, that the "old tactics of the "Tories were being resorted to," he came to the conclusion "that if they did not on "the one side commence this system, as it had been commenced on the other, he "should find the material, *i.e.* the voters, taken from them." Mr. Wilton then became anxious to be supplied with funds. No money had been received up to that time from Mr. Monk or Mr. Moffatt, and only a small sum had been advanced by Mr. Ellis on Mr. Price's behalf. What had been received had been obtained from Mr. R. Wilton and Mr. Robinson, and their advances having been exhausted, principally in the payment of the weekly sums due to the messengers, Mr. J. P. Wilton frequently complained to Mr. Price of the difficulties by which he was beset for want of funds to meet the requirements of the messengers. The result of these complaints was the letter written by Mr. Price to Mr. Moffatt, to which we have before referred. There is some variance in the statements as to the actual amount which Mr. Wilton received from Thompson. Thompson stating that he gave Mr. Wilton 450*l.*, the latter asserting that he only received 399*l.* To whatever cause this variance is attributable, we believe that we only assign the proper weight to Mr. Wilton's evidence when we express our opinion that Mr. Wilton has truly stated the amount which he received from Thompson. Besides this sum of 399*l.*, Mr. Wilton received various other sums amounting in the whole to 540*l.*, and out of the gross aggregate sum of 939*l.* he distributed to various agents for the purposes of bribery the sum of 746*l.*, besides paying an additional sum of 193*l.* 11*s.* to Mr. T. B. Monk for the corrupt payment of messengers. This sum of 939*l.*, and the sums of 90*l.* spent by Mr. Wilkes, 40*l.* spent by Mr. David Lane, 40*l.* advanced by Mr. Jefferson Bryon, 12*l.* 10*s.* by Mr. Daniel Tandy, and 285*l.* spent by Mr. Robinson, amounting in the aggregate to 1,406*l.* 10*s.*, constitute the total amount illegally expended by the Liberal party at the last election.

In the early part of the month of April Sir R. Carden commenced his canvass, which, with some intermissions, he continued down to the election on the 30th of that month. We had supposed it probable that, having paid the sum of 4,115*l.* 13*s.* on account of his election and petition in 1857, Sir R. Carden might have considered it necessary at the outset of another contest to draw his agent's attention to the large amount which he had spent only two years before, with the view of imposing some restrictions upon him for the future; but that gentleman thought it unnecessary to impose any restrictions, expressing an opinion that, as there had been two petitions, his expenditure in 1857 had not been considerable. It was true, he said, he had not the slightest idea what the amount was that had really been spent upon his election, but yet having seen the published report of the election auditor, although not knowing what an election auditor meant, he was innocent enough to believe, as he told us, that that report correctly stated the total amount which had been expended on his election. Besides, he reposed, he said, so great a confidence in his agent that he entertained no suspicion that he could do wrong, and therefore abstained from questioning him as to the manner in which the money had been expended. Experience upon a nature so unsuspicious as Sir R. Carden's was wholly thrown away. He had been a candidate for St. Albans, the constituency of which he stigmatized as the most debased and depraved probably in the whole of England, and was there made, as he told us, "the victim of the hypocrisy of other people;" but the knowledge which he had acquired at St. Albans was, in his judgment, applicable only to St. Albans. The knowledge that St. Albans was venal afforded, he said, no reason why he should suppose that Gloucester was venal, nor did his experience

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of the corruption of St. Albans suggest the necessity or the propriety of making any inquiries as to the character of the expenditure at his election. Although Sir R. Carden attributed this abstinence from all inquiry to his own innocence and to his confidence in his agent, his agent seems to have conceived a very different impression as to the real motives which governed him. Sir R. Carden had told us that he never knew—and that he had not the means of knowing, as no accounts had been presented to him in 1857—what was the actual expense of his election in that year, as distinguished from the expense of the petitions, and he relied upon this ignorance, as sufficient to account for his not having made any inquiry of his agent when he was pressed by us with the fact that the expenditure upon his election had amounted to the sum of 1,708*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, although, according to his own evidence, he had seen the election auditor's account which made his expenditure only 610*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* Now, Mr. Lovegrove, his agent, when questioned upon this matter, told us that Sir R. Carden did inquire how much had been expended upon the election, and how much upon the petitions, in 1857; that he supplied him with the information; and that Sir R. Carden, of whom Mr. Lovegrove said, "He is a man of business, and, I should say, understood figures as well as any man in England," had the opportunity of seeing the subjoined account, which Mr. Lovegrove produced on the occasion of its final settlement in August 1857.

ELECTION.

	£	s.	d.	1857:	£	s.	d.
To Auditor's Account	639	14	11	March 26th, by Cash	300	0	0
„ Additional	160	19	7	May 15th, do.	200	0	0
„ Do.	355	5	3	July 25th, do.	300	0	0
„ Mr. Cooke's Fees	52	10	0	August 16th, do.	1,000	0	0
„ „ Whithorn (Aug. 16)	200	0	0	„ 21st, do.	924	18	0
„ „ Cooke (Aug. 16)	100	0	0				
	1,508	9	9				

PETITION.

General Disbursements	514	12	1				
Witnesses	319	16	0	December, by Cash, Baxter and Co.	1,150	0	0
Costs (Self)	250	0	0				
Parliamentary	1,300	0	0				
	£3,892	17	10		3,874	18	0
Bernard	200	0	0	August 15th, Bernard	200	0	0
Subscription, Indian Fund	25	0	0				
Infirmary and Dispensary	15	0	0	„ Cash	40	15	0

But Sir Robert Carden made no reference to the election auditor's account, of which, as we have before seen, he knew the amount, nor to the difference between the election auditor's account and the account which Mr. Lovegrove at that time presented for election expenses; and on the question being put to Mr. Lovegrove, "Did he ask you at all whether any portion of that money had been spent illegally?" he replied, "Well, I think it must have been from a suspicion that he must have had "that he preferred not to have any accounts;" and on being again asked, "You think "that in consequence of that suspicion he preferred not to make any inquiry with "reference to the difference existing between the two accounts?" Mr. Lovegrove replied, "I really think so." It is right to state that, when Sir R. Carden's attention was subsequently called to these answers of Mr. Lovegrove, as suggesting the reason why he had declined to investigate the accounts, Sir R. Carden denied that he was actuated by any such motive. He said, "I am not bound by my agent's suspicions. "Professional men, when they send in their accounts, I dare say, have them scrutinized "and looked into; and it may have struck Mr. Lovegrove as very extraordinary "that I should not have gone into his accounts; but I had no other motive for "not looking into them than that I wished to pay the whole of them and to get quit "of them."

If Sir R. Carden were really guiltless of all suspicion, it is at least unfortunate that he should have been so facile in the payment of the various sums of money from time to time required of him. He paid, he said, in "lumps" the various sums which Mr. Love-

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grove disbursed in benefactions to individuals, in subscriptions to the public charities of the city, or in contributions towards the expenses incurred at municipal elections, or in the annual revisions of the parliamentary and municipal lists of voters. He told us that he gave authority to Mr. Lovegrove to pay whatever he thought right, and then, when he knew what the sum total was, not wishing to have any trouble about it, he gave a cheque and paid it. An account was furnished by Mr. Lovegrove, at our request, from which it appears that between the 25th of August 1857 and the 1st of April 1859 Sir Robert Carden had in this way expended the sum of 500*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*; of which sum we find, on examining the account, that 105*l.* were paid on the 15th of December 1858, "To municipal or parliamentary revisions, as agreed;" and 50*l.* as a "contribution to municipal elections;" besides numerous subscriptions to benevolent and charitable societies and donations to voters, entered in the account as payments for services, or as gratuities or Christmas boxes, generally varying in amount from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 20*s.* each. Payments for tickets for Conservative dinners given to voters, for subscriptions to the Conservative Society, and for entrance fees payable on the admission of members to the same society, also form items in this account. We look upon payments and gratuities of this nature, which Mr. Lovegrove admitted were made for advancing the interest of Sir Robert Carden at future elections, as a corrupt practice no less demoralizing in its tendencies than actual bribery. They are employed as the means of maintaining or acquiring an influence which is to be used for the candidate's benefit at the ensuing election, and the recipients of the member's charitable donations can hardly free themselves from the pressure of that influence when the time arrives for the exercise of their privilege as electors. It matters little when the money is paid, if a money influence governs the voter in the exercise of his franchise, and if charitable donations are the means of acquiring such an influence, such donations are, in our opinion, substantially bribes.

Sir R. Carden was not accompanied upon this occasion, as he had been in 1857, by his friend Mr. Julian Bernard, and it was not until the Saturday preceding the election that Mr. Bernard once more appeared on the scene. On that day, the 23d of April, being, as he told us, on his way from London to the West of England upon important affairs which admitted of no delay, and being full of anxiety to ascertain what Sir Robert Carden's prospects of success were, he sent a telegram, not in his own name but in that of "Clili," to Mr. Lovegrove, from Swindon, which was in these terms,—

"Meet me at the station at 2·40."

No previous communication had taken place in connexion with the election between Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Bernard, but Mr. Lovegrove, concluding that the telegram came from Mr. Bernard, met him at the station as requested. After a few minutes conversation with Mr. Lovegrove, Mr. Bernard abandoned his journey, and accompanied Mr. Lovegrove, at his request, to the Wellington Hotel. There he remained whilst Mr. Lovegrove proceeded to discuss the position and prospects of Sir R. Carden with Mr. Whithorn, prior to again seeing Mr. Bernard upon the subject. Upon his return Mr. Lovegrove stated, that it was the opinion of Mr. Whithorn and himself that a fund of 1,000*l.* should be provided for the purpose of being expended in winning the election; and the effect of the conversation which he had with Mr. Bernard was thus stated by Mr. Lovegrove:—"Here are parties being offered very considerable sums on the other "side, and how can we expect to win the election; in all probability we shall not win it "unless we are in a position to purchase some of the votes, and what I should recommend "is that there should be a fund for that purpose provided." Now here was a direct suggestion made to Mr. Bernard that he should be an accessory to the providing of money for the purposes of bribery, and Mr. Lovegrove does not hesitate to say that he made that suggestion to Mr. Bernard from the circumstance that, as he had advanced money in 1857 for the purpose of that election, he thought it probable that he would take means to provide the sum of 1,000*l.* which was required in 1859. Mr. Bernard, whose evidence on his first examination was most vague, assigned a motive for the application to which it was impossible for us to attach any credit; affirming that he was asked for 500*l.* and not for 1,000*l.*, he denied that anything was said by Mr. Lovegrove about securing the election by the purchase of votes, and he then represented to us that Mr. Lovegrove wished him to send the money, not for the purpose of corruptly winning the election, but from the fear that he entertained that Sir R. Carden would object to pay the costs which he had incurred, and for which he was then alone responsible. Mr. Lovegrove expressed no such fear to us, and we do not believe that he did so to Mr. Bernard, and the great probability that Mr. Bernard is wholly mistaken is drawn from the fact that Mr. Lovegrove's former experience of Sir R. Carden afforded him no room to suspect that the magnitude of the expense would induce Sir R. Carden to refuse the payment of the costs which had been incurred. Whatever

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other charge Sir R. Carden may have exposed himself to, want of liberality in defraying his election expenditure could never have been justly imputed to him. Mr. Bernard whose only reason, as he told us, for sending a telegram in a feigned name was his wish to avoid seeing any of the Gloucester people, saw Mr. Whithorn as well as Mr. Lovegrove, and disregarding the pressure of his own urgent affairs,—so urgent, indeed, that he could not satisfy his curiosity as to Sir R. Carden's prospects of success by writing a letter to Mr. Lovegrove, as he would have been unable to await the arrival of a reply,—deferred his journey to the West, and returned to London.

The fruits of the interview between Mr. Bernard and Mr. Lovegrove were soon visible. On the Tuesday following his departure an envelope, without any postmark, addressed to Mr. Whithorn, was discovered on the table of the Conservative committee-room. How it came there, there were no exact means of knowledge, but so little importance was attached to it, that Mr. Taynton, who took the management of the committee-room, told us it lay for upwards of an hour amongst the letters and papers connected with the election. When it was opened however, by Mr. Whithorn, the half of a bank note fell to the ground, which, upon being examined, proved to be the half of a 500*l.* bank note. The discovery surprised those who were not cognizant of Mr. Bernard's mysterious arrival in Gloucester on the Saturday preceding, but Mr. Lovegrove at once conjectured, and rightly, as it afterwards turned out, that it had been sent by Mr. Bernard, and, indeed, if the impression on Mr. Bernard's mind be well-founded, that he enclosed the envelope addressed to Mr. Whithorn in another envelope which he sent to Mr. Lovegrove, it must have been owing to Mr. Lovegrove's instrumentality that the enclosure found its way to the place where it was ultimately discovered by Mr. Taynton. For the purpose of our inquiry, it matters little whether the first half of the note found its way to the committee-room in the mode suggested, or through some channel which hitherto has remained undiscovered, as it was admitted by Mr. Lovegrove that the second half at least was transmitted to him through the post, and that he delivered it to Mr. Whithorn for the purpose of being applied to the purchase of votes. The utmost caution was observed by Mr. Bernard to prevent discovery of the source from which the two halves of the 500*l.* note had been derived. The letters were not registered, nor were they accompanied by any writing to indicate the sender. The mystery which attended his visit to Gloucester, and the secrecy which marked the transmission of the money, are significant indications of the character that he had assumed, and of the knowledge that he then had of the corruptness of the transaction in which he was engaged. Indeed, on a subsequent examination, Mr. Bernard admitted that he was aware the money was wanted for corrupt purposes. Mr. Lovegrove, who on the 25th of April had received 500*l.* from Sir R. Carden, which he had applied to the reimbursement of the sums he had already expended in the progress of the contest, finding that the sum of 500*l.* which had been transmitted by Mr. Bernard was wholly insufficient to secure the object for which it had been sent, drew notes to the value of 500*l.* from his own bankers, for the purpose of making up the fund of 1,000*l.* which, as mentioned at the interview with Mr. Bernard, was required for securing the election, and on the day of the nomination, in order to prevent the chance of discovery, sent his nephew to London with the notes for the 1,000*l.* to obtain gold for the same through the instrumentality of his London agent. The gold having thus been procured and delivered to Mr. Lovegrove, was, by him,—part on the evening of the nomination and part on the morning of the election,—entrusted to Mr. Whithorn for the purpose of bribery. We learnt from Mr. Whithorn that he gave 590*l.* out of this sum to various canvassers for the redemption of the promises they had made to voters, that he himself paid 293*l.* in bribes to 38 voters, whose names he specified, who were either brought or came voluntarily to him as at the election of 1857, and that he spent the balance of 118*l.* partly in refreshments and partly in bribes to voters, whose names he was unable to particularize. So great was the demand for money, that we were told the funds at his disposal were exhausted before 10 o'clock in the morning of the election, and yet, in spite of this expenditure, Sir R. Carden was at that time virtually defeated. The knowledge that each party was bribing, and the determination of each party to secure the venal voters if they could, stimulated competition, and we were told by Mr. Harry Jacobs, "that it was something like being on 'Change, for if I arranged. he said, "with a man for 5*l.* the opposite party offered him 6*l.*, and then he came to "me and re-arranged—it was in that way.'

Mr. Whithorn, speaking of the nature of the canvass, told us that he never considered the returns unsatisfactory, but yet he said "he did not think that the returns showed that "they had a chance of winning without bribery." There appears to be no doubt, notwithstanding a letter was written by Mr. Lovegrove to Sir R. Carden, on the 24th

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April, to assure him of the excellence of his prospects, that his canvass was not so favourable as it had been in 1857, as we were told by Mr. Taynton that he had less promises at the last election than he had in 1857, when by dint of bribery he headed the poll by a majority of 33 votes.

On both sides treating was generally practised. Every canvasser seemed to look upon treating as a part of his vocation, and the public houses were frequented with the double object of gratifying the voters who resorted to them, and in some cases of conciliating the publicans who kept them. Thus Mr. Whithorn, who Mr. Lovegrove told us had the entire charge of that branch, when questioned as to whether a sum of 3*l.* paid to a beer-house keeper of the name of Francis Ewers, was not paid for his vote, said, "I suppose "you may say the same with regard to all the inn-keepers or publicans." So great was the demoralization which this practice produced that Mr. Alexander Halcomb, a merchant at Gloucester, and a member of the Liberal party, informed us "that they could "not get a public meeting to address the electors politically without treating them. "We intended," he said, "to convene a meeting at the Working Men's Institute, "or some such place, but we found that all the houses were opened by the Conservatives, "and that Conservative beer was flowing too freely to allow of our getting a "meeting at any such place." In the majority of cases the public houses were not opened for the gratuitous distribution of refreshments or beer at the expense of the candidate; but the publicans often gave credit for refreshments supplied to the friends of the candidates, relying, as Mr. Frederick Hanman, of "The King William," told us, on past experience for payment of the bills incurred at their houses; and this expectation is shown by the evidence of Mr. Lovegrove to have been well-founded—for, speaking of publicans' accounts which had come to his knowledge since the auditor's account was made out, and which he admitted were illegal for treating, amounting to about 269*l.*, he said that he thought that the greater portion of those accounts would be properly payable, and that he should recommend Sir R. Carden to pay them. For the most part, however, credit was not given, the practice generally being for the canvassers to pay at the time for the refreshments which were supplied to the voters by their directions; and thus considerable sums in the aggregate were spent in treating of which only the most general and confused account could be presented to us. The evidence leaves no doubt that treating was thus carried on at nearly every public house in the city.

Another means of corruption, more pernicious perhaps, because more insidious in its operation, which was freely adopted by both parties, was the colourable employment of messengers, a remnant of the ancient system of administering bribes to voters as payments for nominal services. The payment to a messenger or door-keeper appears to range from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* a day, and the number engaged and the length of time for which they are paid greatly depends upon the severity of the contest. In 1857 there were comparatively few upon either side, but at the last election, when both parties struggled to secure the venal electors, no limit was placed upon their employment. The messengers in general affect not to regard their remuneration for those fictitious services as a bribe, and it is probable that some of them would vote in accordance with their political or personal feelings without the inducement thus offered to them; but it is clear that by all the agents on both sides the payments to the messengers are regarded as bribes. Comparatively few of the messengers are non-voters, and of the non-voters it appears that a large number are usually the relatives of voters who are placed on the list of messengers upon the application of the voters themselves. Thus Mr. Whithorn said, "Where they do not "get put on themselves they recommend their sons, or some one connected with them; "and if you do not put them on you will lose their votes." Mr. Lovegrove, also accounting for the number employed by the Conservative party, said, "On the other "side there were a great many voters employed, and when application was made to us "to take on either a voter or the relative of a voter, and we refused them, those men "would immediately go over to the other side and get instant employment, and that "gave rise to so many being employed." And Mr. J. B. Monk, having stated that he regarded the employment of messengers as a means of bribery, said, "The fact is, if "they had not been employed by me they would have been tempted by the other party, "and I should have lost them. I knew the men were Liberals in principle, but in the "midst of temptations which were then afloat I think I should not have seen them again "if I had let them go." Such was the result of this competitive system that, although we were told that for the work to be done 20 or 30 would have been quite sufficient, and with reason too, since we find that the messengers who were voters did hardly any work at all, yet no less than 112 messengers were employed by the Liberal party, and 151 messengers and doorkeepers by the Conservative party.

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From what we have stated we think the deduction is inevitable, that purity of election must be impossible so long as voters, and the relatives of voters, are permitted to be employed as messengers at elections. Payments on account of chairing, cockades, ribbons, music, and banners, the fertile sources of bribery in earlier times, were made illegal by the 7th section of "The Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," and it seems surprising that the employment of messengers, as it fell within the spirit, should not have been included within the prohibitory language, of that section.

The returns of the canvass in a constituency so flooded by corrupt practices as that of Gloucester could be little relied upon by either side in determining the probable chance of success of their respective candidates. Calculations had, however, been made, both by Mr. Price and by Mr. Monk, which went to demonstrate that the assurance conveyed to the latter by Mr. J. P. Wilton at his first interview with him in London, that the Liberals had a majority of 150, was not far from the truth. This was a conclusion, however, which was strongly controverted by the Conservatives, and Mr. Taynton, on their behalf, and Mr. Wilton, on behalf of the Liberal party, supplied us with figures in support of the opinions which they had respectively formed. Mr. Taynton took the poll of 1857 as the basis of his calculations, believing that to be the best criterion of the strength of parties, but he admitted that his calculations would be much affected if we found that many of the voters who supported Sir Robert Carden in 1857 had then been bribed; and he said that in that case we should have to strike a balance between the votes that had been obtained in that way on either side. He stated, however, that on a comparison of the registers of 1857 and 1859, the Conservatives had before the election calculated upon a gain of 76 votes, but that if 30 who had voted contrary to their expectation were deducted from that number, their gain would have been 46, which, added to the majority of 33 in 1857, assuming it to have been a real one, would have given them a majority at the last election of 79 votes. Mr. J. P. Wilton, on the other hand, claimed a majority, in the absence of corrupt practices, at least equal to that which he had stated in London. He commenced his calculations with an analysis of the poll in 1852, and contended that the Liberal strength exceeded the Conservative strength at that election by 197 votes. He stated that there polled in 1852 for

Berkeley and Price - - - - - -			660 votes.
Plumpers for Berkeley - - - - -			35 „
Plumpers for Price - - - - - -			27 „
And taking credit for half the votes split between Hope and Berkeley or Hope and Price, which would be - - -			117 „
He asserted that the Liberal strength then amounted to - -			839 votes.
He stated that Mr. Hope polled plumpers - -	525		
And giving him credit for one half the split votes, viz. -	117		642
He asserted that the Conservative strength was then less than the Liberal strength by - - - - -			197 votes.

By a series of elaborate calculations which he presented to us, he demonstrated, as he thought conclusively, that the Liberals had sustained a loss between 1852 and 1857 of 67 votes, which they had partially repaired by a gain between 1857 and 1859 of 28 votes, and he concluded by expressing his conviction that the Liberal party would have had at the last election a majority of 158 if both parties had abstained from bribery. We are unable to form any opinion as to the accuracy of the data upon which this calculation is founded, or the soundness of the conclusion which has thus been arrived at. Mr. Taynton's calculation, however, appears to us, in one respect, fallacious, because, as 109 voters at least were bribed to vote for Sir R. Carden in 1857, whilst only 9, as far as we could ascertain, were bribed to vote for Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price, the balance, which, according to his own admission, must be struck between the votes obtained on either side by bribery at that election being deducted from the gross number polled for Sir R. Carden, would have diminished the strength of the Conservative party in 1857 to the extent of 100 votes; and as the result of his own calculation would have been a majority for the Liberal party in 1859 of 21 votes. The contest in 1859 terminated in the defeat of Sir R. Carden; the numbers polled having been respectively,—Carden, 595; Price, 807; Monk, 779.

A few days after that event, viz., on the 3d of May, Mr. Bernard communicated to Sir R. Carden the information that he had advanced the sum of 500*l.* for the purposes

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of his election. The money was repaid, but not, as we were told, without expostulation. The expostulation, indeed, was hardly such as might have been expected from one who, having proclaimed himself the opponent of electoral corruption, was, for the first time, awakened to the knowledge that the contest upon his part had been corruptly conducted. The claim which Mr. Bernard made for the repayment of so large a sum as 500*l.*, which had been advanced only two or three days after Sir R. Carden's own remittance of 500*l.* on the 25th of April, excited a strong suspicion in his mind that the money must have been illegally spent, and it might have been expected that some explanation would have been required of his agent as soon as he had become aware of this corrupt expenditure, but neither remonstrance nor inquiry were addressed to Mr. Lovegrove with reference to the existence of practices so materially calculated to impugn the sincerity of the professions which he had made when he first became a candidate for Gloucester. It is perfectly clear that at the time Sir R. Carden repaid Mr. Bernard the sum of 500*l.* he had more than a suspicion that it had been illegally spent, and when questioned by us as to whether he did not believe that it had been expended in bribery, he said, "I had no right to suppose that at all. I was sure it must "have been spent improperly; but I cannot say I supposed it was spent in bribery; it "might have been a fee to some man;" and when further questioned as to the effect of the word "improperly," he said, that by that word he meant "illegally;" "but as to "bribery," he added, "I knew nothing of it whatever." Although we think there is great reason to believe that Sir R. Carden must have known not only that the money had been illegally spent, but that it had been expended in the purchase of votes, we hesitate to come to the conclusion, in direct opposition to his own declaration to the contrary, that he was guilty of bribery. The payment to Mr. Bernard would have been a payment rendering him guilty of bribery, as falling within the words of the second section of the statute 17 & 18 Vict. c. 102,—"who shall knowingly pay or cause to be paid any money to any "person in discharge or repayment of any money wholly or "in part expended in bribery;" and it would have been our duty to have found Sir R. Carden guilty of the offence of bribery if we could have satisfied ourselves that he knew at the time he repaid the money that bribery had been committed; but as an illegal expenditure of money does not necessarily imply the practice of bribery, and as we are unwilling to question the truth of his statement as to the extent of his knowledge, we have not felt ourselves warranted in finding that he was guilty of that offence.

The expenditure, as it may have been conceived, was very considerable on both sides, but neither party thought it prudent that the amount of that expenditure should be made public. Statements of accounts, instead of the accounts themselves, were delivered to the election auditor by the agents of Mr. Price and Mr. Monk, which were so contrived as to bring the pretended expenditure within prudent limits, by excluding every payment which either was tainted by corruption or was calculated to endanger the seats of the members by the suggestion of agency. A similar course was adopted by the agent of Sir Robert Carden, who returned as true a statement of the expenditure, which, he knew, omitted to account for a very considerable portion of the money expended. Not only did he omit all mention of the 1,000*l.* which he had himself delivered to Mr. Whithorn, but he abstained from making any inquiry of Mr. Whithorn as to the amount which he had expended, or the accounts which he had received for expenses incurred within his own department—that department being, it will be recollected, the arrangement with the publicans, "a branch," of which Mr. Lovegrove told us "that Mr. Whithorn took charge."

It is impossible to look upon the system of falsification which we found practised in Gloucester without feeling that the "election agent" and the "election auditor" exist only to deceive and to delude the Legislature and the public. Instead of "the election auditor" being the detective of electoral abuses, he acts as a screen to prevent their exposure, and becomes a stumbling-block to further inquiry. The returns certifying the total expenditure at the two elections of 1857 and 1859, which, in obedience to an order of the House of Commons, were made to the House by the election auditor for Gloucester, were grossly false; and that falsehood has arisen, in part, from the facilities afforded by Mr. Hodges Carter, the election auditor, but still more from the suppression of facts by the "election agents," the knowledge of which the election auditor had no means of acquiring. Not only did the election auditor abstain from requiring the delivery of the accounts themselves after the last election, but he was content that their payment should be made by the agents of the respective candidates; and he excused his violation of the provisions of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," which provides that all payments shall be made by the election auditor except those which have been incurred prior to

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the day of nomination, by saying that "it did not appear to him that it mattered much "who made them, as he had no authority to interfere with the accounts."

The statements sent in to the election auditor as true statements of the expenditure by the agents of the respective candidates at the last election were—Sir R. Carden, 1,021*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*; Mr. Price, 464*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; Mr. Monk, 464*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; whereas the amount, as far as we could ascertain, that was expended by Sir R. Carden, was upwards of 2,600*l.*, and that expended on the joint account of Messrs. Price and Monk was upwards of 2,300*l.* This subject is one of great importance, and we shall hereafter venture to offer some additional observations upon the manner in which the provisions of the "Corrupt Practices Act, 1854," have been generally ignored in connexion with the duties assigned by them to the election auditor and the election agent.

We have before adverted to the establishment of the Conservative Association in 1853, and the Reform Club in 1858. Both these bodies were founded under the protection of the Friendly Societies Acts, and were certified to be friendly societies by Mr. Tidd Pratt. From the evidence of Mr. W. Strafford, the chairman of the Conservative Association, we are of opinion that great mischief may be inflicted upon the members of such an association by this fusion of politics with the legitimate objects of a friendly society. The second rule of the Conservative Association provides that every person admitted shall be of sound Conservative principles; and the third rule of the Reform Club similarly provides that any person shall be eligible who shall profess Liberal principles. Subsequent rules make provision for the payment of subscriptions, allowances in case of sickness, and payments to the widows or relatives of deceased members, and also for the forfeiture of all moneys subscribed and of future benefits accruing from membership as the consequences of expulsion. Now Mr. Strafford informed us that he should consider that the second rule of the Conservative Association would be violated by a member voting for a Liberal candidate at an election, and that for such violation he would be liable to be subjected to the penalty of expulsion from the society, and to the consequent loss of all the subscriptions he had paid, and the forfeiture of all the benefits that might have accrued to him from his membership. We express no opinion whether such a power of expulsion could be legally exercised, but we think that a friendly society, whose rules may possibly expose its members to the loss of benefits which they expected to enjoy in the time of sickness, in consequence of their independent exercise of the franchise, is economically vicious, and may become most mischievous and oppressive in its operation.

We have before stated that the practices which were in operation before the Reform Act not only left a corrupt taint amongst the poorer classes of freemen, but to some extent also infected the lower class of household voters. There are, however, causes in operation, apart from corrupt notions, derived from the period antecedent to the Reform Act, which have materially influenced, and, perhaps, have led to the existing state of corruption. It was stated by several of the witnesses of both parties, who had been active agents in corrupting voters, that freemen voters whose freedom had been taken up, by either party, in the manner we have before described, were tacitly expected to vote for that party, and were also deemed to be voters to whom money inducements might be offered without hesitation. Mr. Brewer Monk, the most active agent amongst the poorer voters on the Liberal side stated, however, that there are very many poor and working men, voters in Gloucester, to whom no agent would dare to offer a bribe. But he also said, "that all the messengers "are not colourably employed. There are many men on that list who would refuse "to take a bribe in any shape or form; they would not think it bribery if they were "employed as messengers. Some of those men would not take a bribe on any account." And he afterwards added, that if their opponents employed a great number of messengers, they must do the same; and as to the great majority of the messengers he employed, he observed, "I knew the men were Liberals in principle, but in the midst of temptations "which were then afloat, I think, I should not have seen them again if I had let them "go." And the evidence plainly shows that when once a voter in humble life has accepted pecuniary aid for the purpose of obtaining or in connexion with his vote, his sense of public morality is much broken down, and, if not at once absolutely venal, he becomes one of the class of voters upon which the bribery agents on both sides operate. It is in this way payments to voters, by many persons considered to be unobjectionable, such, for instance, as travelling expenses, lead to, and not unfrequently become the cover for, actual corruption. In confirmation of this view, Mr. T. Hodges Carter observed, in reference to the out-voters, that "he did not believe they would come to the "poll unless their expenses were paid, or unless they got something; and that everybody "must be well aware that the paying travelling expenses is a great inlet to bribery." Voters temporarily absent from Gloucester in pursuit of their several callings can seldom

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be induced to return home for the purpose of voting unless their expenses are paid. In some few instances such voters will accept the amount of their actual expenses, but in the majority of cases they require and receive something, often considerably more than their actual expenses. Many of the voters of Gloucester, who are so absent, are men employed on ships and barges, or otherwise engaged in the trade of the port; and these men generally require, in addition to their expenses, something for the payment of another person to take charge of their vessels, barges, or business, while coming back to vote. We found, however, in such cases, that sums varying from 30*s.* to 5*l.* over and above the most liberal estimates for expenses, including the employment of substitutes, were received by the voters who were brought home to vote. Many of these men were unwilling to admit that they had received money for their votes, though they confessed that without such inducements they would not have left their places of employment for the purpose of voting.

The freemen voters who live at some distance from the city, but within seven miles of the parliamentary boundary, also require to be paid money for their votes, under the pretence of payment for "expenses" or "loss of time," and the like pretences for receiving money are often made by voters who live within the parliamentary boundary. In all such cases we found these pretences formed a mere colour for demanding bribes, though such pretences commonly facilitated the process of bribery. In some cases it appeared to us that if the acceptance of a bribe had been presented to the mind of the voter as an offence against the law, especially as a criminal offence, it would have been rejected, but the bribe being offered, at first, and nominally at least, as payment for "expenses" or for "loss of time," the voter easily reconciled himself to the demand or receipt of amounts altogether beyond the scale of his possible expenditure or loss. This stage of corruption being reached, the voter soon loses all sense of shame, and thenceforth receives money for expenses which have not been incurred, and which is really a payment for his vote.

A witness, Mallard, a railway clerk, who stated he had paid two voters, railway porters, 4*l.* 10*s.* each to vote for the Liberal candidates in 1859, persisted in saying that he paid the money to them for "their expenses," though they only came from the Gloucester railway station; and on being much pressed, said it was given to them "for their time and trouble in being away, that it might be more satisfactory to them;" but "not under the intention of bribery; merely on purpose, for their expenses and "time." And, absurd as it may appear, many of the voters in Gloucester who received money at the election, undoubtedly for voting, would not admit that they had been bribed to vote.

In many cases the out-voters were brought in at the candidate's expense, and were accompanied by their wives or other female relations, all of whom participated in refreshments at the expense of the candidate for whom their relatives voted. The evidence of John Coopey, of Churcham, near Gloucester, a cattle and sheep dealer, may be referred to in illustration. This man belongs to a numerous family of the same name, who have acquired a local notoriety for acting in concert at parliamentary elections, as well as for avowed corruptness. John Coopey voted for Sir Robert Carden at his first election in 1857, and was on that occasion paid 3*l.* by John Ward. Coopey then came into Gloucester in a coach sent out by Sir R. W. Carden's agents, accompanied by many other members of the Coopey family, male and female. They were taken to a public house, "The Upper George," where, with considerable secrecy, a sum of money amounting to 3*l.* per head for the "Coopey" voters, was received by the witness's sister, Mary Coopey, and afterwards distributed by her amongst the Coopeys. After voting, all had refreshments. John Coopey swore that the payment of 3*l.* at the election for 1857 was the first money he had ever received for voting; though, according to the general reputation of the place, the Coopeys had always received money for their votes; and, on being pressed as to the truth of his statement, this witness said,—"In 1857 I was paid, and I do not see altogether why I should not be. I lost "the market through coming to vote; the polling day happened to be on Saturday "(Gloucester market day). I could not take my things to market, and I do not think "that what I had was too much for my expenses." He polled before ten o'clock in the morning. At the election of 1859 the same John Coopey was paid 7*l.* by John Ward, in fulfilment of a previous promise, to vote for Sir R. W. Carden, bribery having then been perpetrated in a more open manner than at the previous election of 1857. At the last election bribery was more recklessly practised, and competition had greatly enhanced the amounts offered and required for votes.

The employment of voters as messengers, either for the purpose of influencing their votes, or as a reward for their known and steady adherence to their party, has always

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been a potent means of corruption. It has accustomed the voters to connect the idea of pecuniary advantage with the exercise of their parliamentary franchise, and has led, by an almost insensible transition, from remuneration for services, more or less real, to the direct sale and purchase of votes. Although the messengers employed "on the committee," as it is usually called, scarcely consider such employment as bribery, it is confessedly with most of them a merely colourable employment.

A few of the nominal messengers appear to make some pretence of attending the committee-room of their party, and of being ready to perform messengers' duty if required; but the majority of them do not make the slightest pretence of working. The voter-messengers, indeed, consider that the work of the committee-rooms ought to be performed by the messengers who are not voters. Much of the evidence given before us proved that the employment of voters to perform services, even such as are commonly considered essential in the management of an election, has a tendency, especially in the opinion of the lower classes of voters, to confuse their notions of public morality.

We have before referred to the evidence given by Mr. G. N. C. Buchanan, of his having overheard two poor men conversing about the election, when one of them referred to the four-and-twenty lawyers whom he said were having their 25*l.* down and two guineas a day, as a reason why he would not give his vote for nothing. And, as his own comment on that conversation, Mr. Buchanan added, "I thought that showed the "tone of society amongst the lower orders. It seemed to me a scramble which should "get most; and I do not like to see a man held up to public obloquy for getting 3*s.* 6*d.* "a day, when a professional man, who makes professional charges, receives his twenty-"five guineas."

We cannot doubt, looking at the evidence we have received, that the practice which exists in Gloucester, of retaining and employing on each side all the attorneys whose political opinions concur with the party employing them, and who will accept of such retainer or employment, does produce a most prejudicial effect upon the general tone of public opinion amongst the constituency. Nobody suggested that the retainer or employment of any of the attorneys of Gloucester at all influenced them in adopting any side in party politics, for, as men of education and intelligence, they all belonged and were all known to belong to one side or the other. But by receiving payment for exertions on behalf of their respective parties, similar in character and degree to those gratuitously made by other men of respectability who take part in elections, they afford a bad example to other voters of an inferior station in life, who might much more justly say they cannot afford to assist at an election without some compensation for loss of time or expenses. We may illustrate this view by the fact we have mentioned before, that at the election for Gloucester in 1852, which, under the agreement entered into between Mr. Hope and Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley, was nearly or quite a pure election, one attorney only was employed on each side.

In places where electoral corruption has so long prevailed, as at Gloucester, there are many persons anxious to turn the occasion of an election to their own pecuniary advantage, and their ingenuity in multiplying outlays at the expense of the candidates is considerable. And we found that every head of expense, though apparently innocent—or commonly deemed so—affords, more or less of opportunity for corrupt expenditure.

Canvassing, as it is pursued in Gloucester, also leads to much corruption. The personal canvass of the candidates, accompanied as they generally are by some of the most influential or active of their respective friends, is attended with little or no expense, and is never the occasion on which corrupt inducements are held out to voters. The friends who accompany the candidates on their canvass, which, so far as regards the venal class of voters, is merely formal, usually know nothing, directly at all events, of any corrupt practices.

But there is another and far more expensive kind of canvass, which is simultaneously conducted by partizans of a lower station in society, with the details or progress of which the candidates are not made acquainted. These canvassers are intimately acquainted with the humbler and venal classes of voters, the frequent communication with whom during the progress of the canvass involves the necessity of making provision some time prior to the election for the "preliminary expenses," about which so much will be found in the evidence. The out-voters who must be seen and treated, probably several times before their promises can be obtained, commonly abstain from promising until they can ascertain whether "there is to be any money going this time" on the side for which they are canvassed. The canvasser is not always able to say positively until just before the election whether there will or will not be "any money going." He can only assure the uncertain voter that if there is any money he shall receive "the

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same as the rest." In this way many conditional promises are obtained on both sides. But these voters require to be followed up. They have their predilections for the one party or the other, but no reliance can be placed on them without constant watchfulness. For this purpose many canvassers and sub-canvassers are required to be employed, while numerous voters, whose fidelity to their party is deemed sufficiently strong, are paid to watch other voters on whose steadiness less reliance is placed. In several instances voters, who could not be relied on by the party they had promised, or had been expected to vote for, were removed some days before the election to remote public houses, and there entertained and guarded until the polling day. This was proved to have been done to some extent on both sides. Such a course of proceeding necessarily involved considerable expenditure, all of which is designated the cost of the canvass. The canvassers themselves expend a good deal of money in travelling and for refreshments, in addition to contracting debts for the hire of carriages. Besides which most of the canvassers indulge in an open-handed liberality at the candidate's expense, and treat all the persons, non-voters as well as voters, whom they meet with at the public houses to which they resort. It is hardly necessary to say that these expenses, continued as they sometimes are over several weeks, amount to large sums. We found that in every case in which the bribery agents and sub-agents had received money to be expended in the purchase of votes, a large per-centage was stated to have been employed in treating, of which we could obtain no more precise account than that it had been spent on the canvass in treating voters and other persons.

It is this second kind of canvass which so corrupts the humble voters. They are eagerly pressed for their votes, while drink is supplied to them gratuitously and in abundance. They are led to believe that they are conferring great favours on the candidates for whom they vote, and they easily arrive at the conclusion that for such favours the candidates ought to pay. As an example of the feeling of the corrupt class of voters on this point, the answer of Elizabeth Dowers, the wife of Robert Dowers, a voter, who, at the election of 1857, received a bribe of 2*l.* for his vote, and gave his wife 30*s.* of that money, may be mentioned; being asked, "Were you angry with him for receiving the money?" answered "No; I consider that a man who goes to serve a gentle-"man ought to be satisfied for his trouble."

A somewhat similar feeling was disclosed by George Bowers in his evidence. This witness is a beershop keeper and mechanic, and appeared to have no notion that in receiving money for his vote he was committing any offence. The witness, with two companions, Thomas Bowers and John Evans, went, on the morning of the election of 1857, to the Liberal committee-room, and there the witness saw Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk, and offered him the three votes for the Liberal party. Having learnt from Monk that he did not believe there would be any money spent, and that he had no chance of doing anything for them, Bowers agreed with Wm. Parker, whom he met with after leaving the Liberal committee-room, that he (Bowers) should receive 4*l.*, and his two companions 3*l.* 10*s.* each for their votes for Sir Robert Carden.

"In 1859," said Bowers, "I voted on the Liberal side, because we had a party at our "house." Before the election of 1857 he had voted for Admiral Berkeley; and in reply to the question, "You prefer voting on the side that will pay you?" he said, "I get my "living by my labour, and if anybody offers me a few pounds I think there is no harm "in my taking it." And being further asked, "Do you know you are liable to be pro-"secuted and punished for taking a bribe?" replied, "No, I was not aware of it."

It was with a view to prevent irregular payments at elections, that certain provisions of "The Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," were enacted. The sections which relate to this subject are from 15 to 31, both inclusive. Under these enactments, the returning officer of every place returning members to Parliament is required to appoint an "election auditor," and to give public notice of such appointment; and every candidate is required to declare to the election auditor the name of his agent for election expenses. All persons having claims on any candidate are to send in the same to the candidate or his authorized agent, within one month from the day of the declaration of the election, and every candidate or his agent must, within three months of the day of declaration, send in to the election auditor for payment all the claims so sent in to the candidate, and he must state whether he admits such claims to be correct. A candidate or his agent wilfully omitting to send in such claims is made liable to a penalty of 20*l.*, and a farther penalty of 10*l.* for every subsequent week of wilful neglect; such penalties to be recovered by any person who will sue for them.

No payments whatever, in respect of any election (except such as are incurred before the nomination day, the payment of which cannot be conveniently postponed) are to be made, except through the election auditor, and any payment otherwise made is to be

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deemed an illegal payment, rendering the candidate on whose behalf it is made liable to forfeit 10*l.*, with double the amount of such illegal payment and costs, to any person who will sue for the same. The candidate may name a banker through whom alone money shall be paid by the election auditor. Where a banker is appointed payments are to be made by cheques of the election auditor, countersigned by the candidate or some person on his behalf specially appointed for the purpose.

The personal expenses of candidates, and of advertising are to be defrayed by themselves; but an account must be rendered to the election auditor, and included in his general account.

No person shall pay, or agree to pay, any expenses of an election, or any sum of money whatever, with a view to promote the election of a candidate, save to or under the authority of the election auditor, with some exceptions specially mentioned; and any person so doing becomes liable to a penalty of 50*l.* and double the money paid.

The election auditor is required to make out and sign an account of the expenses incurred at the election, specifying the money paid by him, or by his authority, on behalf of each candidate, including the amounts paid by the candidates for advertisements; and he is also required to insert an abstract of such accounts, signed by himself, in a local newspaper, such abstract to contain the particulars mentioned in the Act.

Such are in substance the provisions of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act 1854," in reference to the election auditor and election agent. Yet all these elaborate enactments are, as has been repeatedly stated by witnesses examined before us, practically nugatory. Thus Sir W. G. Hayter, when asked whether he was acquainted with the Act, replied,—

"I confess to you that I ought to be acquainted with it, but practically I have always considered it a dead letter."

He afterwards said,—

"Everybody acquainted with election matters knows it is almost invariably the practice to send the different agents the money necessary for election expenses. I have never known a contest myself of any sort in which the funds have not been sent notwithstanding that Act; I think it is quite useless. No doubt it is wrong not to obey an Act of Parliament; I am not saying it is not; what I say is, that practically that Act of Parliament is uniformly disobeyed."

Mr. W. Henry Cooke, a barrister very conversant with the law and practice of elections, on being asked his opinion of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, said,—

"I think that if it had ever been intended to be otherwise than waste paper, power would have been given to the election auditor to tax bills, and then candidates and agents intending to be honest might be protected. I have found in my experience that they have always put more on to the legal bills than they ought to put, and the consequence is that the agent of any candidate is placed in a most embarrassing situation. If he does not pay extortionate demands, he makes his candidate unpopular; and if he does pay them, he renders him liable to have a commission like this issued. At present I think that the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act is a delusion and a snare."

Mr. William Philip Price, the late Member for Gloucester, on being asked as to his knowledge of the provisions of this Act, said:—

"I always looked upon it as that sort of homage which is paid by vice to virtue, and always had a great contempt for it, and have never read it since it was passed. . . . I think it a delusion from beginning to end. I never heard a member of the House of Commons who did not express himself in the same way about it. I do not think it can have, or was ever intended to have, the slightest effect in checking corruption. I believe that the only thing it has done has been this, that it has got rid of some practices which used to obtain at elections before the time of its enactment, such as bands and colours, and chairing, and all that sort of thing; but I believe that instead of money that used to be spent in that way, perhaps more is now spent in other ways."

Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley, in reference to this Act, said,—

"I think that the Act of Parliament is mere waste paper, for practically the auditor has no control whatever over the accounts. I may put down my expenses at 300*l.*, when, in point of fact, they amount to 1,000*l.* or more. . . . If all candidates and all agents would state fairly what had been done at the elections, perhaps you might then act upon the Act of Parliament; but at present what is to prevent a man giving in a false return? and I believe false returns have been given in."

And he acceded to the opinion which had been expressed before us by other witnesses that "if the Legislature had seriously intended to put down bribery, they might have "done it by passing an Act of a much more stringent nature than the Corrupt Practices "Prevention Act; and that bribery cannot be stopped unless severer measures upon the

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"bribers are resorted to." And Sir Maurice Berkeley further said, in reference to the same subject, that in his opinion "the punishment should be on the briber, not on the poor man "who is tempted by a bribe." Mr. Lovegrove, the agent for Sir Robert Carden, also "said, practically the Act was disregarded. The Act would have been made much more "stringent and much better if there had been any serious intention on the part of the "Legislature to put down bribery, which intention I do not believe exists." And we found Mr. Moffatt and Sir Robert Carden, both former members of the House of Commons, to be almost wholly ignorant of the existence of the Act.

These general opinions of the inefficacy of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," to put a stop to or materially to impede the illegal expenditure of money at elections were completely confirmed by the manner in which all the substantial provisions of that Act have been disregarded in Gloucester.

Instead of the "election agent" being, as it was intended he should be, the real representative of the candidate, and cognizant of, and responsible for, the total expenditure of his election, his existence for these purposes is a delusion and a pretence. A "corruption agent," like Mr. Whithorn, is associated with the "election agent," and a double agency is established, which is thus brought into operation. None but accounts of unimpeachable purity are delivered to the "election agent," all the suspicious ones being sent in to the "corruption agent." No inconvenient revelations are made by the one, nor curious inquiries by the other. The "election agent" sends in the accounts, or, as at Gloucester, only a statement of the accounts, which he has received to the election auditor; and, if the election should be followed by a petition, the election auditor's account is the best evidence of the purity of the election. The "election agent" declares himself perfectly ignorant of any expenditure beyond that disclosed in the election auditor's account, and the "corruption agent," whose evidence would be most material, escapes discovery. Thus corruption is fostered, and the very Act of Parliament which was intended to serve for its exposure is made use of as a mask and as a blind to screen and to conceal it.

Mr. Carter, the election auditor, when he produced the accounts of the election expenses of each candidate at the election of 1859, told us that on the 26th of September, the day of his first examination, he had not received the bills or vouchers for Sir Robert Carden's election expenditure. All the accounts were paid by the agents of the candidates. He received no money, and was not consulted as to the payment of any of the accounts. Thus, at the election of 1859, the provisions of the Act were utterly disregarded by the agents of all the candidates.

Mr. Carter said all he had to do "was to make an abstract of the whole of the "accounts, and to publish it." This abstract was the only document he received from the election agent. "I thought," said Mr. Carter, "when I was first appointed election "auditor, that I had some discretion as to the amount of the bills, but there is not "the slightest. All I can do is to receive the accounts, and make a summary or abstract "of them, and publish it. I make a return to the House of Commons, which they "require to be made at the end of every election;" but he found he had not the slightest authority to strike out even an illegal payment.

To this exhibition of the failure of the Act of 1854, it will only be necessary to add some statements of the manner in which the agents of the candidates prepared the accounts they furnished to the election auditor, and which he then published as his own. In the statement of election expenses submitted to the election auditor on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk at the election of 1859, payments were not only omitted for the purpose of concealing illegal expenses, but fictitious charges were introduced for the purpose of balancing the account. Mr. Thomas Smith, one of the managing attorneys, said these payments were omitted because they "were not exactly necessary for the "election, and might be taken objection to." Mr. V. Ellis, the election agent appointed by Mr. Price, was charged as having been paid 50*l.*, while the sum he actually received was 20*l.*; Mr. A. G. Jones, the election agent appointed by Mr. Monk, received 25*l.*, but was charged in the auditor's account with 50*l.*; and Mr. Thomas Smith and Mr. James Bretherton were charged with 20*l.* each more than they respectively received. In this way a sum of 95*l.*, entered in the election auditor's account as paid for "professional assistance," but not in fact paid for that purpose, was rendered available for improper payments. It is obvious that very extensive acts of corruption and irregular expenditure may by such means be perpetrated under the disguise of payments for professional assistance. Mr. A. G. Jones, who received the formal appointment of election agent for Mr. Monk, trusted in a great measure to Mr. Bretherton, who, with Mr. Thomas Smith, had been appointed by the committee of Liberal attorneys to manage the election, and to make out the accounts for the auditor. Mr. Jones's appointment,

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in truth, was merely nominal, for he neither received nor paid money nor checked accounts. The process of making up the accounts will be best told in Mr. Bretherton's own language. He said, speaking as to the election of 1859:—

"The account sent in to the election auditor had been prepared with a view to the petition, as there were certain names that it was thought advisable to omit. I should say that previously, I believe, a certain sum had been named to Mr. Monk as the amount of the expenses; in that amount certain sums had been included that it was thought advisable to omit from the audited account, as it would probably have been produced before the election committee."

"I should also add, that in order to balance the accounts as near as could be, certain sums were added on the other side; names omitted; some were omitted altogether; others were omitted as to part of their demand, the whole having been paid."

He then stated that the names and sums omitted were Mr. Evans, an attorney, to whom 25*l.* had been paid; Mr. Roberts, an attorney, 25*l.*; Thomas Brewer Monk, 15*l.*; William Probert, jun., 15*l.*; and Charles Hutton, 7*l.* 10*s.* All these persons had, as appears from the evidence given before us, been actively concerned in the direct bribery of voters. The reasons, therefore, which led the managers of the election to omit these names from the auditor's account are perfectly obvious. There were some other omissions; a bill, 13*l.* 8*s.*, due to Henley, a printer, who had been an actual briber on the Liberal side, was altogether omitted; and parts of other bills for printing and advertising were also omitted. Mr. Bretherton thus accounts for these partial omissions:—

"They [the persons claiming the accounts] are in the account for a portion which was considered proper; the other that was doubtful it was thought advisable to omit. They would have gone in for the whole, every one of those, but for the petition; it was thought advisable, with a view to the petition, to omit them from the account, some of them wholly, and some only in part."

"As to the first four items," said Mr. Bretherton, "I think the objection to them was that it would be recognizing the parties as agents. I did not myself see any necessity for the omission, but it was thought advisable. . . . . The reason assigned was that it would not be safe for them to appear in the audited accounts. . . . . They had been so mixed up in the election that anything they might have been proved to have done would have been considered as having been done by the members. They were unsafe names to appear in the account."

It appears that Mr. Ellis, the election agent appointed by Mr. Price, knew of the arrangement by which the fictitious payments to the solicitors before referred to were entered in the auditor's account.

The statement of accounts sent in to the election auditor in 1859 on the part of Sir R. Carden amounts to 1,021*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, of which the sum of 350*l.*, or thereabouts, remained unpaid at the date of our inquiry. But that sum by no means represented the total expenses of his election, the payments which were made for the purchase of votes, illegal expenses incurred in canvassing, and publicans' bills, sent in shortly after the election, but still remaining unpaid, making up a total expense of 1,600*l.* beyond the sum returned to the election auditor as the amount of Sir R. Carden's expenditure. The accounts rendered to the election auditor of the expenses of Mr. Price at the same election amounted to 464*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, and a like sum was rendered as Mr. Monk's expenses. The managing attornies on the Liberal side considered themselves as acting for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk, and the total amount of the election expenses considered by such attornies proper to be inserted in the auditor's account were equally divided. We find that beyond the sums thus rendered to the auditor, the following amounts were expended on the behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk. Mr. John Pleydell Wilton expended 399*l.* received from Richard Thompson, 200*l.* borrowed from Mr. Bretherton, 40*l.* borrowed from Mr. Cooksey, 50*l.* borrowed from Mr. Robert Wilton, 50*l.* borrowed from Mr. Powell Chandler, and 200*l.* which he received after the election from Mr. Moffatt. Mr. George Peter Wilkes, an attorney, expended 90*l.* of his own money in bribing voters. Mr. David Lane, bootmaker, expended 40*l.* of his own money in bribing four voters. Mr. Robinson, corn merchant, gave to several of the Liberal canvassers the following sums, which were expended in bribery and treating; viz. 50*l.*, which he received on loan from Mr. Mutlow Abell and Mr. Herbert, attornies, and 235*l.* of his own money. Mr. Jefferson Bryon also advanced 41*l.*, and Mr. Daniel Tandy 12*l.* 10*s.* The above sums added to the two sums of 464*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, the auditor's account of Messrs. Price and Monk's election expenses, show the aggregate expenditure on their behalf at the election in 1859 to have been 2,335*l.* 13*s.*

The Election Auditors' accounts for the elections of 1857 and 1859 are contained in an Appendix to this Report.

The evidence given before us suggests several causes for the failure of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act. The obligations imposed by the Act are insufficient. They

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consist of money penalties, only to be enforced by expensive proceedings at law, the evidence to sustain which must always be very difficult to obtain; while, except under the excitement of an election contest, few persons are found willing to undertake the invidious position of plaintiff in a penal action. The principle of the Act seems to be that election expenses shall be paid upon the responsibility of an appointed election agent, through the agency of a public officer, the election auditor, whose accounts shall be advertised, and remain open to general inspection. The exceptions and reservations in the Act, and the probabilities of failure attendant upon proceedings under it, prevent the strict application of its principle, and afford the opportunity of evading or disregarding its provisions. The evidence afforded by the elections at Gloucester shows that all the intentions and professions of purity on the part of candidates have failed to prevent corrupt expenditure, or to insure the observance of the law. And we believe that unless the expenses of elections shall be strictly defined by Act of Parliament and made payable exclusively by a public officer, and the prosecution of offenders for penalties imposed by the Act be made obligatory upon such officer, no law formed on the principle of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act will afford any effectual check to illegal expenditure at elections. If the expenses to be incurred in an election were defined by Act of Parliament, and all other expenditure expressly forbidden, the election officer would be able, and might be authorized, to require each candidate to pay, before nomination, his estimated share of the election expenses. And if the election officer's authority extended to the expenses incurred prior to as well as at the election, that undefinable and most expensive head of outlay "preliminary expenses" would then be brought under effective control.

It appeared to us, during the progress of our inquiry, that the condition in life and the ostensible circumstances of many of the voters proved to have been bribed, were not such as to afford any palliation of their conduct upon the plea of poverty; but, that on the contrary, men apparently possessed of property, and occupying tenements of value much beyond the minimum qualification for a household suffrage, received money for their votes. With a view, therefore, of affording as complete a disclosure as possible of all the circumstances attending the widespread corruption of the constituency at Gloucester, we thought it desirable to obtain from competent witnesses a statement of the rentals of all the voters proved to have been bribed at the Election in 1859. Such a statement was accordingly prepared at our request by Mr. John Pleydell Wilton, with the concurrence and the assistance of Mr. Joseph Lovegrove and Mr. John Ward. Mr. Wilton, in order to frame his statement, obtained the estimated rentals from the returns made to the Board of Health, and he also made personal inquiries of the landlords, or their agents, or rent collectors, and, where such means of ascertaining the accuracy of his statement were not available, he took the valuations of persons familiar with the property as to its rental value. Mr. Ward, who had been engaged as a builder in Gloucester, was enabled to confirm, from his own knowledge, the accuracy of the rentals as stated by Mr. Wilton. We have, in the Schedule marked (E.) of voters bribed at the Election of 1859, added to the name of each person the estimated or actual rental of his occupation, which ranges in many cases from 12*l.* to 40*l.* In several cases such voters occupied their own property.

It now only remains for us to report to Your Majesty, what we have found in reference to the matters into which we were directed to inquire:—

We find that corrupt practices extensively prevailed at the Election in 1857.

We find that Sir Robert Walter Carden, William Philip Price, and Admiral Sir Maurice F. F. Berkeley were not privy to or cognizant of the corrupt practices which prevailed at that election.

We find that the persons named in Schedule A., to this our Report annexed, were guilty of bribery at the Election in 1857, by corruptly giving or promising money or other valuable consideration to voters, for the purchase of their votes, or on account of their having voted, or by corruptly advancing money for the purpose of bribery.

We find that the persons named in Schedule B., to this our Report annexed, were guilty of bribery at the Election in 1857, by receiving money or other valuable consideration for having given, or to induce them to give, or to refrain from giving, their votes.

We find that the persons named in Schedule C., to this Report annexed, were guilty of treating at the Election in 1857.

We find that corrupt practices extensively prevailed at the Election in 1859.

We find that William Philip Price and Charles James Monk were not privy to or cognizant of the corrupt practices which prevailed at that election.

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We find that the several persons named in the Schedule D., to this Report annexed, were guilty of bribery at the Election in 1859, by corruptly giving or promising money or other valuable consideration to voters, for the purchase of their votes, or on account of their having voted, or by corruptly advancing money for the purpose of bribery.

We find that the persons named in Schedule E., to this Report annexed, were guilty of bribery at the Election in 1859, by receiving money or other valuable consideration for having given, or to induce them to give, or to refrain from giving, their votes.

We find that the persons named in Schedule F., to this Report annexed, were guilty of treating at the election in 1859.

We find that one hundred and fifty-one persons named in Schedule G., to this Report annexed, were employed as messengers or doorkeepers on the behalf of Sir Robert Carden at the Election in 1859, and that those who are therein described as voters were colourably employed, and were paid the sums set opposite to their names, for the purpose of inducing them to give their votes for Sir Robert Carden.

We find that one hundred and twelve persons were employed as messengers at the Election in 1859, on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk, and that the persons named in the Schedule H., to this Report annexed, were voters, or relatives of voters, and that the voters were colourably employed, and were paid the sums set opposite their respective names, for the purpose of inducing them to give their votes for Messrs. Price and Monk.

Finally, we report to Your Majesty that, with rare exceptions, Corrupt Practices have for a long period prevailed at contested Elections for Members to serve in Parliament for the City of Gloucester.

We subjoin the evidence taken before us.

All which we humbly submit to Your Majesty's gracious consideration.

J. VAUGHAN.
LUCIUS H. FITZGERALD.
RICHARD G. WELFORD.

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SCHEDULES.

SCHEDULE (A).

The following Persons were guilty of Bribery at the Election in 1857, by corruptly giving or promising money or other valuable consideration to voters for the purchase of their votes or on account of their having voted, or by corruptly advancing money for the purpose of Bribery.

Butt, John Michael.
Castree, Charles William.
Chadbourn, John.
Clutterbuck, Obadiah.
Evans, John Horatio.
Evans, Thomas.
Haviland, Robert Thomas.
Hanman, John.
Hanman, John Biddle.
Hanman, Frederick.
Jeffs, James Pendrell.
Lovegrove, Samuel.
Maysey, James.
Mewett, Henry.
Miles, Thomas.
Monk, Thomas Brewer.
Parker, William.
Potter, Richard.
Probert, William, junior.
Ward, John.
Whithorn, Henry Kear.
Wingate, William Henry.

SCHEDULE (B).

The following Persons guilty of Bribery at the Election of 1857, by receiving money or other valuable consideration for having given, or to induce them to give, or to refrain from giving, their Votes.

Acutt, Robert.
Allaway, John Burgess.
Ashmead, John.
Bailey, William.
Bagley, George.
Baker, Robert.
Ball, Henry.
Barker, Isaac.
Baylis, Thomas.
Beckley, George.
Bennett, Benjamin.
Bernard, James.
Best, Decimus.
Best, Decimus Junior.
Bond, Anthony.
Bowers, Frederick.
Bowers, George.
Bowers, Thomas.
Brabant, Alfred.
Bragg, James.
Brookes, Charles.
Brooks, Charles.
Brooks, John.
Brown, William.
Browning, Henry.
Cole, Thomas.
Coopey, Edward.
Coopey, John.
Coopey, John.
Coopey, Joseph.
Coopey, Richard.
Coopey, Thomas.
Coopey, William.
Cotterill, Thomas.
Cox, Henry.
Davis, George.
Day, John.
Dix, John.
Dix, John.
Dix, Thomas.
Dowers, Robert.
Drinkwater, George William.
Drinkwater, Thomas Henry.
Edwards, John.
Emmings, John.
Evans, Arthur.
Evans, Charles Hill.
Evans, John.
Ewers, Francis.
French, Henry.
Gardner, Samuel.
Glendall, Charles.
Goddard, Richard.
Goode, Thomas.
Griffiths, William.
Harris, William.
Hatch, Charles.
Holder, John.
Hunt, George.
Hyett, Lewis.
Jellyman, Francis.
Jennings, Michael, junior.
Jervis, James.
Jones, William.
Keeling, John.
Keene, Charles Thomas.
Knight, Thomas.
Lake, John.
Lee, Samuel.
Lee, William.
Lodge, Joseph.
Mann, John.
Mathews, Matthew.
May, Michael.
Meadows, Henry.
Meak, Francis.
Merrett, William.
Middleton, George.
Miles, Thomas.
Morgan, George.
Oakey, Charles.
Pegler, Thomas.
Perks, Thomas.
Perris, John.
Puttick, John.
Roberts, Charles.
Roberts, Samuel.
Roberts, Edward.
Rowles, William.
Rudge, James.
Scott, William.
Shott, John.
Skillern, Samuel.
Smart, John.
Taylor, Giles.
Tomes, Charles.
Tooth, William.
Townsend, Henry.
Vaile, James.
Vaile, Samuel.

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Vaile, Thomas.
Vaile, William.
Veale, Benjamin.
Wadley, John.
Weaver, James.
Welsh, Walter.
Wilkins, James.
Williams, David.
Williams, Henry John.
Williams, James.
Williams, Joseph.
Williams, Robert.
Wood, Henry.
Wood, Richard.
Wood, Shadrach.
Wood, Walter.

SCHEDULE (C).

The following Persons were guilty of Treating at the Election in 1857.

Bennett, Benjamin.
Clutterbuck, Obadiah.
Crook, Robert.
Dyer, Jonah.
Hanman, John Biddle.
Haviland, Robert Thomas.
Maysey, James.
Monk, Thomas Brewer.
Moss, Mrs.
Parker, William.
Probert, William, junior.
Simpson, Frederick.
Stamper, Francis.
Tandy, William.
Ward, John.
Whithorn, Henry Kear.

SCHEDULE (D).

The following Persons were guilty of Bribery at the Election in 1859, by corruptly giving or promising money or other valuable consideration to voters for the purchase of their votes, or on account of their having voted, or by corruptly advancing money for the purpose of Bribery.

Abell, George Mutlow.
Ayres, John.
Ball, George.
Bennett, Benjamin.
Bernard, Julian.
Biggs, Thomas.
Bowers, George.
Bretherton, James.
Brimmell, James.
Bryon, Jefferson.
Butt, John Michael.
Chandler, Powell.
Clarke, John.
Clarke, Daniel.
Clutterbuck, Obadiah.
Clutterbuck, Walter.
Cole, William.
Cooksey, Charles Frederick.
Dyer, Jonah.
Evans, Thomas.
Fletcher, James.
Gainey, Sarah.
Gardner, Thomas.
Goold, John.
Gregory, John.
Hall, William.
Hanman, Frederick.
Hanman, John.
Hanman, John Biddle.
Hawkins, Charles Henry.
Henley, William.
Herbert, Samuel.
Hutton, Charles.
Jacobs, Harry.
Jeffs, James Pendrell.
Lane, David.
Lane, George.
Lea, William.
Lea, William.
Lovegrove, Joseph.
Lovesy, Conway Withorn.
Mallard, William Smith.
Maysey, James.
Mills, John.
Miles, Thomas.
Monk, Thomas Brewer.
Moss, Joseph.
Murrell, James.
Orton, John.
Orpin, James.
Parkes, William.
Payne, William.
Payne, James.
Pickford, George.
Probert, William.
Probert, William, junior.
Pugh, George.
Pugh, Thomas.
Roberts, John Edmund.
Roberts, William.
Robinson, Thomas.
Smart, Henry.
Smart, Philip.
Stamper, Francis.
Stephens, William.
Stephens, William.
Tandy, Daniel.
Thompson, Richard.
Townsend, Benjamin.
Ward, John.
Webb, Richard Ayres.
Whithorn, Henry Kear.
Wilkes, William.
Wilkes, William.
Wilkes, George Peter.
Wilton, John Pleydell.
Winfield, Charles.
Winfield, George.
Wingate, William.
Williams, James.
Withers, William.

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SCHEDULE (E).

The following Persons were guilty of Bribery at the Election in 1859, by receiving money or other valuable consideration for having given, or to induce them to give, or to refrain from giving, their votes.

Names of Voters.	Estimated annual Rent. £ s. d.	Actual annual Rent. £ s. d.	Observations.
FREEMEN.			
Acutt, Robert	—	16 0 0	
Allaway, Arthur	—	—	Lodger.
Allaway, James	—	—	Lodger out of City.
Ashmead, John	—	7 0 0	
Barker, Isaac	—	5 0 0	
Barker, William	—	8 0 0	
Best, Charles	—	—	Lodger.
Best, Decimus, sen.	—	9 0 0	
Best, Decimus, jun.	—	3 18 0	
Best, Samuel	—	—	Lodger.
Best, William Henry	—	—	Lodger.
Bishop, William Gayner	—	12 0 0	
Bond, Anthony	6 0 0	—	About.
Bosley, John	6 0 0	—	
Bossom, Charles	—	—	Domestic Servant.
Bossom, Thomas	—	—	Lodger.
Bourn, Edwin	3 15 0	—	
Bourn, Henry Richard	—	—	Lodger.
Bourn, John	—	6 10 0	
Bourne, William	—	—	Lodger.
Bower, Frederick	6 0 0	—	About.
Bower, George	—	6 10 0	
Bower, Thomas	12 0 0	—	
Bower, Thomas, jun.	—	11 0 0	
Brabant, Alfred	—	9 0 0	
Brookes, John	8 0 0	—	
Browning, Henry	8 0 0	—	
Cole, Thomas	18 0 0	—	
Cole, William	—	—	Lodger.
Cooke, James Philip	—	—	Lodger.
Coopey, Edward	5 0 0	—	Under.
Coopey, Hayward	5 0 0	—	About.
Coopey, John	25 0 0	—	Own property.
Coopey, Joseph	—	—	Lodger.
Coopey, Joseph	12 0 0	—	
Coopey, Richard	5 0 0	—	Under.
Coopey, Samuel	5 0 0	—	
Coopey, Thomas	4 0 0	—	
Coopey, William	12 0 0	—	
Coopey, William	6 0 0	—	
Coopey, William	6 0 0	—	
Curtis, Henry	—	—	Lodger.
Davis, George	—	10 0 0	
Davis, George	—	10 0 0	
Davis, Joseph	6 0 0	—	
Davis, Matthew	6 0 0	—	
Davis, William	—	—	
Dix, John	—	9 0 0	
Dix, John	5 0 0	—	
Dix, Thomas	—	6 15 0	
Dix, Thomas	12 10 0	—	
Drinkwater, George William	—	—	Lodger.
Drinkwater, James	5 0 0	—	
Evans, Arthur	—	9 0 0	
Evans, John Horatio	—	5 0 0	
Evans, Thomas	20 0 0	—	
Faville, William	—	—	St. Margaret's Hospital.
Gardner, John	8 0 0	—	About.
Gardner, Samuel	8 0 0	—	About.
Greening, William	—	—	Lodger.
Haines, Manfred	—	10 0 0	Dead.
Harris, Henry	—	—	
Hatch, Charles	—	9 10 0	
Hatch, Henry	—	5 10 0	
Hyett, Charles	8 0 0	—	Left Gloucester.
Hyett, James Henry	—	—	Lodger.
Hyett, John	10 10 0	—	
Hyett, John Watkins	—	9 0 0	About.
Ireland, James	6 5 0	—	
Jeffs, Daniel	—	11 0 0	
Jeffs, Samuel	8 0 0	—	
Jellyman, Francis	—	—	Lodger.
Jellyman, Henry	—	—	Lodger.
Jennings, Michael	5 0 0	—	
Jones, Charles	—	10 0 0	
Keeling, John	—	12 0 0	
Knight, Thomas	—	12 0 0	
Lake, John	5 15 0	—	
Lane, Henry	10 0 0	—	About.
Lane, Joseph	6 0 0	—	
Lewis, James	—	—	Non-resident.
Lewis, John	—	10 0 0	
Llewellyn, John	—	—	
Mann, Jeremiah	—	14 0 0	
Mann, Thomas Taylor	—	—	Lodger.
May, Michael	6 5 0	—	
Merrett, William	—	7 0 0	
Miles, Thomas	8 0 0	—	
Nicholls, James	8 0 0	—	
Pear, William	—	—	No residence.
Perkes, Thomas	5 0 0	—	About.
Perris, Charles	—	—	Lodger.
Perris, John	—	—	Lodger.
Roberts, Charles	—	4 0 0	
Roberts, Samuel, junior	—	—	Lodger.
Rowles, William	5 0 0	—	
Skillern, Samuel	4 0 0	—	
Smith, Thomas	—	—	Lodger.
Taylor, Giles	—	6 0 0	
Thomas, Isaiah John	13 0 0	13 0 0	
Tomes, Charles	—	—	Lodger.
Tooth, William	6 0 0	—	Domestic servant.
Vaile, Cornelius	—	30 0 0	Own property.
Vaile, George Harris	6 0 0	—	
Vaile, James	9 0 0	—	
Vaile, Samuel	6 0 0	—	
Vaile, William	6 0 0	—	
Vick, John	—	18 0 0	
Wadley, John	3 0 0	—	About.
Welch, George	—	8 0 0	
Wilkes, William	—	—	
Wilkes, William	—	30 0 0	Annual worth, on property.
Wilkins, Henry John	10 0 0	8 0 0	
Wilkins, James	—	7 0 0	
Williams, William	—	—	Lodger.
Wingate, Frederick	6 10 0	—	About.
Wingate, Henry Brooks	—	8 0 0	
Wood, Henry	—	—	St. Margaret's Hospital.
Wood, Richard	—	—	
Wood, Walter	—	—	
Woodward, George	5 0 0	—	About.
Yates, Thomas	13 0 0	—	About.
HOUSEHOLDERS.			
Allaway, John	—	12 0 0	
Allen, Alfred	—	10 0 0	
Allen, Thomas	—	14 0 0	
Andrews, William	—	13 0 0	
Baddams, James	—	14 0 0	
Bagley, John	—	11 0 0	
Bailey, William	—	12 0 0	
Ballinger, Thomas	—	10 0 0	
Band, William	—	12 10 0	
Bartlett, James	—	11 0 0	
Baylis, Thomas	—	10 10 0	
Beard, Thomas	—	11 0 0	
Beard, William	—	14 0 0	
Bookett, William	—	12 0 0	
Brookes, Charles	—	18 0 0	
Brown, Edward	—	12 0 0	
Brown, James	—	10 0 0	
Brown, William	—	10 0 0	
Brown, William	—	10 0 0	
Burgess, William	—	10 0 0	
Butler, Thomas	—	18 0 0	
Carwardine, James	—	18 0 0	
Castle, Henry	—	26 0 0	
Clarke, Joseph	—	11 0 0	
Coates, James	—	14 0 0	
Cook, Benjamin	—	12 0 0	
Cooke, William	—	—	
Cox, Henry	—	26 0 0	
Cox, Thomas	—	—	
Craddock, Robert	—	10 0 0	
Danter, George	—	12 0 0	
Davey, Walter Seymour	—	11 0 0	
Day, John	12 0 0	—	
Day, William	—	16 0 0	
Dorn, Thomas	—	17 0 0	
Dowers, Robert	—	11 0 0	
Dunn, John	—	10 0 0	
Edwards, John	—	10 0 0	
Edwards, Peter	—	10 0 0	
Emmings, John	—	12 0 0	
Ewers, Francis	—	20 0 0	
Fletcher, Thomas	—	11 0 0	
Fletcher, William	—	12 0 0	
Ford, Charles	—	13 0 0	
French, Henry	—	12 0 0	
Gray, James	—	12 0 0	
Green, William	—	10 0 0	
Griffiths, William	—	20 0 0	
Hall, John	—	18 0 0	
Hancock, Henry	—	11 0 0	
Harding, Charles	—	10 0 0	
Harman, Edward	—	25 0 0	
Harris, Edwin	—	25 0 0	
Harris, Owen	—	11 0 0	
Harris, William	—	11 0 0	
Harrison, Benjamin	—	20 0 0	
Hayling, John	—	10 0 0	
Hooper, Charles	—	10 0 0	
Hooper, Jesse	—	12 0 0	
Houldey, Ephraim	—	10 0 0	
Hunt, George	—	10 0 0	
Huggins, George	15 0 0	—	Changed residence.
Ireland, George	—	10 0 0	
Jackson, William	—	30 0 0	
Jennings, George	—	10 0 0	
Jeynes, Thomas	—	13 0 0	
Jones, William	—	10 0 0	
Jordan, Joseph	—	10 0 0	
Kent, Thomas	—	21 0 0	
King, Joseph	—	20 0 0	
Knight, Thomas	—	19 0 0	
Lapington, Thomas	—	11 0 0	
Lea, Samuel	—	28 0 0	
Lea, William	—	20 0 0	
Lines, Frederick	—	10 0 0	
Llewellyn, John	—	13 0 0	
Lloyd, William	—	10 0 0	
Lodge, Joseph	—	10 0 0	
Lovett, Joseph	—	15 0 0	
M'Coy, James	—	10 0 0	
May, George	—	13 0 0	
Mathews, Matthew	—	10 0 0	
Meadows, Henry	—	11 0 0	
Meadows, Thomas	—	10 0 0	
Meek, Francis	—	10 10 0	
Merrett, William	—	18 0 0	

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Names of Voters.	Estimated annual Rent.	Actual annual Rent.	Observations.	Names of Voters.	Estimated annual Rent.	Actual annual Rent.	Observations.
		£ s. d.				£ s. d.	
Miles, John	—	10 0 0		Smart, John	—	—	
Miller, George	—	12 0 0		Smith, William	—	12 0 0	
Morgan, George	—	10 0 0		Sterry, George	—	22 0 0	
Newth, Charles	—	17 0 0		Tanner, Llewellyn	—	16 0 0	
Parry, William	—	13 0 0		Taylor, James	—	14 0 0	
Pegler, Thomas	—	—	Own property.	Tiley, William	—	13 0 0	
Peters, Arthur	—	10 0 0		Tinkler, William	—	12 0 0	
Phelps, John Hyett	—	13 0 0		Tipping, John	—	13 0 0	
Phillips, John	—	18 0 0		Townsend, John	—	14 0 0	
Price, Herbert	—	11 0 0		Townsend, Henry	—	10 0 0	
Price, Richard	—	18 0 0		Watts, William Timothy	—	11 0 0	
Price, William	—	—		Weaver, James	—	10 0 0	
Reece, Frederick	—	12 0 0		Wellstead, William	7 10 0	—	Has expended a large sum on these premises. Revising barrister considered 10*l.* rental made up.
Rees, Henry	—	13 0 0		White, Charles	—	11 0 0	
Rees, Henry	—	13 0 0		Whittington, Luke	—	13 0 0	
Richards, John	—	10 0 0		Windo, Daniel	—	10 0 0	
Rodgers, John	—	14 0 0		Williams, Joseph	—	11 0 0	
Sallabank, James	—	20 0 0		Williams, Robert	—	10 0 0	
Schollor, Benjamin	10 0 0	12 0 0		Woodcock, William	—	15 0 0	
Shergold, George	—	16 0 0		Woolmer, Henry	—	30 0 0	
Shott, John	—	10 0 0		Wright, William Richard	—	20 0 0	

SCHEDULE (F).

The following Persons were guilty of Treating at the Election in 1859.

Ayres, John.
Ball, George.
Bowers, George.
Brimmell, James.
Bryon, Jefferson.
Clarke, Daniel.
Clutterbuck, Obadiah.
Clutterbuck, Walter.
Cole, William,
Davis, William. (Magnet.)
Dyer, Jonah.
Evans, Thomas.
Field, William.
Fletcher, James.
Gardner, Thomas.
Halcomb, Alexander.
Hanman, Frederick.
Hanman, John Biddle.
Henley, William.
Hutton, Charles.
Jacobs, Henry.
Maysey, James.
Meredith, James. (Star.)
Monk, Thomas Brewer.
Orpin, James.
Parker, William.
Payne, James.
Payne, William.
Probert, William.
Probert, William, junior.
Pugh, Thomas.
Smart, John.
Stamper, Francis.
Stephens, William.
Taylor, James.
Ward, John.
Webb, Richard Ayres.
Whithorn, Henry Kear.
Williams, James.
Wilton, John Pleydell.
Wingate, William.
Winfield, Charles.
Winfield, George.
Withers, William.

SCHEDULE (G).

The following Persons, 151 in number, were employed as Messengers or Doorkeepers, on behalf of Sir Robert W. Carden, at the Election in 1859 :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Phelps, A. I., Prince Street; related; brother	1	6	0	Brown, Wm., jun.	1	18	6
Phelps, George, Parker's Row; related; brother	2	17	6	Bishop, Jas., jun., Barton Terrace; related	1	5	0
Haines, Jas., sen., Northgate Street; voter	3	6	6	Taylor, Henry, Island; non-voter	2	16	0
Hollister, Rob., Victoria Street; non-voter	0	12	0	Leach, Geo., Columbia Street; related	4	1	0
Curtis, John, George Street; voter	3	6	6	Craddock, Jas., St. John's Lane; related	2	12	6
Curtis, George, Alvin Street; voter	3	6	6	Blick, Robert, non-voter	2	12	6
Parry, James, Victoria Street; non-voter	1	4	6	Hudson, Chas., jun., Union Street; non-voter	2	12	6
Perris, Geo., jun., Dockham; related	3	6	6	Price, Richard, Hark Lane; non-voter	2	12	6
Woodcock, Geo., jun., Alvin Street; related	3	6	6	Brown, Samuel	1	18	6
Dix, David, Mitre Street; related	3	3	0	Gibbons, George, Barton Street; non-voter	2	5	6
Brown, Chas., jun., King Street; related	2	0	0	Draisey, Alfred, Island; related	2	5	6
Mann, Jas., jun., Barton Street; related	3	3	0	Clements, Jos., St. George's Street; non-voter	2	2	0
Nicholls, John, jun., Victoria Street; related	3	8	0	Probert, Edwin, Mitre Street; related	3	6	6
Overthrow, Wm., Mitre Street; related	2	19	6	Bower, Joseph, Cross Key Lane; voter	3	6	6
Draisey, Jus., jun., Island; related	3	3	0	Woodward, F., Columbia Street; voter	0	7	6
Glendall, Chas., London Road; voter or related	2	19	6	Williams, John	1	18	6
Watson, George, Hare Lane; non-voter	2	19	6	Drinkwater, Wm., Barton Terrace; related	1	18	6
Harris, Henry, jun., Alvin Street; related	2	19	6	Evans, Henry, Barton Street; related	3	6	6
Llewellin, Henry, Worcester Street; related	3	4	6	Jones, Wm., Dockham; non-voter	1	18	6
Phelps, Wm., jun., Alvin Street; related	2	19	6	Rodway, Rd., Alvin Street; non-voter	1	18	6
Gibbs, Wm., St. John's Lane; non-voter	3	1	0	Edwards, Peter, jun., Alvin Street; related	0	15	0
Newth, Alfred, jun., Northgate Street; related	2	13	6	Coomby, Rd., Barton Street; non-voter	1	18	6
Price, Peter, Hare Lane; non-voter	2	19	6	Collier, Thomas, Columbia Street; non-voter	1	15	0
Probert, Wm., jun., Mitre Street; related	3	6	6	Harding, Emanuel, jun., Hare Lane; non-voter	1	15	0
Darke, J., Hare Lane; voter	2	12	6	Holder, Wm., Victoria Street; non-voter	0	12	0
Bower, James, Pitt Street; voter	3	6	6	Halford, Wm., Mitre Street; non-voter	1	15	0

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	£	s.	d.
Bennett, John, Green Dragon Lane; non-voter	1	18	6
Binning, R. H., Littleworth; voter	0	10	0
Haines, Jas., jun., Northgate Street; voter, but did not vote	2	3	6
Reece, Fred., High Orchard; voter, but against	1	0	0
Yearsley, George; non-voter	1	18	6
Boughton, Henry, Worcester Street; non-voter	2	7	0
Coomby, Fred.; non-voter	1	11	6
Farmer, John; non-voter	1	19	6
Phillips, Richard	1	18	6
Hyett, John P., London Road; related	1	18	6
Merrett, Wm., Mitre Street; voter, but against	1	2	6
Merrett, sen., St. Margarett's; voter	1	6	0
Bourne, Henry; related	1	15	0
Shermer, Jas., Columbia Street; non-voter	1	15	6
Slatter, jun., Barton Street; related	1	15	0
Kilminster, Wm., Sherborne Street; non-voter	1	11	6
Barnes, Sam., St. Catherine's; non-voter	1	16	6
Jones, John; non-voter	1	16	6
Stoddard, David, jun., Chapel Walk; non-voter	1	8	0
Bryant, Robt., Westgate Street; non-voter	1	18	6
Phillips, Charles, Island; non-voter	2	3	6
Harris, Wm., Barton Street; non-voter	2	3	6
Winfield, Thomas, Prince Street; non-voter	1	18	6
Hooper, John; non-voter	1	1	0
Baker, Edward	1	1	0
Collier, Rd., Columbia Street; non-voter	1	1	0
Edwards, Daniel, Deacon Street; non-voter	1	1	0
Denning, Thomas; non-voter	1	1	0
Kilminster, Thomas; non-voter	1	1	0
Merrett, James	1	1	0
Pratt, Joseph, Barton Street; related	1	6	0
Cook, Wm., Worcester Street; related	1	1	0
Skidmore, Caleb; non-voter	1	6	0
Timms, Wm.; non-voter	1	1	0
Wilkins, David	1	1	0
Lane, Wm.; related	0	17	6
Limbrick, Jas.; non-voter	0	17	6
Cullis, Emanuel, Oxford Street; non-voter	0	17	6
Cole, Chas.; related	0	17	6
Hedges, Alfred	0	17	6
Bayley, W., jun., College Court; related	1	1	0
Lepine, Edward; non-voter	0	17	6
Eggerton, Francis, Barton Street; non-voter	0	17	6
Beard, Henry; non-voter	0	17	6
Townsend, Edward, Longford; non-voter	0	17	6
Franklin, Chas.; related	0	17	6
Smith, Thomas, Bedford Street; non-voter	0	17	6
Beard, James; non-voter	0	10	6
Windsor, Joseph; non-voter	0	14	0
Manners, Chas., Sweet Briar Street; non-voter	0	14	0
Smith, David, Cross Key Lane; non-voter	0	19	0
Brown, John, Southgate Street; non-voter	0	15	6
Acutt, Robert, Bolt Lane; voter	0	10	0
Dix, Thos., jun., Mitre Street; voted against	1	0	0
Dix, John, sen., Mitre Street; voted against	1	0	0
Dix, John, jun., Mitre Street; voted against	1	0	0
Dix, Thomas, sen., Mitre Street; voted against	1	0	0
Lane, Henry, St. Catherine's; voter	0	10	0
Phelps, John, Longsmith Street; voter	0	15	0
Okey, Charles, Cross Key Lane; voter	2	10	0
Williams, Wm., Hare Lane; voter	1	0	0
Lane, John; voter	1	0	0
Bubb, Henry	0	15	6
Townley, James, Columbia Street; non-voter	1	11	6
May, Wm., jun., Soot Alley; related	1	1	0
Green, James	1	1	0
Floyd, Hy.; non-voter	1	1	0
Huntley, Jno.	1	11	6
Brown, Wm., Mitre Street; related	0	14	0
Lane, Wm., St. Aldate Street	2	6	6
Phillips, Wm.	0	12	0
Benham, Jos.	0	10	6
Snowsell, Thos.	1	4	6
Arkell, Wm.	0	14	0
Salmon, Wm., Cross Key Lane; non-voter	1	1	0
Blackwell, Thos., Prince Street; voter	3	3	6
Powell, John, Bedford Street; voter	3	3	6
Phillips, Geo., Island; non-voter	0	17	6
Drinkwater, Jas., Barton Terrace; related	0	18	6
Cole, Wm.; voter	2	9	0
Roberts, Jos.	3	6	6
Bayley, W., jun., College Court; related	1	1	0
Williams, Jas., Westgate Street; voter, did not vote	2	0	0
Smith, Thos., per Ward } voter { £0 17 6			
Smith, Thos. } voter { 2 3 6			
	3	1	0
Hudson, Chas., Suffolk Street; non-voter	1	0	0
Gough, Daniel; non-voter	1	10	0
Woodward, J.	1	19	6
Strafford, W., Bearland; voter	0	10	0
Budding, Geo., Longsmith Street; non-voter	0	12	0
Tomes, Chas., Dockham; voter	0	19	6
Kilminster, Chas., Sherborne Street; non-voter	1	2	6

DOORKEEPERS.

Mann, Jos.; non-voter	3	6	6
Jeffs, Edwin, Eastgate Street; voter	7	17	6
Rose, John, Longsmith Street; related	4	1	0
Deen, Wm.; voter	3	3	6
Cambridge, Thomas; non-voter	2	7	0
Boughton, Wm.; non-voter	2	7	0
Vaughan, Samuel; non-voter	0	10	0

SCHEDULE (H).

THE following Persons being Voters, or relatives of Voters, were employed as Messengers on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk at the Election in 1859:—

	£	s.	d.
Samuel Elias, Bearland, son of a voter	3	10	0
John Lewis, jun., St. Catherine Street; son of a voter	3	10	0
Frederick Hinton, of Deacon Street; son of a voter	3	10	0
Samuel Hyett, Westgate Street; son of a voter	3	10	0
Alfred Beckley, London Road, son of a voter	3	10	0
Charles Harris, Brothers Place, son of a voter	2	19	6
John Beard, Littleworth Street, son of a voter	2	19	6
George Smith, Worcester Street, son of a voter	2	19	6
James Lewis, Exhibition Street, son of a voter	2	19	6
Henry Roe, jun., Littleworth; son of a voter	2	19	6
Thomas Bennett, Alvin Street; son of a voter	2	19	6
William Dowers, London; son of a voter	2	19	6
James Newton Rees, Little Norfolk Street; son of a voter	2	19	6
George Ralph, Littleworth; by request of a voter	2	19	6
Morris Bick, Westgate Street; son of a voter	1	18	6
James Merryman, New Inn Lane; son of a voter	1	18	6
Henry Meadows, jun., of Westgate Street; son of a voter	1	1	0
William Bowers, Sherborne Street; son of a voter	1	18	6
James Orpin, jun., Alvin Street; son of a voter	1	18	6
William Mills, Northgate Street; son of a voter	1	18	6
Richard Trueman, of Albert Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
Benjamin Bennett, sen., Alvin Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
William Davis, New Inn Lane; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
William Greening, of Deacon Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
Charles Simpson, of St. John's Lane; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
James Gillespie, of Barton Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
William Griffitts, of Exhibition Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Charles Lane, of Bull Lane; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Henry Hinton, of Deacon Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Michael Jennings, jun., of St. Mary's Square; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Richard Ford, of Cromwell Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Alexander Simpson, of Newtown; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Thomas Harris, of Bearland; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per per day	2	19	6
Samuel Spillman, of London Road; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Henry Rees, Little Norfolk Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
William Harris, of Northgate Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Thomas Yates, of California; 14 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	9	0
Henry Lewis, sen., of Exhibition Street; 11 days at 3s. 6d.	1	18	6
Edwin Butler, of Deacon Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
John Moss, of Victoria Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
George Beckley, of London Road; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6

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	£	s.	d.
Robert Davis, jun., of Barton Street; 21 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	13	6
Charles Critchly, Hampden Place; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
George Lane, Barton Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
David Hyett, of Westgate Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Joseph Woodward, of Northgate Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
William Robinson, of Mercy Place; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
James Evans, of Cambridge Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. a day	3	10	0
Isaiah John Thomas, of Worcester Parade; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Jeptha Gardner, of St. Aldate Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Charles Wilkes, of Victoria Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Henry Dix, of St. Catherine's Knapp; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
James Long, of Albert Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
James Birt, of High Orchard Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Peter Ellis, of Deacon Street; 20 days at 3s. 6d. per day	3	10	0
Henry Rees, sen., Littleworth; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Henry Cox, of St. Aldate Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
John Miles, of Ladybelle-gate Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
James Batchford, of Westgate Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Charles Haines, St. Margarett's Hospital; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Thomas Ellis, of Sherborne Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Richard Davis, of Barton Street; 17 days at 3s. 6d. per day	2	19	6
Edwin Jones, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; 11 days 3s. 6d. per day	1	18	6
William Atkins, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; 11 days at 3s. 6d. per day	1	18	6
William Norris, sen., of California; 11 days at 3s. 6d. per day	1	18	6
John Hall, of St. Mary's Square; 6 days at 3s. 6d. per day	1	1	0
Alfred Allen, St. Mary's Square; voted for Carden	2	15	0
Henry Meadows, Westgate Street; voted for Carden	1	10	0
William Cole, St. Mary's Square; voted for Carden	1	15	0
George Edwards, Worcester Parade; voted for Carden	2	15	0
George Woodward, of Northgate Street; voted for Carden	2	10	0
Henry Brooks Wingate, of Barton Street; voted for Carden	1	15	0
Frederick Wingate, of St. Catherine Street; voted for Carden	1	15	0
Thomas Meek, of St. Katherine Street; a voter	3	10	0
William Tinkler, of Westgate Street; a voter	0	15	0
Samuel Lee, William Lee, and Francis Ewers, voters; for employing men for hustings and refreshments	28	12	11
Peter Bullock, St. Mary Magdalen's Hospital; a voter	1	10	0
William Merrell, Littleworth; cash and refreshments	1	0	0
John Hyett, of Dean's Walk; a voter	1	10	0
William Young, of Barton Street; a voter	1	0	0
Richard Young, of Barton Street; a voter	1	0	0
Thomas Evans, Somerset Place; son of a voter	1	18	6

APPENDIX.

City of Gloucester Election, March 1857.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Expenses of Sir Robert W. Carden, Knight.

Postages.

			£	s.	d.
March 10.	Postages		0	3	6
„ 12.	Do.		0	5	0
„ 14.	Do.		0	10	6
„ 16.	Do.		0	12	6
„ 25.	Do.		2	0	0
			£3	11	6

Undersheriff.

Mr. W. Matthews		£55	17	7

Hire of Furniture, Attendance at Committee Rooms, and Articles used therein.

Mr Thomas Eycott		£18	15	6

Rent of Committee and other Rooms.

March 13.	Mr. N. Laurence, Rent of House in Bell Lane, Coal, and Cleaning House	3	10	0
	Gloucestershire Bank House, in Worcester Street	1	10	0
	Miss Marsh	4	3	0
	Mr. W. Reynolds	10	0	0
	Mr. George Smith	2	0	0
		£21	3	0

Repairs to Committee Rooms.

March 19.	Mr. Snowsell	0	16	0
	„ Do.	0	15	0
	„ Sterry, for Platform at Bell, &c.	2	0	0
		£3	11	0

Sundries.

			£.	s.	d.
March 16.	Miss Marsh		0	6	0
	Mr. Griffiths, Committee-room Clerk		0	3	6
„ 25.	„ Do.		0	3	0
	„ Do.		0	2	1
„ 28.	„ Do.		0	1	0
„ 30.	„ Do.		0	19	8
	Paste 6d., Boards 1s.		0	1	6
	Two Copies Register		0	5	0
	Tuckey Baskets for Committee Room		0	16	0
			£2	17	9

Hire of Vehicles, &c.

March 18.	Cab Company	2	12	0
„ 20.	Fare to Cheltenham	0	2	0
„ 26.	Cab Company	0	10	0
	Bell Fly Drivers and Turnpikes	2	6	0
„ 28.	Cab Company	0	5	6
	William Lea, Three Wheel Chairs	1	10	0
	Mr. W. Cannell	3	0	0
	„ John Ford	6	2	0
	„ Robins & Drivers	16	0	0
	Miss Marsh	34	6	6
	Mr. T. Williams	0	4	6
	„ J. Thurston, Coach, &c.	5	5	0
	„ Keene, Gig Hire	0	10	0
		£72	16	6

Drivers.

Mr. Thomas Gough	1	7	0
„ Thomas Prosser	1	5	0
„ Wm. Scott	0	19	0
„ Thomas Rose	1	17	0
„ Dickerson	0	15	0
„ Henry Gwilliam	0	5	0
„ Joseph Herbert	0	5	6
„ Joseph Ford	0	5	0
	£6	18	6

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Voters Travelling Expenses.

	£	s.	d.
Paid by Mr. Lovegrove	14	5	6
„ Mr. Micklewright, Railway, Coach, and Gig Hire, and other Travelling Expenses in bringing Voters	3	18	0
	£18	3	6

Messengers, &c.	£73	17	6

Professional Agents.

Mr. Thomas Barton Snead	5	5	0
„ Samuel Mayer	4	4	0
Messrs. Cooke	12	12	0
Mr. G. Bullock	19	10	0
„ John Hulls	8	13	0
Messrs. Gurnett & Co.	3	3	0
Mr. W. Clutterbuck	40	17	0
Messrs. Hardisty and Goodrich	1	9	0
Mr. James Buchanan	3	3	0
„ Taynton	22	1	0
	£111	17	0

Assistants.

Mr. J. B. Brown	14	15	0
„ George Martin	1	0	0
„ Davis Dockham	0	10	0
March 28. „ Wm. Stock for going to Cardiff to fetch up Voter and Travelling Expenses	1	0	0
„ J. Clutterbuck	3	0	0
	£20	5	0

Inspectors.

Mr. J. W. Burrup	3	3	0
„ E. W. Coren	3	3	0
„ F. Marshall	4	4	0
„ W. F. Wall	3	3	0
„ C. Cooke	3	3	0
„ J. Hulls	3	3	0
	£19	19	0

Stationery, Printing, Advertisements, &c.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. C. H. Thomas	7	0	4
„ J. Needham	33	11	3
Gloucester Journal and Chronicle	18	7	10
Mr. W. Henley	19	15	9
„ D. Bretherton	16	19	7
„ E. Nest	9	15	6
„ C. Jeynes	1	1	6
	£106	11	9

Clerks.

April 1.	Mr. R. Cooke	3	0	0
	" E. C. Packer	5	0	0
	" Hy. Trigg	1	1	0
	" T. R. Clutterbuck	2	0	0
	" John Moss	7	10	0
	" Henry Rea	6	10	0
	" J. Dee	2	15	0
	" Henry Bishop	1	11	6
	" D. Franklin	2	15	0
	" C. M. Mayer	1	1	0
	" Curthoys	4	15	0
	" J. Griffiths	20	0	0
	" H. Verinder	4	10	0
	" A. F. Biven	3	3	0
		£65	11	6

Check Clerks.

Mr. J. N. Usher	1	11	6
" W. Trimmer	1	1	0
" D. Franklin	1	1	0
" A. W. Webb	1	11	6
" W. H. Binning	1	11	6
	£6	16	6

Bill Posters.

Mr. Robert Craddock	1	19	0
" Thomas Baldaro	2	9	0
" John Meaton	3	11	0
	£7	19	0

I do hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct statement of the election accounts against Sir Robert Walter Carden, as rendered to me by the respective parties, and I admit the same to be correct.
Dated this 27th day of June, 1857.

Joseph Lovegrove.

City of Gloucester Election, March 1857.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Bills, Charges, or Claims by Persons upon Sir M. F. F. Berkeley, K.C.B., a Candidate.

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £	s.	d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
1	Robert Pleydell Wilton.	5	5	0	Professional services.	Admitted.
2	Thomas Meyler	5	5	0	Ditto	
3	William Martin Evans.	5	5	0	Ditto	
4	Frederick Woodcock.	5	5	0	Ditto	
5	George Mutlow Abell.	5	5	0	Ditto	
6	Samuel Herbert	5	5	0	Ditto	
7	James Bretherton	3	13	6	Ditto	
8	Thomas Smith	3	13	6	Ditto	
9	Charles Smallridge.	1	11	6	Inspector	
10	Frederick Wilton	1	11	6	Ditto	
11	James Bretherton	1	11	6	Ditto	
12	W. G. Becks	1	11	6	Ditto	
13	Thomas Smith	1	11	6	Ditto	
14	James H. Morton	1	11	6	Ditto	
15	Edwin Thomas	1	11	6	Ditto	
16	Charles Wilton	1	11	6	Ditto	
17	F. G. Beale	1	11	6	Ditto	
18	Francis Brown	1	11	6	Ditto	
19	J. C. Richards	1	11	6	Ditto	
20	Frederick Brown	1	11	6	Ditto	
21	W. E. Paine	0	10	6	Check clerk	
22	W. H. Cother	0	10	6	Ditto	
23	C. J. Tyler	0	10	6	Ditto	
24	John Davis	0	10	6	Ditto	
25	Richard Morse	0	10	6	Ditto	
26	William Norris	0	10	6	Ditto	
27	J. E. Roberts	0	10	6	Ditto	
28	Wm. T. Mayo	0	10	6	Ditto	
29	R. W. Holtham	3	3	0	Rent of Committee-room.	
30	Thomas Smith	1	11	6	Ditto	
31	J. J. Isacke	1	1	0	Rent of District Committee-rooms.	Admitted.
32	G. Pickford	1	1	0		
33	Edwin Bick	1	1	0		
34	Fredk. Lowe	0	15	0		
35	Paid Committee-room clerks.	14	1	3	For service	
36	Paid messengers	34	8	0	Ditto	
37	William Churchill	17	18	0	For coach hire	
38	Mr. Tidmarsh	0	12	6	Ditto	
39	James Whitmore	0	3	0	Ditto	
40	George Miller	0	2	6	For wheel chair	
41	D. W. Walker	22	5	0	Advertising and printing.	
43	C. Jeynes	8	9	6	Ditto and stationery.	
44	Davis and Son	2	1	8	Printing and stationery.	
45	Mrs. Lea	2	2	10	Ditto	
46	Mr. Goulding	2	0	6	Ditto	
47	W. F. Mansell	1	19	4	Ditto	
48	H. Smart	1	11	2	Stationery	
50	Rogers and Gough	0	5	9	Letter case, &c. for use of Committee-room.	
51	Chas. Wilkes	0	12	9	-	
	Canvas books	5	0	0	-	
	Town Clerk for registers.	1	6	3	-	
52	Sundry petty payments.	1	8	4	-	
54	Under - Sheriff's bill.	52	3	1	-	
		239	2	11		

The above is an account of the whole of the claims sent in to me within one month after the day of the declaration of the said election, pursuant to the 16th section of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," which I now deliver to you in accordance with the said Act, and I admit such accounts as above stated.
The vouchers sent include those for claims, &c. on William Philip Price, Esquire, another candidate.
Dated this 6th day of June 1857.

ROB. WILTON,
Agent for Sir M. F. F. Berkeley.

To R. Hodges Carter, Esquire,
Election Auditor.

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City of Gloucester Election, March 1857.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Bills, Charges, or Claims by Persons upon William Philip Price, Esquire, a Candidate.

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £ s. d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
1	Robert Pleydell Wilton.	5 5 0	Professional services.	
2	Thomas Meyler	5 5 0	Ditto	
3	William Martin Evans.	5 5 0	Ditto	
4	Frederick Woodcock.	5 5 0	Ditto	
5	George Mutlow Abell.	5 0 0	Ditto	
6	Samuel Herbert	5 5 0	Ditto	
7	James Bretherton	3 13 6	Ditto	
8	Thomas Smith	3 13 6	Ditto	
9	Charles Smallridge	1 11 6	Inspector	
10	Frederick Wilton	1 11 6	Ditto	
11	James Bretherton	1 11 6	Ditto	
12	W. G. Becks	1 11 6	Ditto	
13	Thomas Smith	1 11 6	Ditto	
14	James H. Morton	1 11 6	Ditto	
15	Edwin Thomas	1 11 6	Ditto	Admitted.
16	Charles Wilton	1 11 6	Ditto	
17	F. G. Beale	1 11 6	Ditto	
18	Francis Brown	1 11 6	Ditto	
19	J. C. Richards	1 11 6	Ditto	
20	Frederick Brown	1 11 6	Ditto	
21	W. E. Paine	0 10 6	Check clerk	
22	W. H. Cother	0 10 6	Ditto	
23	C. J. Tyler	0 10 6	Ditto	
24	John Davis	0 10 6	Ditto	
25	Richard Morse	0 10 6	Ditto	
26	William Norris	0 10 6	Ditto	
27	J. E. Roberts	0 10 6	Ditto	
28	Wm. T. Mayo	0 10 6	Ditto	
29	R. W. Holtham	3 3 0	Rent of Committee-room.	
30	Thomas Smith	1 11 6	Ditto	
31	J. J. Isacke	1 1 0	Rent of District Committee-room.	
32	G. Pickford	1 1 0	Rent of District Committee-room.	
33	Edwin Bick	1 1 0	Ditto	
34	F. Lowe	0 15 0	Ditto	
35	Paid Committee-room clerks	14 1 3	For services	
36	Paid messengers	34 8 0	Ditto	
37	William Churchill	17 18 0	For coach hire	
38	Mr. Tidmarsh	0 12 6	Ditto	
39	James Whitmore	0 3 0	Ditto	
40	George Miller	0 2 6	For wheel chair	
42	D. M. Walker	10 11 0	For advertising	
43	C. Jeynes	8 9 6	For advertising, printing, and stationery.	
44	Davis and Son	2 1 8	Printing and stationery.	
45	Mrs. Lea	2 2 11	Ditto	Admitted.
46	Goulding	2 0 6	Ditto	
47	W. F. Mansell	1 19 5	Ditto	
48	Henry Smart	1 11 1	Stationery	
49	Hancock	2 12 6	Engraver	
50	Rogers and Gough	0 5 9	For letter case, &c. for use of Committee-room.	
51	Charles Wilkes	0 12 9	Bill posting	
	To canvas books	5 0 0		
	Town Clerk for registers.	1 6 3		
52	Sundry petty payments.	1 8 4		
53	Under-Sheriff's bill.	55 17 7		
		283 16 0		

The above is an account of the whole of the claims sent in to me within one month after the day of the declaration of the said election pursuant to the 16th section of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," which I now deliver to you in accordance with the said Act, and I admit such accounts as above stated.

The vouchers sent include those for claims, &c. on Sir M. F. F. Berkeley, K.C.B., another candidate.

Dated this 6th day of June 1857.

WM. VINER ELLIS,
Agent for William Philip Price.

To Richard Hodges Carter, Esquire, Election Auditor.

City of Gloucester Election, 1859.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Expenses of Sir Robert Walter Carden, as rendered or known to his Agent, for Election Expenses.

	£ s. d.
Account rendered prior to Nomination	22 12 0
Clerks.	
Moss, John	3 3 0
Llewellin, Thomas	5 5 0
Collindels, John	4 10 0
Fisher, William	4 5 0
Westbury, R. W.	4 15 0
Clutterbuck, Thomas	2 16 0
Clutterbuck, W. T.	5 10 0
Franklin, Daniel	2 11 0
Franklin, W.	2 11 0
Baldwyn, Thomas	1 1 0
Dee, James	12 0 0
Clutterbuck, F.	1 10 0
Dowding, John	3 0 0
Binning, W. H.	0 10 0
Llewellin, F.	1 0 0
Usher, J. N. (Check Clerk)	1 11 6
Dee, jun.	3 10 0
Edwards, George	1 11 6
	£61 0 0
Inspectors.	
Wall, W. T.	3 3 0
Wood, William	3 3 0
Pike, T. H.	3 3 0
Maysey, John	3 3 0
Coren, E. W.	3 3 0
Burrup, J. W.	3 3 0
	£18 18 0

	£ s. d.
Bill Posters.	
Baldara and Son	3 10 0
Meaton, John	4 0 0
	£7 10 0
Committee Room and other expenses as follows:—	
Postage and Postage Stamps	2 17 6
Registers	3 0 0
Miscellaneous Charges at Committee Rooms for 24 days	25 15 5
Mr. Edwin Bick, rent, &c.	16 5 0
Messrs. Reynolds, rent	5 5 0
Mr. J. B. Hanman	0 2 6
Mr. Thomas Eycott, rent of furniture, &c.	21 0 0
Mr. W. Sterry, carpenter, repairing rooms, &c.	2 10 0
	£76 15 5
Messengers, Canvassers, and others assisting from commencement of the contest to the close	£237 7 0
Fly and Cab Hire, &c.	
Shepherdson	1 13 6
Danter, George	2 10 0
Miss Marsh, Bell Hotel	38 17 6
Drivers	11 2 6
William Lea	6 5 0
James Tidmarsh	1 4 0
Edwin Merrett	5 15 0
John Robins	16 1 0
Cab Company (disputed)	19 18 0
T. Williams	1 10 0
	£104 16 6

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Doorkeepers.

	£	s.	d.
Boughton, Wm.	2	7	0
Cambridge, Thomas	2	7	0
Jeffs, Edwin	7	17	6
Mann, Joseph	3	6	6
Vaughan, Samuel	0	10	6
Rawlings, John	4	1	0
Haines, James, jun.	3	6	6
	£23	16	3

Undersheriff's Charges.

Proportion of	£53	16	7

Superintendents of Clerks, Committee Rooms, &c.

Mayer, Charles M.	6	6	6
Griffiths, Jno. Austin	31	10	0
Brown, Mr. J. H.	11	5	0
	£49	11	6

Canvassing, bringing, and taking back from the Poll a Voter.

Henry Gardner	£2	10	0

Professional and other Assistants.

Mr. Walter Clutterbuck	77	4	0
Messrs. P. and C. Cooke	25	4	0
Mr. T. Taynton	52	10	0
Mr. J. Buchanan	15	15	0
Mr. John Boughton	10	10	0
Mr. George Bullock	12	12	0
Messrs. Holland and Gregory (disputed)	6	4	0
Mr. A. F. Biven	8	8	0
Mr. Samuel Mayer	4	4	0
Mr. John Hulls	15	15	0
Mr. George Taynton	9	10	0
Mr. Henry Rea (disputed)	10	10	0
	£248	6	0

Advertising, Printing, and Stationery.

Mr. Nicholas Perrins	22	2	7
Messrs. Abbott, Barton, & Co. (disputed except as to 50)	10	0	10
Mr. Edm. Nest	9	17	6
Mr. Henry Smart	3	13	6
Mr. Daniel Bretherton	21	3	0
Glo'stershire Chronicle and Glo'ster Journal	26	18	0
	£93	15	5

Summary.

Account rendered prior to Nomination	22	12	0
Clerks	61	0	0
Inspectors	18	18	0
Bill Posters	7	10	0
Committee Room and other Expenses	76	15	5
Messengers, &c.	237	7	0
Fly and Cab Hire, &c.	104	16	6
Doorkeepers, &c.	23	16	0
Undersheriff	53	16	7
Superintendents of Clerks, &c.	49	11	6
Carriage of Voter	2	10	0
Professional and other Assistants	248	6	0
Advertising, &c.	93	15	5
	£1,000	14	5
Auditors Fee £10 0 0 Per Centage 2 per cent. above 200*l.* 10 0 0 Advertising 0 16	20	16	6
	£1,021	10	11

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct statement of election accounts against Sir Robert Walter Carden, as rendered to me by the respective parties, and I admit the same to be correct, except as to such as are disputed. Dated this 28th day of July, 1859.

Joseph Lovegrove.

City of Gloucester Election, April 1859.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Bills, Charges, and Claims by Persons upon William Philip Price, Esquire, a Candidate.

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £	s.	d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
	Mr. W. V. Ellis	50	0	0	For professional services and assistance.	Admitted.
	Mr. James Bretherton.	12	10	0		
	Mr. Geo. M. Abell	12	10	0		
	Mr. Thos. Smith	12	10	0		
	Mr. Saml. Herbert	12	10	0		
	Mr. Fredk. Woodcock.	6	6	0		
	Mr. Francis Brown	5	5	0		
	Mr. J. C. Richards	10	18	6		
	Mr. B. Jordan	14	14	0		
	Mr. Wm. Higgs	3	3	0		
	Mr. Beale	1	11	6		
	Mr. E. Thomas	1	11	6		
	Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith, for extra work.	45	0	0		
	Mr. Smallbridge	1	11	6	Inspectors' services.	
	Mr. Woodcock	1	11	6		
	Mr. Richards	1	11	6		
	Mr. C. Chadborn	1	11	6		
	Mr. Beale	1	11	6		
	Mr. J. Carter	1	11	6		
	Mr. E. Thomas	1	11	6		
	Mr. Thos. Cother	1	1	0	Check clerks.	
	Mr. George Cother	1	1	0		
	Mr. B. Bennett	1	1	0		
	Mr. Wm. Norris	1	1	0		
	Mr. James Davis	1	1	0		
	Mr. James Luke	1	1	0		
	Mr. A. Lewis	1	1	0	Assistant Clerks on poll day.	
	Mr. J. H. Coleman	1	1	0		
	Mr. Wm. Jones	1	1	0		
	Mr. W. Mitchell	1	1	0		
	Mr. H. Collingbourn.	1	1	0		
	Mr. J. Allen	1	0	0		
	Six messengers to booths.	1	10	0		
	Trueman (extra)	0	15	9	Committee-room keeper.	
	Arnold	0	5	0	Committee-room door-keepers on poll day.	
	Harris	0	5	0		
	Chapman	0	10	0		

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £	s.	d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
	Committee-room clerks.	48	4	9	Before and during election.	Admitted.
	Messengers	61	4	6		
	Mr. Smith	7	17	6	Rent of committee rooms.	
	Mr. Dudfield	2	8	0	Ditto	
	Gauderton	0	1	9	Cleaning rooms	
	Mr. Johnston	1	19	0	Hire of furniture	
	Mr. Lomas	0	4	3	Goods	
	Mr. Newman	0	4	6	Chandlery	
	Rogers and Gough	0	2	0	Locks, &c.	
	Withers	0	14	0	Coals	
	Gloucester Journal.	8	15	3	Advertising and printing.	
	Gloucester Chronicle.	7	11	9	Ditto	
	Mr. Jeynes	6	14	0	Ditto	
	Mr. Henley	5	17	6	Printing and stationery.	
	Davis and Son	4	5	0	Ditto	
	Lea	1	9	4	Ditto	
	Power	2	8	0	Ditto	
	Goulding	0	7	6	Ditto	
	Digby and Co.	0	13	7	Ditto	
	Hancock	1	10	0	Ditto	
	Mr. Smith	0	18	3	Stationery	
	Gardner and Simpson.	3	10	0	Posting bills	
	Town Clerk	2	6	8	Registers of electors.	
	Petty payments	11	8	0		
	Churchill	31	16	0	Coach hire	Disputed, as to 9*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*
	Danter	7	10	0	Ditto	Disputed.
	Monsell	5	7	0	Ditto	
	Tidmarsh	0	10	0	Ditto	
	Devonshire	1	1	0	Superintendent of carriages.	Admitted.
	Undersheriff	37	11	0	Expenses of hustings.	Disputed, as to 17*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*
		464	11	5		

The above is an account of the whole of the claims sent in to me within one month after the day of the declaration of the said election, pursuant to the 16th section of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," which I now deliver to you in accordance with the said Act, and I admit such accounts as above stated.

The vouchers sent include those for claims, &c. on Charles James Monk, Esquire, another candidate.

To Richard Hodges Carter, Esquire, Election Auditor.

Wm. Viner Ellis,
Agent to William Philip Price.

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City of Gloucester Election, April 1859.

An Account rendered to the Election Auditor of the Bills, Charges, and Claims by Persons upon Charles James Monk, Esq., a Candidate.

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £ s. d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
	Mr. A. G. Jones	50 0 0	For professional services and assistance	Admitted.
	Mr. Jas. Bretherton.	12 10 0		
	Mr. G. M. Abell	12 10 0		
	Mr. T. Smith	12 10 0		
	Mr. S. Herbert	12 10 0		
	Mr. F. Woodcock	6 6 0		
	Mr. F. Brown	5 5 0		
	Mr. J. C. Richards	10 18 6		
	Mr. B. Jordan	14 14 0		
	Mr. W. Higgs	3 3 0		
	Mr. Beale	1 11 6		
	Mr. E. Thomas	1 11 6		
	Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith for extra work.	45 0 0		
	Mr. Smallridge	1 11 6	Inspectors' services	
	Mr. Woodcock	1 11 6		
	Mr. Richards	1 11 6		
	Mr. C. Chadborn	1 11 6		
	Mr. Beale	1 11 6		
	Mr. J. Carter	1 11 6		
	Mr. E. Thomas	1 11 6		
	Mr. Portlock	1 1 0	Check clerks	
	Mr. Wm. Kendall	1 1 0		
	Mr. C. J. Hudson	1 1 0		
	Mr. John Davis	1 1 0		
	Mr. A. Pollard	1 1 0		
	Mr. Ulett	1 1 0		
	Mr. T. Washbourne	1 1 0	Assistant clerks on poll day	
	Mr. Whiteside	1 1 0		
	Mr. Williams	1 1 0		
	Mr. A. Whitehead	1 1 0		
	Mr. Tasker	1 1 0		
	Mr. R. F. Hughes	1 1 0		
	Six messengers to booths.	1 10 0		
	Trueman (extra)	0 15 9	Committee-room keeper.	
	Smart	0 5 0	Door-keepers on poll day	
	Gauderton	0 5 0		
	Fox	0 5 0		
	Rawlings	0 5 0		

No. of Voucher.	Name of Claimant.	Amount. £ s. d.	For what incurred.	Admitted or Disputed.
	Committee-room clerks.	48 4 9	Before and during election	Admitted.
	Messengers	61 4 6	Ditto	
	Mr. Smith	7 17 6	Rent of Committee-rooms	
	Mr. Dudfield	2 2 0	Ditto	
	Gauderton	0 1 9	Cleaning rooms	
	Mr. Johnston	1 19 0	Hire of furniture	
	Mr. Lomas	0 4 3	Goods	
	Mr. Newman	0 4 6	Chandlery	
	Rogers and Gough	0 2 0	Locks, &c.	
	Mr. Withers	0 14 0	Coals	
	Gloucester Journal	8 15 3	Advertizing and printing	
	Gloucester Chronicle.	7 11 9	Ditto	
	Mr. Jeynes	6 14 0	Ditto	
	Mr. Henley	5 17 6	Printing and stationery	
	Davies and Son	4 5 0	Ditto	
	Lea	1 9 4	Ditto	
	Power	2 8 0	Ditto	
	Goulding	0 7 6	Ditto	
	Digby and Co.	0 13 7	Ditto	
	Hancock	1 10 0	Ditto	
	Mr. Smith	0 18 3	Stationery	
	Gardner and Simpson.	3 10 0	Bill posting	
	Town Clerk	2 6 3	Registers of electors	
	Petty payments	1 8 0		
	Churchill	31 16 0	Coach hire	Disputed as to 9*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*
	Danter	7 10 0	Ditto	Disputed.
	Monsell	5 7 0	Ditto	Admitted.
	Tidmarsh	0 10 0	Ditto	
	Devonshire	1 1 0	Superintendent of carriages	
	Undersheriff	37 11 0	Expenses of hustings.	Disputed as to 17*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*
		£ 464 11 5		

The above is an account of the whole of the claims sent in to me within one month after the day of the declaration of the said election, pursuant to the 16th section of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854," which I now deliver to you in accordance with the said Act, and I admit such accounts as above stated.

The vouchers sent include those for claims, &c. on William Philip Price, Esquire, another candidate.

Dated this 29th day of July 1859.

A. G. JONES,
Agent to Charles James Monk.

To Richard Hodges Carter, Esquire, Election Auditor.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

The Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Existence of Corrupt Practices

AT THE LAST GLOUCESTER ELECTION.

COMMISSIONERS:

JAMES VAUGHAN, ESQ., LUCIUS HENRY FITZGERALD, ESQ.,
RICHARD GRIFFITHS WELFORD, ESQ.

Secretary—C. E. COLERIDGE, Esq.

AT THE SHIRE HALL, GLOUCESTER.

First Day.—26th September 1859.

The Commission is read by the Secretary.

FRANCIS NEATE WALSH is sworn as short-hand writer to the Commissioners.

EDWARD TRIMMER sworn and examined.

E. Trimmer.

26 Sept. 1859.

1. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are the Sheriff and returning officer for this city?—I am.

2. And have you been so for some years?—Only for the present year.

3. Who were the candidates at the last election for this city?—Sir Robert Walter Carden, Mr. Price, and Mr. Monk.

4. Can you tell me the day of the nomination?—The 29th of April.

5. What was the day of the week?—Friday.

6. And was the polling on the following day?—Yes, the polling was on the following day.

7. Do you know how long before the nomination the canvass had been conducted by the candidates?—No, I do not.

8. The poll books you returned to London, did you not?—I did.

9. But although you have not the poll books here, you can give us, can you not, the numbers that were polled for each of the candidates?—Yes, I can; the numbers were for Mr. Price 807, for Mr. Monk 779, and for Sir Robert Walter Carden 595.

10. Do you know what the number of the constituency is or what it was at the time of the last election?—1721.

11. I do not mean the number of voters who polled, but the total number of the constituency?—1721 is the number on the register; some of them have duplicate qualifications.

12. I think you state that the constituency was 1721?—Yes.

13. And that that includes double qualifications?—Some of them have double qualifications.

14. Out of that number do you know how many vote as freemen and how many as householders?—534 as freemen and 1187 as householders.

15. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do some of those names appear upon both lists?—Yes.

16. Can you tell us how many?—221.

17. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to say that 221 appear both as freemen and householders?—Yes.

18. But besides double qualifications of that nature, would there be other double qualifications where a householder was entered upon the register in respect of two qualifications, although not a freeman; might he not be entered in respect, for instance, of a shop in one place and a house in another?—Yes; they are entered as double, but they only vote in respect of one.

19. (*Mr. Welford.*) They are entered as for a warehouse in one place and a dwelling-house in another?—Yes; but they can only vote once.

20. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know how many there are whose names appear twice upon the register in respect of occupations in different parts of the borough?—I cannot tell you.

21. Is your knowledge with respect to electioneering proceedings in this city confined to the last election?—Entirely.

22. You know nothing at all of the relative numbers of freemen and householders upon the register at previous elections?—No, I do not.

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E. Trimmer.

28 6ept. 1859.

23. Did you take any part in the election yourself?—Not the least; I never have done.

24. Are you able to afford any information to the Commissioners with reference to the last election beyond that which you have already given?—I am not aware that I can.

25. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How many parishes are there in Gloucester in which there are voting lists?—Fourteen parishes and one extra-parochial place.

Mr. Carter.—And that is not an extra-parochial place now; it has become a hamlet under the late act, and overseers are appointed.

26. (*Mr. Vaughan to the witness.*) With reference to the register, I understand there is a list prepared for that place?—That is so.

27. Can you tell us what is the population of Gloucester?—No, I cannot; I have no opportunity of ascertaining that.

28. (*Mr. Welford.*) Your duties are confined entirely to those of returning officer?—Entirely.

R. H. Carter.

RICHARD HODGES CARTER sworn and examined.

29. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are a member of bar?—Yes.

30. You were appointed, were you not, the election auditor for the city?—Yes.

31. Have you been the election auditor of accounts for more than one election?—Yes; for three elections; 1859, 1857, and 1855.

32. Have you the appointments made by the respective candidates of the election agents for the last election?—I have.

33. Will you produce them, if you please?—This (*producing it*) is the appointment by Sir Robert Carden; this (*producing another*) is the appointment by Mr. Monk; and this (*producing another*) is the appointment by Mr. Price.

34. (*To Mr. Trimmer.*) Do you produce copies of the register?—Yes (*producing them*).

35. Are they true copies?—Yes.

36. For the years 1858 and 1859?—Yes.

37. (*To Mr. Carter.*) I see that Sir Robert Carden appointed Mr. Joseph Lovegrove to be his agent?—Yes.

38. Have you received from Mr. Lovegrove an account of the expenses incurred by Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—I have.

39. Will you produce it, if you please?—(*The witness produces the account.*)

40. I see that Mr. Monk appointed Mr. Anthony Gilbert Jones to be his agent?—Yes.

41. Have you received from Mr. Jones an account of the expenses of Mr. Monk's election?—I have.

42. Will you produce it, if you please?—(*The witness produces the account.*)

43. It appears that Mr. Price appointed Mr. William Viner Ellis to be his agent?—Yes.

44. Have you had an account furnished to you by Mr. Ellis of the expenses of Mr. Price's election?—Yes.

45. Will you produce that also, if you please?—(*The witness produces the account.*)

46. The total amount, I see, of the account rendered by Mr. Monk is 464*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*?—Yes.

47. Have you discharged the various items in this account?—No, I have not. I have the accounts of Mr. Price and Mr. Monk, and here they are: that is to say, the bills and the vouchers.

48. Have you received the money for the payment of these accounts?—No, I have not.

49. Not from either of the parties?—Not from either of them. I did upon the former occasion pay some of the bills, but on the occasion of the last election I paid scarcely any of them.

50. I observe that this account of Mr. Monk's rendered by Mr. Jones is dated the 29th July 1859?—Yes.

51. Did you receive it at that time?—Yes.

52. That is an abstract, I suppose, of all the accounts and vouchers which you have there?—Exactly so. Perhaps it is necessary for me to say that I have not received the vouchers and bills of Sir Robert Carden. I understand that about two thirds of the bills have been paid and that the remaining one third is unsettled.

53. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did the money pass through your hands?—No. It did on the former occasion; but on the last occasion that seems to have been dispensed with.

54. How is that by act of Parliament?—The act of Parliament requires the money to be paid into my hands, and that I should take a receipt, or that a sum of money should be placed in a bank, upon which I should draw cheques to pay the amounts due.

Mr. Lovegrove.—I am quite prepared to hand over to Mr. Carter all the accounts that have been paid.

55. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I see that the total of Sir Robert Carden's expenses is put down at 1,031*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*?—Yes.

56. But the accounts making out that amount you have not yet received?—I have not yet received them. You will find that in Sir Robert Carden's account there are disputed items to the amount of 33*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*; in Mr. Price's, 27*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*; and in Mr. Monk's, 27*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* Those amounts have not been settled. I have the abstract here as published.

57. The account rendered on behalf of Mr. Price makes the amount of the expenses 464*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*?—Yes.

58. I understand you to say that you have the accounts of Mr. Monk and Mr. Price, but that you have not the accounts of Sir Robert Carden, though Mr. Lovegrove states he is quite ready to produce them?—Yes.

59. And you say that you have not received any money for the payment of these amounts from any of the candidates?—No; I have received nothing whatever. Perhaps it is right that I should say I believe all the accounts are settled, except the account of the Sheriff. Mr. Price and Mr. Monk dispute that account, and that account remains unsettled.

60. Do you mean that the accounts are paid?—Yes; but the Sheriff's account is not settled, inasmuch as there is a dispute with regard to the amount. The under-sheriff claims a larger amount than they are willing to pay, and consequently they instructed me to make a tender, which tender I have made. When I say, therefore, that the accounts have been settled, it is right that I should make that exception.

61. I thought you said that you had not received any money in respect of these accounts?—I have not received any money in respect of those which have been actually paid, but this money was placed in my hands for the purpose of my making a tender to the under-sheriff, which I did, and that is all the money I have received. I have had nothing to do with the payment of accounts that are undisputed.

62. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Then the directions of the act have not been followed either by the candidates or their agents?—No.

63. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The act of Parliament, you are aware, expressly provides that all payments shall be made by the election auditor, except those which have been incurred prior to the day of nomination?—Yes; and of which they generally render an account, which account I have had in fact from Mr. Lovegrove.

64. I understand you to say that in point of fact all you have had to do with these accounts has been that you received this transcript and certain vouchers, which you have handed up to us?—Yes; and made out an abstract of the whole of the accounts, and published it; that is all.

65. And those accounts and bills have been

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paid by the candidates or their agents?—By the agents.

66. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you any discretion, with respect to these payments, to determine whether they are proper payments to be made or not?—Not the slightest. I thought when I was first appointed election auditor that I had some discretion as to the amount of the bills, but there is not the slightest. All I can do is to receive the accounts, and make a summary or abstract of them, and publish it.

67. Then, as auditor, you have no control whatever over the expenditure?—None whatever.

68. You simply make an abstract of the accounts that are sent to you?—That is all. I make a return to the House of Commons, which they require to be made at the end of every election.

69. Do you mean to say that if you saw a payment entered in the accounts which to your knowledge was an illegal payment, and contrary to the act of Parliament, it would not be your duty to strike it out?—I have not the slightest authority to do anything of the kind; that I suppose is one reason why the act of Parliament has been treated as almost a dead letter.

70. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The 18th section of the act of 17 and 18 Vict. c. 102. expressly provides that "No payment of any bill, charge, or claim, or of any money whatever, for or in respect of any election, or the expenses thereof, (except as herein excepted,) shall be made by or by the authority of any candidate, except by or through such election auditor, and any payment made by or by the authority of any candidate otherwise than as herein provided shall be deemed or taken to be an illegal payment, and upon proof thereof such candidate shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds, with double the amount of such illegal payment, and full costs of suit, to any person who will sue for the same: provided always, that it shall be lawful for any candidate, by himself or his agent, to name any banker through whom alone such bills, charges, or claims, or money as aforesaid, shall be paid by the election auditor, and in that case the election auditor shall pay such bills, charges, and claims by cheques drawn on such banker, to be countersigned by the candidate, or some person on his behalf specially appointed for that purpose." You are aware of that provision?—Yes.

71. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you certify in your return to the House of Commons that payment has been made of the accounts?—No; they only call upon me to certify the amount of money expended and the number of voters.

72. It would not appear upon the face of your return that the parties had made these payments themselves, and not through you?—Certainly not.

73. Were the accounts of the agents of each of the candidates sent in to you on the day on which they bear date?—Yes; the abstract.

74. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It has been done very irregularly, because you ought to have prepared the abstract yourself?—So I did.

75. But the accounts have not been furnished to you, as I understand?—That is the general statement of the account that I first handed in; it is a statement of the money expended under certain heads, and from that I prepared an abstract, which was published, and that I returned to the Secretary of State's office; but I am told that something was said to me about the accounts after the election was over.

76. Were all these accounts sent in before or after the trial of the petition in the House of Commons?—They were sent in after the trial of the petition. You will observe that the act of Parliament requires that they should be sent in within three months of the day of the election; I think that that time expired on the 30th of July, and the petition was heard antecedent to that.

77. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) It appears that the expenditure on the one side was more than double that of the other. You did not exercise any authority to check that?—That is accounted for in this way: Mr. Price and Mr. Monk were, as it were, in one interest, and their expenses were divided; you will see that the sums are exactly alike, 464*l.* and a fraction in the one case, and 464*l.* and a fraction in the other.

78. There appear to be some items disputed. What is the meaning of that?—The principal item that is disputed is the under-sheriff's account; that is disputed by Mr. Monk's agent and by the agent of Mr. Price.

79. That is a dispute between the candidates and the Sheriff?—Exactly.

80. It is not an objection made by you to the account as an improper one?—No; I have no authority to make any objection. I did on one occasion interfere in that way, but I found out afterwards that I had no authority whatever to do so.

81. How did you ascertain that you had no authority?—Merely by reference to the act of Parliament, by the opinions of the profession generally, and also by what was said on the hearing of the petition two years ago.

82. Was there any decision come to by the committee upon the question?—None; but the opinion of the bar was that I had no authority. I am particularly desired to mention, that something was said to me about my making these payments, or their making them. It did not appear to me that it mattered much who made them, as I had no authority to interfere with the accounts. At all events, I had not the money to pay the accounts, and I understand that they were not paid in one case until last week.

83. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We shall have an opportunity of looking through the accounts, and possibly also of obtaining accounts from other parties. Have you now handed in to us all the documents you have, with the exception of the vouchers for the abstracts which were rendered by the agents of the different candidates?—Yes.

84. One of my learned friends wishes to have the vouchers put in; perhaps you will put them in now?—(*The Witness delivers in the documents referred to.*)

85. Are those the whole of them?—Those are all I have received.

86. From both parties?—Those are from Mr. Price's agent and from Mr. Monk's agent. The others I have not received.

87. When you obtain the others you will hand them in, if you please?—I will do so.

Mr. Lovegrove.—Mr. Carter shall have them this evening.

The Witness.—The only other paper I have is a copy of the abstract that was inserted in the newspaper, in compliance with the act of Parliament.

88. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what respect does that differ?—It does not differ at all. It is a statement made out by me from the accounts rendered; it is a general summary of the expenses.

89. Somewhat more compressed, I suppose, than the other?—Yes.

90. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been for many years acquainted with the constituency of Gloucester, have you not?—I have.

91. Do you remember the nature of the constituency before the passing of the Reform Act?—Yes.

92. I do not wish to go into the elections anterior to that act, but I will just ask you this question, how was the constituency then composed?—Of freemen by birth and freemen by apprenticeship; that is, all the sons of freemen become freemen by birth provided the father takes up his freedom before the birth of the son; otherwise he would be disfranchised.

93. Do you know the number of freemen that existed at the time of the passing of the Reform Act?—I believe about 2,000.

94. You state that to the best of your belief?—Yes; I think it was nearly that number for a long period.

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R. H. Carter.
26 Sept. 1859.

95. Do you agree in the statement made by Mr. Trimmer, that the number of freemen at the last election was 534 ?—I suppose that is correct.

96. It would be about that ?—Yes ; and of the 2,000 freemen there were about 1,200 not resident.

97. At that time ?—Yes.

98. Do the larger proportion of the 534 freemen at present live within the precincts of the city, or do they live outside the precincts, and within the radius of seven miles ?—The number of out-freemen at the last election was 197.

99. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Within the seven miles ?—Yes ; 197.

100. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are the freemen for the most part artisans?—That is a difficult question. I should think they are not ; some of them are gentlemen, and some are dealers and farmers.

101. It is stated that 221 persons appear on the register in respect of both qualifications ; that is, as freemen and as householders. Does that agree with your opinion ?—Yes ; that is the fact. The number of householders having qualifications within the limit and residing without was 51 at the last election.

102. (*Mr. Welford.*) Without the limit of seven miles ?—No ; without the parliamentary boundary.

103. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Of those 51, is there any large part who have business in the city ?—Most of them.

104. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Residing without the precincts of the borough?—Yes ; without the parliamentary boundary of the city.

105. And within seven miles ?—Yes.

106. We hear that the householders are 1,187 by the register of 1859 ?—That, I suppose, is correct.

107. Will you have the kindness to carry your mind back to the first election that took place after the passing of the Reform Act ? Can you tell me who were the candidates at that election ?—On the first election after the passing of the Reform Act the candidates were Captain Berkeley, Mr. Phillpotts, and Mr. Hope.

108. In what year was that ?—In December 1832.

109. Who were returned on that occasion ?—Captain Berkeley and Mr. Phillpotts.

110. Can you state what the constituency was at that time ?—I can give you the numbers polled but not the constituency. The numbers polled for Captain Berkeley were 684, for Mr. Phillpotts 658, and for Mr. Hope 549.

111. Was that a strongly contested election?—Yes.

112. Then have the kindness to proceed to the next election ?—The next election was in April 1833.

113. Who were the candidates ?—Mr. Hope and Captain Berkeley.

114. Only two candidates ?—Only two. Captain Berkeley had accepted the office of Lord of the Admiralty, and vacated his seat.

115. What were the numbers polled ?—For Mr. Hope 506, and for Captain Berkeley 457.

116. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know the number of the constituency at that time ?—No; but it can easily be furnished. The next election was in 1835.

117. In what month?—In January. The candidates were Mr. Hope, Captain Berkeley, Mr. Phillpotts, and Mr. Cother. There were polled for Mr. Hope 621, for Captain Berkeley 707, for Mr. Cother 402, and for Mr. Phillpotts 504. The next election was in 1837. The candidates were Mr. Hope, Mr. Phillpotts, and Captain Berkeley. Mr. Hope polled 727, Mr. Phillpotts 719, and Captain Berkeley 630.

118. In what month was that ?—In March 1837. The number put down here is 1264 voters. That was followed by a petition.

119. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that election in 1837 the first election subsequent to the passing of the Reform Act which was followed by a petition ?—That was the first.

120. Who were the petitioners on that occasion ? Upon my word I cannot recollect the names.

121. I mean what candidate petitioned against the other ?—Captain Berkeley.

122. What was the result of that petition ?—The result of that petition was that Mr. Hope accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, and that produced a vacancy, of course.

123. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did the committee come to any decision ?—No ; it was compromised by the leaders.

124. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The committee, I suppose, did not sit ?—The committee sat ; and the counsel for the petitioner made an opening speech, and then the leaders compromised.

125. No evidence in fact was given ?—No.

126. Then Mr. Hope having accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, and there being a vacancy, who were then the candidates ?—In May 1838 the candidates were Mr. Hope and Colonel Webb. Captain Berkeley retired.

127. Who was returned ?—Mr. Hope. He polled 685, and Colonel Webb 579.

128. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that followed by a petition ?—No.

129. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was the next election ?—The next election was in June 1841. The candidates were Mr. Hope, Captain Berkeley, Mr. Philpotts, and Lord Loftus. Mr. Hope polled 646, Captain Berkeley 732, Mr. Phillpotts 753, and Lord Loftus 510.

130. Was there a petition ?—No ; there was no contested election after that till July 1852.

131. Can you state what elections did take place from 1841 down to 1852 ?—No, I cannot.

132. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who were the members for the city during that interval ?—Mr. Phillpotts and Captain Berkeley.

133. Then if they were re-elected their returns were not contested ?—No.

134. From 1841 to 1852 they represented the city ?—I do not know. I will not undertake to say that they were the members for the whole time, but they were for a considerable part of the time. There was an election in 1847 when Captain Berkeley and Mr. Hope were re-elected unopposed.

135. Was that a contested election ?—No. I remember Mr. Price was a candidate, but he retired before the polling.

136. Do I understand you to say that they sat till 1847 ?—I believe that was the case ; Mr. Phillpotts retired.

137. When did he retire ?—He resigned at the time when Mr. Price became a candidate.

138. When was that ?—That was in 1847. He retired the day before the nomination, and then the place was represented by Captain Berkeley and Mr. Hope.

139. I understood you to say that in 1847 there were three candidates, Captain Berkeley, Mr. Hope, and Mr. Phillpotts ?—No ; Captain Berkeley, Mr. Hope, and Mr. Price.

140. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Price was a candidate, but did not go to the poll ?—No.

141. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There was no election from that time till 1852 ?—Till 1852.

142. What was the date of the election in 1847 ?—That was a general election.

143. Do you know in what month it was ?—June.

144. Then in 1852 who were the candidates ?—The candidates were Mr. Hope, Captain Berkeley, and Mr. Price.

145. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what month was that ?—In July. Mr. Hope polled 766, Captain Berkeley 786, and Mr. Price 851.

146. Was there any petition after that election ?—No.

147. When was the next election ?—The next election was in 1853.

148. Can you tell me the month ?—In January. I have it down here (*referring to a paper*) that Mr. Hope and Captain Berkeley then got returned ; but I think that must be a mistake.

149. Was there no contest ?—I have it so, but I think that cannot be right. That was a contest in

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consequence of Captain Berkeley having vacated his seat by the acceptance of office. The numbers polled were, for Captain Berkeley 761, and Mr. Hope 670.

150. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was there a petition ?—No.

151. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was the next election after that ?—The next was the election of Mr. Price in 1855. He resigned his seat, and accepted the Chiltern Hundreds in consequence of some question about a contract.

152. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He had been member before? —Yes ; he was then member.

153. (*Mr. Vaughan*) Was Mr. Price re-elected unopposed ?—He was re-elected unopposed.

154. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what month in 1855 was he returned ?—In March, I believe. That was the first time I received an account.

155. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was the next election ? —In March 1857 there was another election. The candidates were Sir Robert Carden, Captain Berkeley (Admiral Berkeley then), and Mr. Price. Sir Robert Carden polled 743 votes, Captain Berkeley 710, and Mr. Price 717.

156. Was there a petition ?—There were two petitions.

157. Cross petitions ?—Yes.

158. What was the result ?—I should state that the one party petitioned against the return of Sir Robert Carden, and the friends of Sir Robert Carden petitioned against the return of Mr. Price. The report of the Committee was that they were both duly elected.

159. Then we come to the last election ?—The last election was in April 1859.

160. What were the principles represented by Mr. Hope ?—Conservative.

161. Mr. Phillpotts ?—Liberal.

162. Captain Berkeley ?—The same.

163. Mr. Cother ?—I should rather say he was a Tory.

164. Upon what principles was he a candidate ?— On the Tory principles. He was considerably beyond Mr. Hope.

165. Colonel Webb ?—Colonel Webb was a Whig.

166. You said just now Mr. Phillpotts and Captain Berkeley were Liberals. Do you distinguish between Liberals and Whigs ?—I should consider Captain Berkeley and Colonel Webb as being precisely in the same interest.

167. Lord Loftus ?—He was a Tory, I believe; I do not know much of his opinions.

168. Mr. Price ?—I should say Liberal.

169. Sir Robert Carden was a Conservative ?—A Conservative. Mr. Phillpotts, I suppose, would be called an independent. His support was derived from both sides.

170. Was either of those gentlemen, Captain Berkeley, Mr. Phillpotts, or Mr. Hope, a member for the city before the passing of the Reform Act ?—Mr. Phillpotts was, and Captain Berkeley and Colonel Webb also.

171. Do you mean that immediately before the passing of that act Captain Berkeley and Mr. Phillpotts sat for this city ?—Yes. Mr. Phillpotts had one contested election previous to the passing of the Reform Act.

172. Colonel Webb had also a seat for the city before the Reform Act, had he not ?—Yes.

173. For more than one Parliament ?—Yes. He was a candidate in 1816, when he was elected, and in 1818, when Captain Berkeley was defeated.

174. Had Mr. Hope also a seat for the city ?—No. Mr. Hope became a candidate at the first election after the passing of the Reform Act.

175. You were going to give us just now the population ?—At the last census the population within the parliamentary boundary was 17,306, and without the parliamentary boundary the number was 5,026. There are five parishes that are part within and part without the parliamentary boundary.

176. But for the purposes of an election the population of the city would be only 17,306 ?—Yes ; that is, within the parliamentary limit. At the time of the Reform Bill we sent up a plan for an enlargement, but it was rejected.

177. (*Mr. Welford.*) Would your plan have included a larger number of persons than are included in the present parliamentary boundary ?—It would have included, I take it, the whole of that 5,026.

178. What is the character of that population ; is it rural or a town population ?—More of a town population. Gardeners would be the only rural part of it. Between 1841 and 1851 it increased nearly 1,700. The increase in the city was about 2,500, I think.

179. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have yourself, I believe, taken a considerable part in elections for the city, have you not ?—Up to the time I became auditor.

180. Which was in 1855 ?—Yes.

181. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The whole number on the register at the last election was 1,721 ? Is that right? —Yes.

182. Of those 534 were freemen ?—Yes.

183. And 1,187 were householders ?—Yes.

184. There are only two lists, I suppose ?—That is all.

185. Of those it was stated that 221 were twice on the register ?—Yes.

186. 221 freemen also appeared as householders ? —Yes.

187. Can you give us the number of householders who are twice on the register for different qualifications ?—No, I cannot.

188. I want to get the whole number of people entitled to vote ?—If you subtract 241 that will give the exact number.

189. All the rest have double qualifications ?—Yes ; that is to say, freemen and householders.

190. We understand also that some of the householders appear on the two lists ?—Very few, I should say.

191. 1,500 and a few more would give the exact number, I suppose ?—Yes; I think 99 out of 100 are cases of persons being, as I am, freemen and householders.

192. With reference to the diminution of the number of freemen, how happens it that the freemen who before the Reform Act you state amounted to 2,000 now amount to a less number ?—In consequence of the seven-miles clause. When, before the Reform Act, a contested election took place, the candidate was at the expense of bringing the voters here, and was also at the expense of taking up their freedom ; that is, he paid everything, and they were brought up here to vote ; but since that time they have not thought it worth while to take up their freedom.

193. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You stated that at that time 1,200 were non-resident ; therefore that brings the number down at once to 800 ?—Yes.

194. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are there any freemen now who are excluded from being put on the list in consequence of non-residence ?—Yes ; no doubt a great number ; a very large number ; but they gradually fall away in consequence of many persons not taking up their freedom ; formerly there was a 1*l.* stamp upon it, and they seldom took up their freedom till they came to vote, and then the candidate was at the entire expense of taking up the freedom and all the rest of it. We used to reckon the cost altogether about 12*l.* a head for paying the expenses of a man's admission and the expenses of coming and returning and so on. I have known 40,000*l.* spent in an election.

195. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To that cause you attribute the reduction in the numbers from 800 resident freemen at the passing of the Reform Act to 534 now ?— I am speaking now with reference to those who are away from the place altogether. There is one circumstance it is necessary I should state, and that is that previous to the Reform Act the corporation made honorary freemen, the power to do which was taken away by a clause in the Reform Act.

196. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had those honorary freemen

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a right to the franchise?—Yes; it entitled them at once to all the privileges of freemen. I believe most corporations exercised that power.

197. Have the freemen of Gloucester any other privilege from their freedom except the franchise?—Yes; they have the privilege of turning out upon the meadows and commonable lands, and so on.

198. Is that a valuable privilege to them?—To some persons, but it is only exercised by a few. At one time they had the exclusive right to the schools and charities, but that has been very much interfered with and altered.

199. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is there any extent of commonable land or commonable meadows?—Yes; there are two large meadows, into one of which they turn in after the first pasture is taken away, and in the other they depasture all the year round.

200. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I was proposing to ask you, with regard to your connexion with the elections in this borough, what your knowledge was. Probably you will be good enough to tell me whether you took an active part in all the previous elections that have taken place since the Reform Act down to 1855?—I think there were one or two elections preceding the one in 1853 that I did not interfere with. I am told (I do not know that it is material) that in 1852 there was a petition presented against the return of Mr. Price, but that it was not prosecuted.

201. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what year was that?—I think 1852.

202. With the exception you have mentioned, you have taken an active part in all the elections?—Yes.

203. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who presented the petition to which you have just referred?—Mr. Hope's friends. I do not know who the parties were who signed it.

204. Were you connected with the various elections as agent for any of the candidates?—I was agent for Captain Berkeley in several of the elections, and I supported Mr. Phillpotts in one or two of his elections; two I think; of one I am certain.

205. You were agent for Captain Berkeley in all the elections for which he was candidate?—Not in all. I did not interfere in the election of 1853 or in any of the subsequent ones.

206. You were agent also for Mr. Phillpotts at some of the elections?—I was not his agent. I was one of his committee. I supported Mr. Phillpotts before the passing of the Reform Act.

207. From your knowledge, as agent, of elections which have taken place since the passing of the Reform Act, are you able to speak as to the expenses of those elections?—Certainly. I could not give you the expenses, for I have not the papers with me, but I could tell you what was the highest and lowest amount, to the best of my recollection.

208. I do not want to go into that at present. We shall have to call you again to speak to those expenses. Your information at present does not come down lower than the election of 1853?—No.

209. But are you able to speak generally as to the expenses of the different candidates at the elections previous?—No; I could only speak with reference to Captain Berkeley's election; the others would be mere hearsay, not derived from any actual knowledge. I did see something of the accounts, but I would not undertake to speak to them.

210. You know, of course, the agents that appeared for the various parties at those elections on the other side; on that of Mr. Hope?—Yes.

211. You having appeared for Captain Berkeley, and at some of the elections for Mr. Phillpotts, who was it who appeared for Mr. Hope?—Mr. Davis principally.

212. Is Mr. Davis a solicitor?—Yes, he was.

213. Is he alive?—No.

214. Did Mr. Davis appear in the early elections?—Yes.

215. Down to what time?—I do not think he took any active part after 1852.

216. But down to 1852 he was the agent, was he not?—He took an active part in supporting Mr. Hope down to that time.

217. Can you give us the names of any of the gentlemen who co-operated with Mr. Davis at those elections?—Mr. Helps, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Brown, who sits there, and there was a long list. Mr. Burrup.

218. Give us, if you please, the names of the principal gentlemen?—Mr. Helps, Mr. Matthews, senior, and Mr. Burrup.

219. Any gentleman of the name of Kemp?—He is gone; he was here.

220. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He has left the town?—Yes, many years.

221. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the last election at which Mr. Kemp appeared?—I do not exactly know. I know it was at one of the elections at which we were beaten, but I cannot give you the date. I believe it was in 1837, but I am not quite sure. I know we were beaten in about three quarters of an hour. It was something like the late occasion reversed.

222. Since the retirement of Mr. Kemp, and the death of Mr. Davis, who are the gentlemen who, generally speaking, have represented Mr. Hope here?—If you will be good enough to ask Mr. Lovegrove and the gentleman who sits next him they can answer you much better than I can. Mr. Lovegrove, Mr. Burrup, and Mr. Matthews, and many of the professional men in the town, besides which there were a great number who were not members of the profession. I may mention Mr. Helps also.

223. Are those gentlemen all solicitors?—Yes.

224. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Matthews, junior?—I think it was more Mr. Matthews, senior, but Mr. Matthews, junior, has taken a part in it of late years.

225. Mr. Matthews, senior, is dead, is he not?—Yes; I may mention also Mr. Edward Washbourne and Mr. Walter Clutterbuck.

226. And have those gentlemen since the retirement of Mr. Hope transferred their services to Sir Robert Carden?—I should say so, certainly; Mr. Taynton and Mr. George also I may mention. I am told I am wrong about Mr. George.

227. You have, I suppose, the appointment of the agents for the election of 1857?—I have. I have not the appointment in 1855, but I have the account.

228. How many political parties should you say there are in the City?—At present I should say there are three; originally there were two parties.

229. Is that since the Reform Act?—No; it originated on Mr. Phillpotts becoming a candidate.

230. He was a member before the Reform Act?—Yes; before Mr. Phillpotts became a candidate the parties were generally distinguished as Tories and Whigs. The only symbols of parties were orange and blue.

231. Which were the colours of the Tory party?—Blue.

232. And the others orange?—Yes; and when Mr. Phillpotts started there was a third party; latterly that was considered to be somewhat of the Radical party.

233. Then the third party was more advanced than the Whigs?—Yes.

234. And has that state of things continued since the passing of the Reform Act?—It did continue so long as Mr. Phillpotts was in the representation, but since that I think it has hardly continued.

235. Mr. Hope was the representative of the old Tory party?—Yes.

236. And Captain Berkeley represented the Whigs?—Yes.

237. And Mr. Phillpotts represented the more advanced party?—Yes.

238. What were Mr. Phillpotts' colours?—Purple and white.

239. To what political party was Mr. Price supposed to belong?—The Liberal party.

240. But of the three parties you have mentioned

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which did he belong to?—I have some difficulty in answering the question. We did not consider him thoroughly a Whig, but rather more in advance.

241. But did he always coalesce with Captain Berkeley in the elections?—Yes.

242. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had Mr. Phillpotts any distinguishing colour from Captain Berkeley?—Of late years the colours have been discontinued.

243. Colours have been forbidden to be given, but they are still used in many places, are they not?—I do not think there has been much of that.

244. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But though the colours have not been used the parties go by the name of the blue party, and so on?—Yes.

245. (*Mr. Welford.*) It has fallen more into the distinction between Tory and Whig than anything else?—Yes.

246. You consider there are but two parties?—It is a matter of opinion; but I think it is so now.

247. Mr. Phillpotts was a resident in Gloucester, was he not?—He was a resident when he was first elected, but he left soon afterwards.

248. He was a solicitor was he not?—He was first a solicitor, and then a practising barrister for several years.

249. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Before the Reform Act passed was there any family who had any great influence in the borough, either from living near it or any other cause?—No, there were originally two interests that were considered to be great leaders; that was the corporation interest and Mrs. Pitt's interest; but I do not know anything beside those two that might be considered as at all strong, and both those are now very much gone off. Mrs. Pitt was a relative of Mr. Pitt who represented the city for many years.

250. Then the Berkeley Castle interest is not great here?—As a whig interest it is. There is no great interest by means of property or residence, or anything of that sort.

251. Are we distinctly to understand that you are not able to give us any information with regard to this last election of your own knowledge?—None whatever, nor of any election since the period I have accepted the office of auditor.

252. Generally speaking, the candidates for this city have been people having some local connexion with it, have they not?—Certainly; that was the case with Captain Berkeley, Mr. Phillpotts, and Mr. Price. Mr. Hope, I believe, came here more in consequence of his having purchased an estate in the county.

253. At all events a complete stranger, however wealthy he may have been, would have had but little chance in Gloucester; are we to understand that?—That is rather an awkward question. Undoubtedly, local interest would have some considerable effect and some degree of weight. I am not aware that Sir Robert Carden had any prevailing interest here; but nevertheless he was at the head of the poll.

254. With the exception of Sir Robert Carden, most of your members have had some local connexion with the borough, have they not?—Yes.

255. And Sir Robert Carden had no local connexion with the borough?—Not that I am aware of. Candidates have generally been people living in the neighbourhood, or having some local interest connected with the place.

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WILLIAM VINER ELLIS sworn and examined.

256. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were appointed the agent for the last election by Mr. Price?—I was.

257. Are you a solicitor?—I am.

258. I understand that Mr. Price is unable to attend here to-day in consequence of a domestic affliction?—He is.

259. Were you communicated with by Mr. Price some time prior to the last election?—Yes, I was.

260. Was it Mr. Price's intention, do you know, to retire from the representation of this city at the last election?—It was. His wife's indisposition was very great, and his railway engagements took up so much of his time that he wrote me several letters desiring me to see different parties in the city, and request that he might be allowed to retire, at all events for this election.

261. And did you, in consequence, see parties on the subject of those letters?—I did.

262. And did you communicate the result to Mr. Price?—I did; I wrote to him.

263. I suppose those letters could be produced if the Commissioners desired it?—I do not know whether I have copies, but if I have you shall see them. I wrote to Mr. Price to say that the parties here would not consent to his retiring. If you will let me know what you desire to see I will show you anything I have.

264. When was it that Mr. Price made up his mind that he would again stand for the representation of the city?—The day I do not exactly remember; but his canvass, I think, commenced on a Saturday; I cannot tell the day, but it was about three weeks before the nomination. I went to Stroud to see him. I saw him at the station, and his friends met him at Gloucester, and he then decided to stand.

265. At that time had there been any arrangement come to between Mr. Price and Mr. Monk as to their standing on a common joint interest?—No. I heard nothing of it then; not about Mr. Monk standing. I heard it rumoured about the city that he was to become a candidate, and so on; and the day before Mr. Price commenced his canvass I think Mr. Monk was down here.

266. Mr. Monk was down here before Mr. Price commenced his canvass?—Yes; I think he commenced his canvass a day before Mr. Price did.

267. When Mr. Price came to Gloucester to commence his canvass, did Mr. Price and Mr. Monk carry on their operations conjointly?—No. When Mr. Price came down on the Saturday, when he commenced his canvass, he said distinctly, "I shall canvass for myself." I offered to carry his book, and I think I did a day or two; but after that he canvassed by himself, sometimes with one friend and sometimes with another, but never, that I know of, with Mr. Monk, unless Mr. Monk came out when he was canvassing. Mr. Price canvassed very carelessly.

268. Independently of the canvassing, were the committee-rooms of the two candidates joint or separate?—There was in this city a Reform Club, who had a committee-room, and they wanted a clerk to make up their books, and requiring a man who had been engaged at the election before, they came to me, and requested that I would allow a clerk in my office who had formerly done it for me to attend to the arrangement of their books. I lent him; and Mr. Jordan took the making up of the canvass books, and Mr. Price had in the morning to go there for his canvass book, and took it back in the evening; that was all he had to do with him.

269. As far as you were concerned there was no joint committee-room?—No; save that Mr. Price got his canvass book in the morning from the room, and generally came to my office the last thing, and went through his book with me, or I went to the King's Head, and met him, and then he went over with me, and fetched his canvass book, and went over his canvass.

270. I understand you to say, that except so far as Mr. Jordan, who was your clerk, attended the committee-room, there was no arrangement between Mr. Price and Mr. Monk?—No; not on Mr. Price's part, nor on Mr. Monk's, that I know of.

271. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) So far as you are aware?—I know it to be so. You know when there are two candidates in one interest, the friends of one are of

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course the friends of the other, and many men will do things that you cannot control.

272. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You spoke of a Reform Club in the city, and that they requested you to lend them a person to make up the books?—Yes; I lent them my clerk, and they paid him; he was paid for his time; that was only because he had been accustomed to do it before.

273. Was not that a Club supporting Mr. Price as well as Mr. Monk?—Yes; but Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith were managing their committee-room. I had no authority in it.

274. Who are Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith?—Two solicitors of this city.

275. They managed for the Reform Club?—For the Reform Club, and they had a committee too.

276. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) As distinct from the Reform Club?—No; the committee of the Reform Club. There was a committee, I believe; I never attended any meeting.

277. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do I understand you to say that the Reform Club had a committee at their Club, and that there was a committee-room besides for the conduct of the election?—Yes, for conducting the election; they had their own committee. I was not a member, nor had I any authority.

278. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had Mr. Price any committee-room at all distinct of his own?—No other committee-room than my office, where he came in the morning; nor did any one else canvass with him, except his friends as he met them out; he canvassed very carelessly.

279. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Price had no committee-room of his own?—No.

280. Had Mr. Price any organization at all?—No, none at all. He took his own book many days without any friends within him; he knew the city very well.

281. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He had no committee-room nor any committee?—No; there were messengers employed in the matter, for which we paid one half and Mr. Monk the other. Mr. Price said he would bear his share of the expenses, such expenses as I thought right to allow.

282. Expenses of what?—Of the election.

283. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have those expenses which were returned to the election auditor been thrown into hotch pot and divided?—Yes.

284. One half of them being charged to Mr. Monk and the other half to Mr. Price?—Yes.

285. Was there any agreement come to between Mr. Price and Mr. Monk with reference to the conduct of the last election?—In what way do you mean?

286. With reference to the management of the election, and the expenses?—With reference to the expenses, Mr. Price said to me, "Pay my share of the expenses, such as are right. I will have nothing to do with anything else."

287. Do you know that an agreement was made to that effect between Mr. Price and Mr. Monk?—No, I do not know that; that is all I heard.

288. You having received those instructions from Mr. Price, what is the amount of money which has passed through your hands in payment of the expenses of the election?—Just the same account I have given to Mr. Carter, with one error, which was discovered since; the amount of the Sheriff's bill; 37*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* is the balance. There was 20*l.* deposited before that, at the request of the Sheriff. It should have been 57*l.* instead of 37*l.*; there was 20*l.* paid before the election began.

289. There should be an addition of 20*l.* made to the amount?—There should.

290. Do you consider that you have obtained a return of all the bills and accounts that were due to parties in respect of the two candidates?—I believe so; I know of nothing else; I have paid nothing else, and I know of nothing else.

291. Do you know of various public houses having been opened in this city on behalf of Mr. Monk or Mr. Price?—No; I do not believe that either of the candidates opened a single house; neither Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Price, nor Mr. Monk.

292. I am speaking of houses opened in the interest of either of the candidates; I am not speaking of who opened them?—I do not know of any; I do not know of a single expense having been incurred that is not included here.

293. Do you not know that there were some public houses opened in the interest either of Mr. Price or Mr. Monk?—I do not know of one.

294. During the election, from the time when Mr. Price came down to Gloucester until the return, is it the fact that you do not know of the opening of any public house which appeared to be or was understood to be in the interest of either of those two candidates?—It is the fact.

295. Did you put an advertisement in the paper requesting all persons having claims upon the candidates to send them in?—Yes; the usual notice.

296. Do I understand you to say that as far as you know the expenses which have been returned by yourself to the election auditor are the only expenses which were incurred by Mr. Price at the last election?—Yes; the only expenses incurred by Mr. Price.

297. Have those bills been paid?—Yes, they have have been paid.

298. By yourself?—No; they have been paid. I will explain. The petition was decided on the 29th of July; the 30th of July was the last day of the three months allowed to send in the accounts; I was in London on the petition, and I wrote to Mr. Bretherton, to collect the accounts, and discharge them, and I gave him the money to do so.

299. Why did you not send the money to Mr. Carter, the election auditor?—Had Mr. Carter wished it I should have done it; we have been accustomed to pay our bills ourselves; it may not be right, but we have done it.

300. The act requires that the election auditor should pay them?—It is fair that he should, if he has a per-centage.

301. But the act of Parliament says he is to pay all the accounts?—Yes; but we did not send them certainly to Mr. Carter. It is a great deal of trouble to collect the accounts. We were much run for time to deliver the accounts.

302. You were pressed in regard to time?—Yes; and therefore I wrote to Mr. Bretherton, to get them ready, and when I returned on the Saturday evening I gave him the money to pay them. I did not send the money to Mr. Carter. If Mr. Carter had asked me he might have had it.

303. Do you know how it was that Mr. Monk came to be a candidate for this place?—No. I heard of him through some gentleman, but I know nothing of that, for I am not a member of the Reform Club, and never attended a meeting or had anything to do with him; he was a candidate from the Reform Club, I believe.

304. Did you ever hear from Mr. Price anything about it?—He wrote to me, saying that some of the Reform Club had seen Mr. Monk, and that he had consented to become a candidate; that was all I knew.

305. As to any previous communications between Mr. Monk and Mr. Price, or any arrangement between them, of that you are entirely ignorant?—I am entirely ignorant of it.

306. In fact, your duty appears to have been limited strictly to performing the office of agent?—It was so.

307. Who acted besides yourself, if any one did act, for Mr. Price?—There was no one acted besides myself.

308. No one at all?—No; not at all. Many of his friends might have assisted him going canvassing, but nothing else.

309. Was there any solicitor appointed?—No, not any.

310. When Mr. Price went canvassing for himself, was he accompanied, when not accompanied by Mr. Monk, by any solicitor, or any other gentleman of Gloucester?—No; he always started by himself. He might have picked up some friends to go a little distance with him, but when I saw him generally he

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was by himself, or talking to a friend. He started by himself, with his book, saying, "I know where to find these people, and they will speak more freely to me when I am alone." Once or twice he said he preferred that mode of canvassing, and as he knows the city very well there was no difficulty in it.

311. Is Mr. Price a resident in Gloucester?—He was born here, and resides a little way out; he was a resident at Tibberton Court during the time of the election.

312. And I suppose he came to Gloucester day by day?—Yes; sometimes early, sometimes later; sometimes he was not here till twelve o'clock, and sometimes later. There was great difficulty in getting him to canvass; I thought it would never be done.

313. He has some property in the neighbourhood, has he not?—Yes, and in Gloucester.

314. Do you know a place called Rudford?—Very well.

315. Is there an inn there called the Nelson?—Yes.

316. Is that inn kept by a tenant of Mr. Price's?—Yes.

317. What is his name?—Roberts.

318. Is there a place belonging to Mr. Price at Barber's Bridge called Mount Pleasant?—Yes; he has lately bought it.

319. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is that a public house?—It was a public house; I think it is now, but I have not been by it lately.

320. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that kept by a man named Phelps?—Yes; George Phelps.

321. Who is a tenant of Mr. Price's?—Yes, a tenant of Mr. Price's.

322. Were you aware of any persons having been conveyed there previous to the election?—No, I was not.

323. To the Nelson or to Barber's Bridge?—No; I heard on the petition the evidence given, but I know nothing of it.

324. Did that take you by surprise?—About the men being conveyed there?

325. Yes?—Yes; I did not know that they were there or anything of it.

326. But when you heard that they had been conveyed there, were you surprised?—I do not know that I was, but I did not know of it. I do not know that I was surprised; those things are usual.

327. (*Mr. Welford.*) You sent the election auditor certain accounts which you have referred to. Did you authorize the expenditure of that money before it was expended?—No, I did not.

328. What was the character of that expenditure?—You have the accounts; you will find that some of the payments are for professional services, some for one thing, and some for another. I think they are fair, and I think there is nothing unreasonable in them.

329. Are they all legal expenses?—Yes; I know of nothing there but what is legal.

330. By whose authority were those expenses incurred?—They were not incurred by our authority; they were sent in after the election was over. I expect they were incurred by the Reform Club; it must have been by them.

331. Are you aware that you might be sued for every sum you have paid except sums paid through the election auditor?—I have not thought of that. I never thought I should be sued for those. We have receipts.

332. For penalties, I mean?—I never thought of that.

333. You perhaps have not examined the Act of Parliament?—Not so closely as that.

334. You do not pay much attention to Acts of Parliament in Gloucester?—We have acted as the other side have done.

335. You do as they do?—Yes.

336. Then, in fact, the expenditure for which you, on behalf of Mr. Price, paid, was an expenditure incurred by the direction of the Reform Club?—Yes; I took my share, and paid it,

337. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What was the day on which you were appointed agent to Mr. Price?—Mr. Carter, I think, handed my appointment up. I think the day before the nomination was the date of the appointment.

338. What I want to know is, when you were first appointed by Mr. Price to be his agent for all the purposes of the election?—In 1857.

339. When did Mr. Price first communicate with you as agent previous to the last election?—Soon after the dissolution. Many letters passed between us, but he was in London most of the time then.

340. But as soon as the dissolution took place Mr. Price began to consider, did he not, whether he would stand as a candidate again or not?—Yes, he did.

341. And you undertook to be his agent?—Yes; I was sure to be his agent, because he had employed me before. He did not say directly, "I expect you to be my agent;" but I knew it.

342. Mr. Price, to your knowledge, had no other agent?—I am sure he had not.

343. What were the exact instructions that Mr. Price gave to you as to the payment of the expenses of the election?—The instructions he gave me were these: "Pay my share of all that is legal, but beyond that I will not pay. I would rather be rejected than pay one shilling to bribe one voter;" or something like that.

344. Who did he allude to as paying a certain share of the expenses?—I should think he meant Mr. Monk. He said to me, "Pay what is legal; my share of anything that is legal."

345. You say "My share?"—"Pay for me all that is legal."

346. You say he said, "Pay for me my share of all the expenses." Who was to pay the other share?—In that sense he must have meant Mr. Monk; it was, "Pay my legal expenses." Mr. Monk was to pay the other, of course.

347. Have you not paid your share of the expenses incurred jointly by Mr. Monk and Mr. Price?—Yes.

348. By whom were those expenses incurred?—Principally by the authority of the solicitors for the Reform Club.

349. Did you understand that Mr. Price meant that he was to pay his share of the expenses incurred by the Reform Club; that they were to be paid jointly by him and Mr. Monk?—No; he did not mean that. What he said was, "Pay what is fair for me."

350. But there were to be joint expenses incurred by the Liberal candidates?—Yes; I understood as much as that.

351. I suppose there are charges in the accounts for messengers?—Yes.

352. Who hired those messengers?—Mr. Bretherton and the people at the Reform Club.

353. And Mr. Price paid part of those expenses?—Yes.

354. Is Mr. Price a member of the Reform Club?—No, I believe not; he may have been. I will not answer for that, for I never attended a meeting, and never saw their book of members.

355. With whom did you, as agent for Mr. Price, communicate with respect to these expenses?—Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith.

356. Were they supposed to be members of the Reform Club simply, or agents for Mr. Monk?—Members of the Reform Club; whether they were agents for Mr. Monk or not they will say for themselves. Mr. Monk had Mr. Jones for his agent.

357. To that extent Mr. Price and you adopted the Reform Club as your agents?—We paid half the expenses.

358. Were Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith employed as agents by anybody?—Not by Mr. Price.

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W. V. Ellis. — 26 Sept. 1859.

359. Were they paid anything for their own services?—Yes.

360. Who by?—Their expenses were divided, and one half was charged to Mr. Price.

361. They sent in an account to the Reform Club, and Mr. Price paid one half of the expenses?—Mr. Price paid one half.

362. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understood you to say before that they managed for the Reform Club?—Yes.

363. Do you mean to say that they were appointed by the Reform Club without your knowledge or the knowledge of Mr. Price?—Without my knowledge or the knowledge of Mr. Price, certainly. We had nothing to do with it.

364. (*Mr. Welford.*) But Mr. Price paid half the expenses?—Yes, because all the electioneering was done by those men.

365. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know a person of the name of Thompson, who went at Gloucester, I am told, by the name of "Thornton"?—I never saw him.

366. Have you had any communication with him since the election?—Never; I do not know the man from Adam. I never saw him. The first I ever heard of Mr. Thompson was in the petition matter.

367. Have you heard from him lately?—No; I have never had any communication in my life with him.

368. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Mr. Monk a resident in Gloucester?—No. He lives at Everley House near Marlborough, Wilts.

369. Had he any connexion with Gloucester?—No; except that his father was Bishop of the diocese.

370. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you heard from any other person regarding Thompson?—No.

371. You have had no communication with Thompson directly, or with anybody else about him?—No; I have had no communication whatever with him.

372. Did you know anything about a person named Clarke?—Never; till I found him turn up in London I had never heard of such a man.

373. You never had any communication with him?—No.

374. Not before or since the election?—No, never.

375. Were the payments that were made and which you have returned to the election auditor made by yourself?—No; by Mr. Bretherton. The money was given by me to Mr. Bretherton, and he made the payments. My clerk collected the vouchers, and they were sent in.

376. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were no payments at all made by you?—No; Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan paid the bills, and I saw the vouchers.

F. Grey.

FRANK GREY sworn and examined.

377. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a clerk in the telegraph office?—I am the assistant superintendent.

378. Where?—At Bristol.

379. Do you produce certain telegrams that were conveyed from Gloucester to London and from London to Gloucester?—From Gloucester to London, and from all stations to Gloucester, with reference to the election.

380. With reference to the last election for Gloucester?—Yes.

381. All messages which had relation to the last election?—Yes; every message that had reference to the election.

382. Will you produce them?—Yes. I wish to say that the company only give them up on compulsion, and that we have sufficient authority for doing so. (*The witness produces a bundle of telegrams.*)

383. Have you taken an account of the telegrams which you have handed in?—No, I have not.

384. Have you a list of them?—No, I have not.

385. You had better make a list of them, stating from where, to where, and from whom, to whom, and then hand the telegrams in to us.—I will do so.

A. G. Jones.

ANTHONY GILBERT JONES sworn and examined.

386. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a solicitor in this town?—Yes.

387. You were appointed the election agent for Mr. Monk?—I was.

388. And an account of the expenses has been supplied by you to Mr. Carter, the election auditor?—Yes.

389. It is the same account, I suppose, that was handed to us this morning?—It is.

390. Did you take, yourself, an active part in the last election?—Yes, I did.

391. For Mr. Monk?—I considered that I was acting for the two candidates; for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

392. You were appointed election agent only for Mr. Monk?—For Mr. Monk only.

393. But in the conduct of the election you considered you were acting as much for the one as for the other?—Certainly.

394. What was the date of your appointment as election agent for Mr. Monk?—The 27th of April.

395. That was two days before the nomination?—Yes.

396. Had you been taking an active part in the proceedings of the election prior to your appointment?—Yes, I had.

397. On behalf both of Mr. Monk and Mr. Price?—Yes.

398. Are you a member of a club which is called the Reform Club in Gloucester?—No, I am not.

399. Were you requested as a solicitor to take a part in the election proceedings by anybody?—The origin of my acting was this: I received a circular from Mr. Thomas Smith, and signed by him, requesting or summoning a meeting of the liberal solicitors at his office on a certain day. I do not know the day named in the circular. I have it not with me; but the object of that circular, as announced in it, was to concert measures and arrange plans for the coming election.

400. How long was that before the election?—I cannot say; it might have been three weeks before the election, but I cannot say; I have not the circular with me; I do not know whether I have it now, but the date of it would correct me.

401. You attended that meeting?—I attended that meeting.

402. And did several other gentlemen attend the meeting besides yourself?—Yes; there were several other gentlemen.

403. Can you tell me their names?—Mr. Smith was there, Mr. Bretherton (I am speaking from recollection), Mr. Robert Wilton, and I think Mr. Evans. It was not a large meeting.

404. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is Mr. Evans a solicitor?—Yes.

405. Is Mr. Robert Wilton a solicitor?—Yes.

406. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was a meeting only of Liberal solicitors?—Yes. I do not remember any other names now; in fact I do not think there were any others there.

407. Was the result of that meeting that you were requested to act?—Yes; it was urged upon Mr. Robert Wilton, who had on previous elections had the conduct as agent of elections for Admiral Berkeley, that he should take the lead on this occasion, but he declined. He said, "I have had quite enough of electioneering, and I shall retire now. I shall leave it to those who are younger than myself."

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408. Were you requested to act in your professional capacity as a solicitor and also as election agent?—There was no specific appointment; merely as an active agent.

409. There was no specific appointment until you were appointed as election agent by Mr. Monk on the 27th of April?—That is so.

410. In the intermediate time you acted as any other Liberal solicitor would have acted?—Yes; I acted then as I had acted on former elections; I made myself active and useful within the sphere of my influence, and that was the understanding on which I went; that was the feeling under which I attended that meeting, and left it, that I should use my exertions for the Liberal candidates as far as I could. There was no specific engagement of me as election agent.

411. Had you taken an active part in previous elections?—Yes, I had, but not as an agent.

412. Simply as a private individual?—As a private individual.

413. You, having taken that active part in the preparatory proceedings of the election for 1859, are acquainted, I suppose, with a good deal of the machinery which was put in operation for the return of the Liberal candidates?—No, I am not. I canvassed where I could; I canvassed where I thought I should be of any use; and when I could I joined the canvassing party. I knew nothing of the arrangements.

414. Your knowledge, then, of all the proceedings which took place is not derived from your acting in concert with anybody, but from our own individual acquaintance, and the part you took individually in canvassing?—It is.

415. Did you take any part at all in any of the proceedings which were instituted by the Reform Club?—I did not.

416. Did you take any part with regard to the appointment of messengers?—No, I did not.

417. Did you know of the appointment of messengers by the committee acting for Messrs. Price and Monk?—No, I did not; but I should have concluded that messengers would be appointed.

418. Had you any knowledge at all of the opening of any public houses?—No, I had not.

419. You have sent in this account and statement of expenditure on the part of Mr. Monk. Have the various items of expenditure been satisfied by yourself?—They were satisfied by myself in this way: I was requested on the part of Mr. Monk to pay the amount of his share.

420. By whom were you requested to do so?—I think by Mr. Jordan and Mr. Bretherton.

421. Mr. Jordan and Mr. Bretherton requested you to pay the amount of Mr. Monk's share?—Yes; to pay it to them, in order that they might liquidate the items; in order that they might pay the bills.

422. And did you pay the money to them?—I did; but I should previously state that I made an objection. I said, "The act of Parliament requires that this money should be paid into the auditor's hands."

423. You were aware of that?—Yes, I was.

424. You had read the act of Parliament yourself?—Yes.

425. Upon your making that objection what occurred?—I think it was Mr. Jordan who stated that Mr. Carter, the auditor, had authorized him to pay the accounts, and render to him the vouchers. Upon that representation I paid the money over. I think it was Mr. Jordan who stated that that was the course he had pursued on former elections.

426. As to the accuracy of these accounts, and as to the circumstances under which those accounts were paid, excepting from the vouchers that were rendered to you, you had no knowledge?—I had not, excepting as regards some few. There is the Sheriff's account for example. That account had been through my hands, and previously to the rendering of the account to the auditor I put myself in communication with the under-sheriff.

427. The Sheriff's account passed through your hands?—Yes.

428. That was the only one?—I think that was the only one.

429. To whom did you pay the money? Did you pay it to Mr. Jordan or to Mr. Bretherton?—I paid it at Mr. Bretherton's office.

430. To Mr. Bretherton?—To Bretherton and Jordan; they were both there, and they undertook to appropriate the money in discharging the accounts.

431. How did you know the amount that would be required to be paid to them?—I knew that by the account which had been rendered to the auditor.

432. By the bills?—By the amount of the bills.

433. By the abstract of the accounts rendered to the auditor?—Yes; and which has been handed in to you.

434. Did you receive that abstract from the auditor?—No, I did not.

435. Did you receive a copy of it?—That account was submitted to me on several occasions before it was rendered to the auditor. I was a participator in the making up of that account.

436. You were a participator in making up that account from the various payments which had been made and accounts which had been sent in?—Yes; from Mr. Jordan's experience he was much better able to check that account. With Mr. Jordan's assistance that account was made out.

437. Were all the bills and accounts which were sent in afterwards satisfied by payment, and by the production of vouchers for those payments?—Yes, they were.

438. (*Mr. Welford.*) All the accounts that were sent in?—Yes, so far as I know. As I stated before, I paid the amount to Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan, and they discharged the items.

439. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I will put it in this way: you were a participator in the making up of the abstract which was sent in to the election auditor?—I was.

440. Did you examine all the bills?—I cannot say: I did.

441. And all the accounts that were sent in?—I cannot say I examined them all.

442. In the course of the examination, as far as your examination went, did you reject any accounts that were sent in?—I did not.

443. Had the accounts produced to you by Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan been first of all supplied to Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan before they were examined by you?—I cannot say that that was so.

444. Were they sent to you in the first instance?—Some of them were, and as I received them I sent them on to Mr. Bretherton, because he could check their accuracy better than I could.

445. Did you receive them all, or only a portion of them, and did Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan receive the other portion?—I do not think I did receive them all.

446. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you put an advertisement in the newspaper with respect to these payments?—I think I did not.

447. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you hear Mr. Ellis state that he had done so?—I heard Mr. Ellis's evidence, but I forget what his answer was to that question.

448. (*Mr. Welford.*) He stated that he did put in the usual advertisement?—I do not think that I did.

449. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have any accounts been sent to you since the rendering of that abstract to the auditor?—None relating to the election.

450. Have any claims been made since the making up of that account?—No.

451. Then, as far as your knowledge goes, the account that was delivered to the auditor comprises every claim which might be made by any persons to whom Mr. Monk was liable?—It does.

452. As far as your knowledge goes?—As far as my knowledge goes.

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A. G. Jones.

26 Sept. 1859.

453. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you exercise any discretion as to the allowance or disallowance of any of the accounts that have been produced here, or did you trust entirely to Mr. Jordan and Mr. Bretherton?—I cannot say that I trusted entirely to them, but I trusted in a great measure to them.

454. Did you moderate or question any of the accounts sent in to you?—There were only two accounts upon which questions were raised, and that was Mr. Churchill's account, and the under-sheriff's account.

455. What was Mr. Churchill's account?—That was for coach hire; there was a question raised upon that. I went to Mr. Churchill on two or three occasions, to try and get the account settled, but Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith were much better able to check this account than I was, and therefore I did not interfere with their proceedings.

456. If they thought an account was correct you were satisfied with it?—Yes, I felt I was justified: I should not be justified in being otherwise than satisfied, those parties having had a more intimate knowledge of the working of the election than I had.

457. What did you consider your particular duty as election agent appointed under the act of Parliament?—I considered my duties consisted in receiving the accounts connected with the election, and discharging them.

458. You did not think it part of your duty to examine them?—Yes, I did; and I did examine those upon which I felt I could exercise perhaps as good a discretion and as good a knowledge as those parties to whom I have referred. I could not, for example, check the accounts for payments made to the messengers, because I had not engaged them, and therefore I received the representations of those parties who could judge of their services as correct; but as regards those accounts that I have referred to, they were pointed out to me. They said, "This account must be reduced;" and I then brought my services into play.

459. But as regards the number of messengers, or the amount paid to messengers, you trusted entirely to Messrs. Bretherton and Jordan?—I did. I should be sorry to refer to Mr. Jordan or Mr. Bretherton particulraly, but they were the parties who were more immediately in communication with me on the subject, and therefore I concluded that they were the parties who were able to form a right judgment.

460. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I do not understand where these accounts came from; you being the election agent of Mr. Monk, the accounts ought to have been sent in to you. Where did these accounts come from? Who sent them in to you, to begin with? "Mr. A. G. Jones, 50*l.*" Is there a bill of Mr. A. G. Jones's of 50*l.*?—Yes.

461. Have you got it here?—It is with the vouchers, I conclude.

462. Was that sent in to you?—That is myself.

463. "Mr. James Bretherton"?—Mr. James Bretherton did not send me his account. Mr. Bretherton is the gentleman to whom I have referred.

464. Have you paid Mr. Bretherton?—Yes.

465. Did you pay him by a cheque, or how?—I paid the whole amount of this account to Mr. Bretherton.

466. Did Mr. Bretherton give you a receipt for that 12*l.* 10*s.*?—I have no doubt that receipt is among the vouchers; he did not give it to me.

467. Who did he give it to?—I believe he gave it to the auditor, who handed them in this morning. They were handed to the auditor by Mr. Bretherton or Mr. Jordan; there was a joint action by them. There was a representation to me, as I have before stated, that the auditor had authorized Jordan more particularly to settle the accounts, as he had done on former occasions, and I thought I should be right in paying the amount of this account into his hands.

468. Then did you pay 464*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* to Mr. Jordan?—I did, to Mr. Jordan and Mr. Bretherton.

469. Was it your own cheque, or Mr. Monk's?—I paid it in cash.

470. Had you received the money from Mr. Monk before you paid it?—I had.

471. Is that all the money you received?—That is all.

472. All the money you received from him at all?—No; it is not all the money, for I received also at the same time an estimated sum to cover the auditor's poundage.

473. With the addition of that, you received nothing else from Mr. Monk?—I have received nothing else. I think I am right in saying so. If I have, they were very trifling sums. I believe I have received nothing else.

474. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive that money in cash from Mr. Monk, or by cheque?—By cheque.

475. Upon what bank?—I think one cheque was on a London banker.

476. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) There were two cheques, then?—Two cheques.

477. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were they both upon the same bankers?—I think not; I think one was a London banker.

478. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was the name?—I think Hoares'; it was a London banker, at all events.

479. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And what was the other banker?—The other was a country banker.

480. Which?—The Gloucestershire Banking Company, I think.

481. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you ever been applied to for payment of any other bills except those included in this account?—I have not, in connexion with the election. Here is the account; of the election expenses not of the petition expenses; there are the bills for the election expenses. I have not received any others.

482. Were you Mr. Monk's agent in the petition?—I was.

483. Was Mr. Bretherton a member of the Reform Club?—I do not know.

484. Have you never heard?—I asked Mr. Bretherton the question this morning, and I think his reply was "No."

485. I understand you to say you were appointed election agent. You seem to have been appointed an agent for this election by a number of solicitors who met together for that purpose?—It was a kind of mutual compact, that is how I received it, with a view to concert measures.

486. On behalf of the party?—On behalf of the party generally.

487. Was that on behalf of the Reform Club?—Certainly not. I did not consider that I was employed by the Reform Club.

488. Who appointed the messengers?—I cannot say.

489. Did the messengers send in bills for their expenses?—That I do not know; I should think not.

490. You left the whole management of the expenses, in point of fact, to Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan?—I think Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan had a great deal to do with the management of those expenses.

491. Was anybody employed by you on behalf of Mr. Monk in the election?—No.

492. Then you were not Mr. Monk's agent for any other purpose except that of receiving the bills and paying the money?—Except in so far as may be inferred from the meeting to which I have alluded, and my acting.

493. Did you canvass with Mr. Monk?—Yes.

494. Did you ever communicate with Mr. Monk on the subject of the expenditure necessary for the election?—Not previously to the election.

495. When did you conceive that you were first engaged by Mr. Monk as his agent?—At the time I received my appointment, on the 27th April.

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496. Not before?—Not before?

497. Had you no communication before with Mr. Monk on the subject of the election?—No.

498. When you canvassed with Mr. Monk, did you canvass as a friend rather than as an agent?—I did; with the explanation I have given to you of that concerted arrangement.

499. Who was Mr. Monk's agent, then, for the management of his election?—I do not know.

500. Do you not know, as a matter of reputation, who was acting for Mr. Monk for the three weeks previous to the election?—I must refer you to that meeting.

501. You say you were not the agent yourself for any other purpose except the payment of these bills?—Except so far as may be inferred from my consenting to use my endeavours at the time of the meeting.

502. But are not those acts which every committeeman does? Was there a committee?—Not that I know of; I never attended a committee.

503. Are you at all aware whether Mr. Monk had any committee?—I am not aware.

504. Are you not aware of your own knowledge or by reputation?—No; not of my own knowledge or by reputation.

505. Are you aware whether there was a room?—There were two or three rooms.

506. Where?—In the Westgate Street, very near this hall. There were two or three working-rooms where the result of the day's canvass was received and posted, and where the working part of the election was carried on.

507. Was there no room recognized as the committee-room of Mr. Monk?—I do not know of such a room.

508. With a placard on the outside of it, "Mr. Monk's committee-room?"—Not that I observed; there may have been; but my visits to that room were very infrequent.

509. Which room was that?—Those rooms I have spoken of.

510. How many rooms were there?—I saw two opposite each other; one room was a room in which Mr. Jordan particularly presided, and received the result of the canvass, and the other seemed to be a sort of messengers' room. I do not think I ever was in it.

511. Were the two rooms in the same house?—In the same house.

512. Did you not consider that house Mr. Monk's committee-room?—No, I did not. In the general acceptation of the term, I suppose you would call them committee-rooms; they were used as a place of resort.

513. Surely you know what a committee-room is?—Yes.

514. Who hired the rooms?—I do not know.

515. Were they not hired by you?—No.

516. Is there any charge for the committee-room in the account?—I believe there is. I do not know. Yes, here is the item.

517. You must have known then that there was a committee-room at all events?—I should presume that those rooms that were in use were engaged before the canvass.

518. Did you consider it your duty to know nothing about the election for which you were engaged as agent for one of the candidates?—I worked within the sphere of my own influence, and that is all the interest I took in the election.

519. As a friend, and not as an agent?—That is the spirit under which I acted.

520. (*Mr. Welford.*) You were paid?—Yes, I was, afterwards; but I was not aware that I should be paid.

521. Your work then was done on speculation?—Not at all.

522. You made no charge?—I did make a charge, because I was requested to do so. I was told, "You must make a charge." I said, "I shall leave it to you."

523. Who said that you must make a charge?—I think it was Mr. Bretherton, but I will not be certain.

524. Then you wish to leave us under the idea that you knew just as much of these accounts as Mr. Bretherton chose to allow you to know?—To a certain extent, as regards the higher amounts, the working staff of this election, and those arrangements which came more particularly under those parties who would undertake those arrangements, Mr. Bretherton, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Jordan.

525. You mention those names, Mr. Bretherton, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Jordan. Do you not know of anybody else acting either as the committee or as agents of Mr. Monk?—Yes.

526. Who were they?—Those solicitors I have mentioned as having attended that meeting.

527. You considered them as Mr. Monk's agents, as much as yourself?—I considered them as agents of the Liberal candidates.

528. Besides those agents, did you know of anybody else who constituted the committee?—No, I did not.

529. Did you ever hear of a man named Brewer Monk?—Yes.

530. Did he take any part in the election?—Yes.

531. Was he not one of Mr. Monk's committee?—That I do not know; I do not know who Mr. Monk's committee were.

532. You know there was a committee then?—I do not; I conclude there was one.

533. I suppose you mean you do not know it of your own knowledge?—Yes.

534. You do not mean to say you have not heard of it?—A committee is so much a necessary part of the arrangement and management of an election that I should conclude there was a committee.

535. I should have thought so too till I heard your evidence?—I did not intend to give that impression: I am asked as to my own knowledge, and I must confine my evidence to that.

536. I asked you what you knew by reputation?—I should be very sorry to give my evidence as to what I have heard, because what I have heard is of a very uncertain character.

537. Had you any communication with Brewer Monk, Mr. Innell, or Mr. Wilton?—Not during the election.

538. Previous to the election?—No, except, perhaps, casually meeting them in the street and making a passing remark: I knew nothing of their proceedings.

539. You said just now that no one had made any claim for money on you on behalf of Mr. Monk since the election?—Yes, that is so.

540. No one has?—No.

541. Has no one made any claim upon you whatever?—No.

542. Have you heard of any claims that have been made on Mr. Monk?—I have not.

543. Are you aware of the expenditure by Mr. Monk of any money besides that which has passed through your hands?—I am not.

544. Are you aware of the expenditure of any money on his behalf?—I am not.

545. I need scarcely ask whether you have heard of it?—I heard the evidence in London on the petition; that is the only knowledge that has come to me.

546. Did that evidence take you by surprise?—Very much by surprise.

547. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any cheques come to your hands from Mr. Monk except the one on Hoare's Bank and the other from the Gloucester Banking Company?—No.

548. No cheques at all?—No.

549. Nor any money except the proceeds of those two cheques?—No.

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A. G. Jones.
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550. Neither from Mr. Monk nor from anybody else?—No: I am not certain that it was Hoare's bank; it was a London banker: I think now, on further reflection, it was Drummond's.

551. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it Mr. Monk's own cheque—was he the drawer of the cheque?—I think he was—yes.

552. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were no party to bringing Mr. Monk down to this city?—No, I was not.

J. Bretherton.

JAMES BRETHERTON sworn and examined.

553. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

554. You were engaged professionally in conducting the election for Mr. Monk?—Yes, and for Mr. Price.

555. For Mr. Price also?—I considered myself as engaged.

556. By whom were you retained?—I can hardly say; I cannot say.

557. Did you receive any retainer?—No; not in writing. There was a meeting of the Liberal solicitors called, at which several attended. I believe there had been some difficulty in getting any one to take the management for the Liberal candidates, and it was offered to me; I declined it entirely, and it was agreed that there should be a meeting of all the solicitors called of the Liberal party.

558. Was that the meeting which had been referred to by Mr. Jones, the last witness?—Yes.

559. You attended that meeting?—I attended it.

560. After that, did you consent to act for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did, as an agent.

561. Professionally?—Professionally.

562. Did you consider that you were appointed at that meeting?—Yes, I did.

563. And was that appointment afterwards ratified by the candidates?—I am not aware of any ratification; I never received any, directly or indirectly, from the candidates. I took it as a matter of course.

564. Have you received your professional fee since that time?—I have.

565. I suppose you were actively engaged during the election from the time you were appointed down to the close?—I was.

566. Were you brought into communication with the members of the Reform Club here?—I met many of them occasionally.

567. Did you meet them with an object and a purpose?—As members of the Reform Club.

568. Did you meet them with an object and a purpose?—No.

569. Did you not meet them with reference to the conduct of the election?—I met them as I should meet anybody else interested in the election on the same side.

570. Had the Reform Club a committee-room where they met?—They have a room at an inn.

571. Where the members are in the habit of meeting?—Yes.

572. What inn is that?—The Fountain.

573. Did you from time to time go to the room at the Fountain?—I never was in the room but once, at any meeting of the Reform Club; that was some time previous to the election.

574. Previous to your appointment?—Yes, some time.

575. Did you communicate with any of the members of that club with regard to the election?—No.

576. Do you know Mr. Wilton?—Yes.

577. Mr. Innell?—Yes.

578. Mr. Brewer Monk?—Yes. I met them frequently in the course of the election, but I never met them as members of the Reform Club.

579. Did you consult and confer with them as to proceedings desirable to be adopted or as to measures to be taken for the advancement of the interests of the two Liberal candidates?—I cannot say that I did.

580. You cannot say that you did?—I think I can say that I did not.

581. Did you or did you not? Did you confer with them as to the progress of the election and the course of proceedings?—I conferred with them and many others, as it might happen in the course of a day, but never with a view to taking instructions from them, because I did not consider I was acting under their retainer.

582. During the time you were acting as a solicitor, (which was about three weeks, I imagine, from what Mr. Jones has stated, before the election up to the period of the election,) from whom did you receive instructions as to any part you were to take in the conduct of it?—I considered myself one of the managers of the election.

583. What part then did you take as a manager?—I attended the committee-room. At the meeting of the solicitors that has been referred to it was agreed that Mr. Smith and myself should act as presidents of the committee of attornies, as they were called, and attend as we conveniently could. Mr. Smith generally attended in the morning, and I was there in the evening, with some exceptions.

584. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where did you attend?—At the room.

585. Do you mean the committee-room?—The committee-room.

586. You have no doubt it was a committee-room?—There is no doubt it was a committee-room. It is charged as a committee-room in the account.

587. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were one of the presidents of the committee of attornies?—Yes.

588. Was that a distinct body from any other committee?—They were simply called the committee; there was no other committee, that I am aware of.

589. Was that a committee appointed and which sat for the purpose of arranging matters with reference to the election of Messrs. Price and Monk?—I cannot say that. The committee assisted in the conduct of the election, but they were merely a committee in name.

590. You called it a committee of attornies?—That term was used.

591. Were the names of the persons forming that committee published?—No; they were not published as a committee.

592. But although it was considered and called a committee of attornies, there were many persons, I suppose, on the committee who were not attornies?—A great many persons attended the committee-room who were not attornies. We availed ourselves of the assistance of any one who attended and offered assistance. In fact, I thought it was objectionable that there should be a committee.

593. Did you know of the existence of any other committee, except that which you call the committee of attornies?—I did not.

594. Do you not know of any now?—No.

595. Did you not know, or do you not now know, that a committee sat at the house of a person named Hutton?—No.

596. Do you not know that now?—That a committee sat there? There were voters in different wards allotted to different persons; whether they met at the house of any one in the ward or not I cannot say; they might have done so, and called it a district committee-room.

597. Did you as the committee acting in Westgate Street parcel out the city into wards or districts?—Yes.

598. And hand over those wards or districts to particular sub-committees?—Yes; to certain persons who were named as either living in or having influence in the wards. How they regulated their proceedings I do not know.

599. Then if in any ward or district persons met together at the house of any individual, and there formed a committee, that was an arrangement unknown to you?—Exactly.

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600. Was there any communication kept up from time to time between what may be considered the central or principal committee-room and the persons that you nominated as sub-committee men in these districts?—Yes; the sub-committee had to make their returns to Mr. Jordan, who sat at the principal committee-room, and he entered in the canvass books the returns so brought in.

601. Do you know a person named Hutton, a hairdresser?—Yes.

602. Was he one of your sub-committee men?—I believe he was.

603. As to whether a body of persons assembled at his house you are not aware?—I attended one meeting there, and only one.

604. At his house?—At his house I met several of the persons in the ward.

605. Did you know they were in the habit of meeting there?—No, I did not.

606. Were the appointments of persons employed at the committee-room made by yourself?—Not alone. I really forget whether I had anything to do with the appointments. I rather think I was present when the list was gone through, and the votes uncanvassed or not promised were allotted into different wards. When the canvass had been partly gone through, or when the general canvass had been gone through, then it was, I think, that sub-committees were appointed to look after those that no return had been made of.

607. That is not exactly an answer to my question. My question was, Did you appoint any persons who were employed and paid for services at the committee-room?—No.

608. Who appointed the messengers?—Mr. Brewer Monk.

609. Was that by your instructions?—Well, it was done before I knew it had been done. I sanctioned it, by paying him the money for them.

610. What other persons besides messengers were employed at that committee-room?—There was a staff of clerks there in one of the rooms; a room that I hardly ever went into; but I know there were a great number employed.

611. Was there any choice exercised in the appointment either of messengers or clerks, that you know of?—I suppose Mr. Brewer Monk exercised some choice; but I knew of none.

612. Did you appoint the clerks?—No.

613. Who appointed the clerks?—Really I do not know. I did not.

614. Were the returns of the canvass submitted to you from time to time?—No; I was seldom there when the returns came in. They were usually handed to Mr. Jordan, who kept the books, and had to post up the general canvass book day by day. I was there two or three times, I think, when the book was brought in, with the day's return, and assisted in posting it up. Mr. Jordan kept the general book.

615. Do you know whether or not after the first general canvass was made it appeared that a large majority had promised their votes either to one candidate or another?—Yes; a very large majority.

616. That was upon the first canvass?—As soon as the canvass had been gone through.

617. Was the first general canvass made about three weeks before the election?—Yes, it was.

618. Then when the first general canvass had been gone through you found that a very large majority of the electors had already promised to one or the other candidate?—Yes; a large majority.

619. You say Mr. Jordan posted up the returns Do you know whether Mr. Jordan has the returns of the canvass?—I have no doubt he has.

620. Can you say how many of the whole body of electors had declined to promise their votes upon the first general canvass?—No, I cannot.

621. You cannot say that?—No.

622. But I presume the returns that Mr. Jordan would be able to furnish us with would show that?—I should hardly think they would, because the promises would not be distinguished by the time when the returns of them were made. As they came in they were posted up, and it would be impossible for anybody to tell on what day the return was made.

623. But an account of them was kept from day to day, I suppose?—Yes, from day to day; but there would be nothing in the book to show on what day a particular promise had been given or a return of it made.

624. Did you take part in the election of 1857?—I did.

625. Did you compare the returns of those voters who had promised on the first general canvass in 1859 with those who had voted in 1857?—I did not.

626. And you do not know whether or not it appeared that a number of the electors who had voted for the liberals in 1857 declined to promise their votes in 1859. You cannot say that?—No, I cannot say that. It is always the case that there are some on both sides.

627. Did you authorise the opening of any public houses?—I did not.

628. Do you know what public houses actually were opened?—I do not think any were opened. Of course every public house is open and free to any one to go in, and there were several frequented by partisans; but I do not think or believe that any house in the city was opened by either of the parties; not in the sense in which opening a house at an election is generally understood.

629. I have not looked at the abstract of the accounts, and therefore do not speak from any knowledge I have upon the subject; but do those accounts contain any statement of expenses incurred at public houses?—None whatever.

630. Then, so far as you are able to state, there were no refreshments dispensed gratuitously to any of the electors on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk?—I never heard of any, and I do not believe there were any.

631. Have you read the evidence taken before the committee in London?—I have not read it through. I looked at it as it came down from time to time while it was being given.

632. But you have not read the minutes of evidence, have you?—I have not read the minutes in print.

633. With regard to those accounts which were submitted to the auditor, you have heard the statement made by Mr. Jones upon the subject. He stated in substance that he made no payment at all of the monies for which bills were sent in, but that he handed the money over to yourself and Mr. Jordan?—Yes.

634. That is so?—That is right.

635. Did he hand over the amount of the account?—400*l.* and odd.

636. He handed over that money to you?—Yes.

637. Was the like sum handed over on the part of Mr. Price by Mr. Ellis?—It was.

638. And were the total expenses of the election, as far as you understood them from the bills rendered, divided by yourself and Mr. Jordan between Mr. Monk and Mr. Price?—They were.

639. Did you pay those bills yourself?—Yes, I did, all but the messengers. The messengers and clerks were paid by Mr. Brewer Monk, but he had the amount named in the account from me.

640. The money for that purpose you gave to him?—Yes, as stated in the account.

641. Was the arrangement which you yourself and Mr. Jordan came to, that Mr. Jordan should pay Mr. Price's share of the accounts that were sent in, at least that were included in the account returned to the auditor by the election agents, and that you were to pay the other accounts?—No; the money all came through my hands.

642. Was all the money paid to you?—All the money was paid to me.

643. Did you pay all the accounts?—They were paid by me to the different parties. I do not say that I paid them entirely myself, but they were paid either

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J. Bretherton.

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by me or for me. I do not mean that I paid them all with my own hands.

644. What course was adopted with regard to getting in the accounts?—Many of them we made out ourselves; the solicitors' accounts for instance.

645. The solicitors' accounts were made out by yourself?—Yes; and as to the tradesmen's accounts, some came in to me, and some to Mr. Smith; some were sent, I believe, to Mr. Ellis's office, and some to Mr. Jones's; but they were all forwarded to me as they came in.

646. Did you advertise that all claims which might be made should be sent in to yourself or the election agent?—I do not recollect any advertisement; there might have been one, but I do not recollect it.

647. Were the sums you paid to the various parties who had claims upon the candidates the true sums that appeared in the various bills sent in?—Certainly.

648. They were the true sums?—Yes.

649. Was there any deduction made from any of them by you?—Not that I recollect.

650. You do not remember any?—No. There were some objected to, but those were afterwards paid. In the audited account there are sums which are stated to have been objected to, but afterwards paid, except the Sheriff's; that is still objected to, and not paid.

651. With the exception of the Sheriff's account, the accounts sent in, although at one time some of them were objected to, have now been paid?—Yes; some were objected to, and have now been paid.

652. Do you know that besides those accounts that have been so paid there are other accounts outstanding, for which the persons to whom the money is due or alleged to be due expect they shall be afterwards reimbursed by either of the candidates?—I do not know of any; I do not recollect any.

653. Has any claim been made upon you since the rendering of that account?—No.

654. No claim has been made?—Not that I recollect; I do not recollect any at all.

655. To the best of your belief, is there any account outstanding which either Mr. Price or Mr. Monk might be called on to pay?—To the best of my belief there is not. I have no doubt about it; there is none, so far as I am aware.

656. I gather from your evidence that the amounts of the bills sent in have been paid by you, with the exception of the Sheriff's, and that there is no account outstanding to which either of the Liberal candidates is liable. Is that so?—Yes.

657. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many messengers were employed?—I do not know. It was left entirely in the hands of Mr. Brewer Monk; it was always the practice in Gloucester to let such a man as that have the arrangement of paying messengers.

658. You accepted his account for messengers?—Yes.

659. As to the number and as to the amount?—Yes.

660. Do you know how many clerks were employed?—No.

661. Or what they were paid?—No; except the amount paid to them through Mr. Brewer Monk.

662. You were content with his scale of remuneration?—Yes, quite.

663. Do you know whether the persons employed as servants or as messengers were voters or not?—Some I dare say were, but I do not know; I have no doubt that some of them were.

664. Then the account you handed in would show the total sum paid to each class of persons?—Yes.

665. Would it separate clerks from messengers?—Yes; so much for clerks and so much for messengers.

666. Was any proportion of the account delivered in for refreshments?—I think not.

667. Neither for the clerks nor for the messengers or voters?—I do not recollect anything; if there is it is very trifling, but I do not think there is anything.

668. Do you know whether anything is due to the landlord of the Berkeley Arms?—Not that I am aware of.

669. Has he not made a claim of 20*l.* or upwards?—I certainly never saw it or heard of it.

670. Do you know of the application of any other money than that which you sent in in the accounts to the auditor?—No, I do not.

671. Do you know of any sums applied in bribery?—I do not. I never applied any myself, and cautiously avoided putting myself in such a position.

672. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have stated that there was a committee-room in Westgate Street?—Yes.

673. Can you give me the names of all those persons who you considered members of that committee?—No; they came and went; any persons belonging to the party went in and out as they liked.

674. You have also stated that the borough was parcelled out into districts in which sub-committee men were appointed?—Yes.

675. Can you give me the names of the sub-committee men who had a district under their charge?—No, indeed I cannot.

676. You have no document to show it?—I have no doubt their names were entered, and Mr. Jordan probably would have a minute of them.

677. There were books kept?—Yes; canvass books.

678. Are they in existence now?—I do not know.

679. In whose possession were they?—Mr. Jordan's.

680. Then you cannot tell me who the sub-committee men were?—No.

681. I suppose these sub-committee men attended the general committee also?—No, not all of them; perhaps there might be some of them there. I recollect the time when they were appointed; any one present who thought a person a proper man for one of the district committees suggested his name, and he was put down.

682. Can you give me the names of some of the principal committee-men in Westgate Street?—I think Mr. Ping was one in Westgate Street.

683. Was Mr. Wilton?—I should say not; he does not reside in that part of the town. They were generally appointed with a view to their place of residence.

684. I am speaking of the principal members of the chief committee?—I thought you were speaking of the district committee men. Mr. Wilton no doubt came. As I have said before, there was no committee ever appointed. If you ask me who took an active part I should say Mr. Wilton and Mr. Innell did.

685. Can you give me some other names?—Mr. Robinson, Mr. Knight; the solicitors I need not name; Mr. Ping, Mr. Biggs.

686. Mr. Brewer Monk, I suppose?—Yes. I really do not now recollect anybody else, though there were very many others. Mr. Jeffs I recollect.

687. Mr. Hall?—I do not recollect ever seeing Mr. Hall at the committee-room; very likely he was there.

688. At the time of this meeting that you speak of as having taken place amongst the solicitors was Mr. Monk a candidate?—Yes, certainly.

689. Then he was not brought down by you?—No.

690. Had you anything whatever to do with bringing Mr. Monk here?—Nothing whatever.

691. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who invited him?—I believe he was invited by two or three members of the Reform Club who went to London for the purpose.

692. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But you resolved at this meeting of solicitors to support him, in conjunction with Mr. Price?—Certainly.

693. You have lived in this town for many years, have you not?—I was born in it, and have lived in it all my life.

694. Do you know anything by reputation of the borough with respect to the purity of its elections?—Yes; I know pretty well the character of it.

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695. Could you give me your ideas upon that subject?—I could not give you any particulars; it would be a mere matter of opinion.

696. (*Mr. Welford.*) Such practices have not been within your own knowledge?—I have never had anything to do with the practices you refer to, but it is undoubtedly known to all parties that they exist and have existed.

697. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) And did exist at the last election?—Yes; there is no doubt about it, as well as at previous ones. I should doubt whether any election for Gloucester was ever carried on without such practices, more or less; I mean any contested election.

698. Have you any information that you can give to the Commissioners upon that subject?—No, I have not; I merely know it by common repute.

699. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The return, I suppose, of the election expenses is a pretty clean bill of health, is it not?—Yes.

700. You do not find any evidence of corrupt practices in that?—No.

701. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were there any expenses that you refused to pay on the ground that they were illegal?—No; not that I am aware of.

702. You personally made no such payments?—No.

703. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was a gentleman of the name of Richards one of those who attended the committee of solicitors?—I think not.

704. Is there a solicitor of that name in Gloucester?—Yes.

705. Mr. Swan?—Mr. Swan was not present; at least I think not.

706. Was either of those gentlemen employed on behalf of the Liberal candidates?—Mr. Swan was not, certainly. I think Mr. Richards was. Yes, Mr. Richards was.

J. Bretherton.

26 Sept. 1859.

Mr. Carter.—It has been stated that I authorized Mr. Jordan to make these payments; I certainly did not authorize it. I had no power to give such authority, but I said that whether he made them, or whether I did, did not appear to me to be of much consequence. The first break down was as to the payment of messengers in 1857. There were a great number of messengers, and it was distinctly asked me whether I would undertake to pay those messengers individually, or whether they should pay them.

707. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) But it appears that you left it open to the discretion of those gentlemen?

Mr. Carter.—Yes. I never had a farthing of money placed in my hands, as I had at the former election of 1857; and as to the general statement of account, it was only delivered to me on the 29th or 30th July. On my receiving a summons to attend before the Commissioners, I called for the accounts, but they were never handed to me till Saturday evening last.

708. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The only difference between you is, that these gentlemen say you authorized them to pay, and your statement is that you did not exactly authorize them, but that you gave them a discretion to pay?

Mr. Carter.—Yes; I did not authorize it. I did not consider it of much consequence who paid them; it mattered not to the candidates whether they were paid by me or by them, except that it did not comply with the Act of Parliament; it was a matter of no consequence to anybody.

709. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The Act of Parliament seems to have been altogether disregarded?

Mr. Carter.—Yes; and I believe that that has been universally the case. I believe that one of the barristers on the occasion of one of the petitions said it was all bosh.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON sworn and examined.

J. P. Wilton.

707. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are, I believe, a surgeon in this place?—Yes, I am.

708. And an elector of this borough?—Yes, I am.

709. You are also connected, I believe, with a club called the Reform Club?—Yes, I am.

710. Is that a club in the nature of a benefit society?—That is exactly the nature of it; it is certified under the Benefit Societies Act by Mr. Tidd Pratt.

711. Of what number of members does it consist?—I do not know exactly. This is a copy of the rules (*producing a book*).

712. The number of members you are not acquainted with?—I think it is about five hundred now.

713. Is it, as well as being a friendly society club, a political club?—The first rule expresses all the political principles that there are in it, namely, that it is necessary for any person who wishes to join that club to profess Liberal principles; that is the only political bearing it has. You will find that in the first or second rule.

714. The third rule is, "That every person in the city of Gloucester and neighbourhood shall be deemed eligible to become a member who shall profess Liberal principles?"—Yes.

715. Then it is a club from which any person not being a person professing Liberal principles would be excluded?—I do not suppose they would wish to join it.

716. Prior to the dissolution of the last Parliament did the Reform Club take any part with respect to bringing forward a gentleman to be supported by them, and returned to Parliament in the place of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

717. About how long before the dissolution of Parliament was it that the Reform Club took any initiative on the subject?—The initiative was taken between three and four months before; it commenced at that time by a requisition being numerously signed and sent to Admiral Berkeley, requesting him to come forward to contest the city, as he had done on previous occasions. A deputation went down to Berkeley Castle, about seventeen miles from here, and Admiral Berkeley received that deputation; and after reading the requisition, and consulting some of the members who were present, as well as his local legal adviser, he consented to come forward. After he had given his consent, it became known to his legal advisers in London that he had done so, and they wrote to him, informing him that his coming forward as a candidate to represent the city of Gloucester was a bar to his claim to a seat in the House of Lords. Consequently, he wrote to the electors of the city of Gloucester a letter, stating that he should be unable to come forward. Immediately after the receipt of that letter a meeting was held of some of the electors, principally consisting of the committee of the Reform Club, to whom this communication was addressed. There were some few others besides the committee who were invited to attend that meeting, and it was then agreed that as Sir Maurice Berkeley could not contest the city some other candidate should be sought for.

718. When was that?—I cannot give you the exact date, but it was just a week before the division on the late Government Reform Bill. I have not looked at the date. I believe the letter arrived in Gloucester on the Thursday or Friday, and the division was on that day week.

719. When you found that Sir Maurice Berkeley could not come forward as a candidate, what course then was adopted by the Reform Club?—There was no meeting of the Reform Club; there was a meeting of the committee, and, as I said before, some few other members of the Liberal party, persons of influence.

720. Can you tell me the names of those gentlemen who met together on that occasion?—I really cannot.

721. Can you recollect some of their names; I suppose if they were leading members of the Reform Club you can tell?—I know who were invited.

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722. Was it a numerous meeting ?—It was a meeting of about twelve or fourteen, I should think.

723. Where did you meet ? — That meeting was held at the Saracen's Head.

724. Is that the inn where the Reform Club, generally speaking, holds its meetings ?—No ; the Reform Club generally holds its monthly meetings at the Fountain; but committee meetings are held occasionally elsewhere, if it is not convenient to meet at the Fountain.

725. And on this occasion you met at the Saracen's Head ?—Yes.

726. By whom is that house kept ?—By a person of the name of Organ.

727. Is he a member of your club ?—Yes, he is, I think he is an honorary ; because there are two classes of members.

728. Those gentlemen having met together, what was the result of the conference ?—The result of the conference was, that a sub-committee was appointed of those gentlemen to look for a candidate, to take what steps they thought best to secure a candidate.

729. Did you take those steps ?—Yes.

730. Who were appointed as that sub-committee ? —Mr. Innell and myself. I do not know who the others were besides Mr. Innell and myself. We were the persons who acted in the matter.

731. Mr. Innell and yourself were appointed the sub-committee ?—Yes.

732. Did you cast about for a candidate for some time before you met with one ?—No. There were some names suggested to us, and we consulted, and endeavoured to learn whether these gentlemen would come forward ; and as we found nobody in the neighbourhood of Gloucester that would be likely to stand, it was agreed that two of us should go to London as a deputation to endeavour to find a candidate.

733. And did the deputation go ?—Yes.

734. Who was the deputation ?—It consisted of Mr. Innell and myself. Mr. Herbert was to have gone with us, but urgent private affairs kept him at home. He was one of those who was present.

735. (*Mr. Welford.*) He was one of the sub-committee ?—Yes.

736. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Mr. Herbert ?—He is an attorney residing at Longford, about a mile from this city.

737. When you went to London, to whom did you go ?—The first person we waited u was Mr. Price, the member for Gloucester.

738. Where did you see him ?—We saw Mr. Price at the Reform Club.

739. You and Mr. Innell and Mr. Price ?—Yes.

740. Did you state to him your object in coming to London ?—Yes.

741. Did he give you any recommendation ; did he name any person to you ?—Mr. Price declined to interfere ; he said he thought he had no right to dictate to the electors who should be his colleague.

742. Was it upon that visit to London that you first of all became acquainted with Mr. Monk ?—I had known him for many years.

743. But in a political point of view ?—His name had been mentioned in Gloucester. He was one of those whose names we were requested to see.

744. He was a gentleman you were requested to see before you left Gloucester ?—Yes.

745. Did you mention that to Mr. Price ?—Yes.

746. Did Mr. Price approve or dissent from it ?— Mr. Price did not then express any opinion at all.

747. That was at your first meeting ?—At our first meeting with Mr. Price.

748. Did you see Mr. Price more than once in London upon that occasion ?—We saw him again in the evening ; in the afternoon, at least, first of all, and again at night.

749. Can you tell me what day it was ?—It was on Sunday ; I cannot tell you which Sunday.

750. About how many weeks before the election ?— I think by an almanack I have I can tell you what the date was (*the witness refers to an almanack*). The only date I can give you is, as I said before, with reference to the division on the Reform Bill. It was the Sunday before the division on Lord John Russell's amendment.

751. Then you saw Mr. Price on the evening of that same day ?—Yes.

752. Was any person with Mr. Price when you saw him upon that occasion ?—There was somebody with us when Mr. Price joined us.

753. Who was with you ?—Mr. George Moffatt.

754. Is that the member of Parliament ?—Yes ; the late member for Ashburton. We saw Mr. Price in the afternoon, and had a desultory conversation about the state of parties in Gloucester, but nothing particular transpired on that occasion.

755. How happened it that Mr. Moffatt was with you at that time ?—We had previously seen Mr. Monk, and after a conversation with Mr. Monk he told us he should like to consult some of his friends, and he should like us also to see one of his friends.

756. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You saw Mr. Monk after you had seen Mr. Price the first time, and before you saw him in the evening ?—Whilst we were talking with Mr. Price in the afternoon at the Reform Club, Mr. Charles James Monk came in, and we then spoke to him, and had a conversation with him at that time.

757. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that the first time you had seen Mr. Monk in London ?—That was the first time we had seen him in London.

758. Was the result of the afternoon meeting between yourself and Mr. Price and Mr. Monk the fact of your meeting again in the evening ?—Yes.

759. Had you seen Mr. Moffatt in the afternoon ?— No.

760. Did Mr. Monk mention Mr. Moffatt's name as the friend he would wish to consult ?—Not then.

761. Did you afterwards understand that he was the gentleman ?—Yes.

762. Was it arranged that Mr. Moffatt should accompany you to the evening meeting ?—No ; that is not exactly the order.

763. I thought you said Mr. Moffatt was with you when you saw Mr. Price in the evening ?—Yes. While we were talking to Mr. Moffatt Mr. Price came in. We saw Mr. Monk in the afternoon. Mr. Monk told us he should wish us to meet a friend of his, and asked us whether we would do so ; we expressed a willingness, and he then made an appointment to meet us at the Golden Cross, Charing Cross, at nine o'clock. He came about half-past nine, and then we went with him back to the Reform Club, where we were introduced to Mr. Moffatt.

764. When you met together in the evening did Mr. Monk then accept the invitation to stand as a candidate ?—Not definitively then ; he did not do so until the following morning.

765. Was there much conversation between you all in the evening ?—There was a good deal of conversation took place in the evening between Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Innell, and myself. A good deal more conversation took place between Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Innell, and myself and Mr. Price afterwards.

766. At your first meeting in the afternoon with Mr. Monk was anything said with regard to the amount of money that would be necessary to enable him to stand as a candidate at a contested borough ? —Never, from first to last, was one word said to Mr. Monk, either by Mr. Innell or myself, upon the subject.

767. Neither at that first meeting nor at any subsequent meeting down to the election ?—Not at any period, from first to last.

768. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) By you or Mr. Innell ?— By Mr. Innell or myself.

769. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To Mr. Monk ? —To Mr. Monk.

770. Before you went to London was it stated at the Reform Club that Mr. Monk would be a desirable candidate, because it was understood he was a wealthy man ?—I never heard it stated ; it certainly was

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never publicly stated at the Reform Club. I will not say it may not have been talked of among the people in the room, because as there were frequently a hundred to a hundred and fifty people in the room it may have been talked about; but that there was any public statement made to the electors I believe I can most emphatically deny; certainly not in my hearing.

771. Was there an opinion entertained among the Liberal electors in that Reform Club that it would be necessary to have a gentleman with money to contest the borough?—Yes, it was; at least that was my own opinion.

772. Was that the opinion entertained among the members of the Reform Club, so far as you know or had means of ascertaining what their opinions were?—That is a difficult question to answer.

773. Did you hear expressions made use of by persons that it would be of no use for any one to come forward who had not money?—No; I only heard what it was wished every candidate should be, that he should be some man who would support the ballot; that was the only qualification that ever was talked of publicly.

774. Were the names of any other gentlemen discussed by the members of the club, and were those gentlemen supposed to be ineligible because they had not a sufficient amount of money to contest the borough?—There never was any discussion among the members about any particular person; it was left entirely to this committee.

775. Was there anything said at the meeting in London at the Reform Club by Mr. Price with regard to the amount of money that would be required from the candidate?—No.

776. Neither in the afternoon nor in the evening?—No. There was something said in his presence, but Mr. Price did not say it.

777. Who did say it?—I believe that I was the person who said it.

778. What did you say?—I said I thought the probable expenses of two gentlemen contesting Gloucester, that is, Mr. Price with one other, would be from twelve to fifteen hundred pounds.

779. Of two gentlemen?—Of two gentlemen. I said of course that was only an idea that I had had since I had been in London, because I had not consulted anybody beforehand; but it appeared probable that such would be the case to Mr. Innell and myself.

780. Was that statement made by you at the time that Mr. Moffatt and Mr. Price were with you?—Yes.

781. At the Reform Club?—I believe so. I am not positive whether Mr. Price was in the room or not; he was going in and out constantly; whether he was in the room when that statement was made I could not say positively. I should not think it was made before Mr. Price.

782. Do you think that a sum of from twelve to fifteen hundred pounds would be necessary to cover the legal expenses of candidates contesting this borough?—I thought so. I had had no experience in such matters; but from my opinion I believe 1,500*l.* ought to cover the whole expenses of two Liberal candidates.

783. Did you consider that that sum would be necessary to defray the legal expenses?—It depends on what are legal expenses. I do not know whether messengers are legal expenses.

784. I will put it in this way: did you consider that sum necessary to cover the expenses of two candidates, if there was neither bribery nor treating practised?—I looked at it in this way: the only sum that I could recollect that would at all guide me was this, I believed that Sir Robert Carden's audited expenses in 1857 amounted to about 1,000*l.*; those are the audited expenses. I believe that was the sum; and I calculated that it ought not to cost two Liberals more than half as much again; that was the way in which I arrived at my calculation.

785. You thought that from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l.* would be absorbed in a contest conducted by two Liberal candidates without any bribery or treating being resorted to?—Without any bribery or treating being resorted to, with the exception of the payment of messengers; that I consider myself as treating, but I believe it is a legalised form of treating.

786. It all depends upon the manner in which the men are employed; it may be either bribery or it may not be bribery; but with the exception of the employment of messengers, you considered that 1.200*l.* or 1,500*l.* might be fairly expended in conducting the election in a legal manner?—I have given the only means of forming an opinion that I have. I have never mixed with any election before this. I know nothing of the management of elections, further than what I have picked up in this last election. Of course then I had no data from which to form an opinion.

787. This is the first election in which you have taken an active part?—I never took an active part before. I believe, on the day of polling in 1857, I walked up with one voter; that is all I had ever done previously.

788. After that meeting at the Reform Club on the Sunday evening in London, did you come back to Gloucester, or did you see Mr. Monk again?—I saw him on the following morning. He called upon us at the Golden Cross, Charing Cross, where we slept.

789. Had he then made up his mind as to what course he would adopt?—He had made up his mind then that he would contest the city.

790. Independently of either Mr. Price or Mr. Monk, did you have any private conversation with Mr. Moffatt?—Yes; we had a conversation as to the relative proportion of the sum that ought to be paid by the two candidates.

791. What was the effect of that conversation?—The effect of that conversation was this, that I considered, and I told Mr. Moffatt so, that I was quite sure such was the feeling in Gloucester among the Liberal electors, that as Mr. Price was in possession of one seat, and that unless there was a contest provoked by our side there would be no opposition, it would not be fair that the payment of expenses should be equal between the two candidates. I therefore suggested (I believe the suggestion came from myself; at any rate it was one that I quite approved of,) that Mr. Monk should pay two thirds of the expenses, and that Mr. Price should pay one third of the expenses.

792. Did Mr. Moffatt consider that that was a fair arrangement?—He did; at least I believe so; he made no objection to it.

793. Did you upon that occasion have any further communication with Mr. Moffatt with respect to the supply of money?—Nothing at all.

794. You did not make any arrangement with him with regard to the channel through which the money should come?—Nothing of the sort.

795. Have you told us in substance all that took place between yourself and Mr. Monk and Mr. Moffatt with respect to this election?—I have not told you all, because I have not told you all the inducements that we held out to Mr. Monk to show him that he had a probable chance of success.

796. What inducements did you hold out?—We told him we believed that there had been a very considerable change in the register; that there had been a gain of upwards of sixty to the Liberals on the register since the last election; that the requisition which had been presented to Admiral Berkeley had been signed by a sufficient number of persons who had pledged themselves, most of them, to support any two Liberal candidates (a sufficient number of Sir Robert Carden's supporters at the previous election) to have converted his majority of 33 into a minority. We told him there had been an immense amount of bribery at the previous election; that there was no doubt of that; and that we believed there was a very great amount of dissatisfaction among the Tory party

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in Gloucester, both with their own local leaders and with their parliamentary representative.

797. Those were the various inducements which you held out to Mr. Monk to suggest to him the propriety of his coming forward as a candidate?—Yes.

798. When you stated to him that there had been an immense amount of bribery at the last election, did you state to him that in all probability the coming election would be a pure one?—No; we made no statement about that.

799. No statement as to whether or not there would be the same amount of bribery which you say existed in 1857 practised in 1859, or whether the election would be conducted entirely on pure principles?—We made no statement about that.

800. But it would have been an important element for the consideration of Mr. Monk, to know in what manner the election was to be conducted, would it not?—I dare say Mr. Monk must have thought so. If we conveyed the impression we wished it was this; that there had been such a change in the sentiments of the electors that even a large amount of bribery would not suffice to carry in Sir Robert Carden again.

801. Did you mean to convey the impression to Mr. Monk that if he became a candidate it would be necessary for him to bribe in order to be returned?—Certainly not.

802. Did you convey to him the impression that without resorting to those practices he could not be returned?—Certainly not. If I understand your question correctly, it is this: Did we convey the impression that he could not be returned without bribery.

803. Yes. It was with reference to one of the inducements you held out, that there had been an immense amount of bribery at the election in 1857. That I understood you to say?—Yes.

804. Then I want to know whether you held out any idea to Mr. Monk that it would be necessary for him to practise bribery in order to succeed if he became a candidate?—Certainly not. We did not tell him in so many words; but what we intended to convey was, that if it was necessary to bribe largely in order to get a majority of 33 in 1857 there had been such a change in the electors here since that no amount of bribery would secure the election, at least that it would take a much greater amount of bribery to secure his opponent's return; not that it would be necessary for him to bribe to secure his own return.

805. I understand you to say that Sir Robert Carden's return in 1857 was largely to be attributable to bribery?—Yes.

806. And that was what you intended to convey at that time?—Yes, it was.

807. Did you see, at the Reform Club in London, a gentleman of the name of Parkes?—Yes.

808. Was he one of those gentlemen who were with you at the time you conferred with Mr. Monk, Mr. Price, and Mr. Moffatt?—Certainly not; no one was present but Mr. Price, Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Innell, and myself.

809. Was there a gentleman named Parsons present?—No; there was nobody else present.

810. Did you see a gentleman named Parsons?—Not that I know of.

811. Where was it you saw Mr. Parkes?—In the Great Hall of the Reform Club, talking there with several of the members. He came up, and was mentioning his going up from Gloucester, travelling with an uncle of mine in a post chaise, to lodge a petition against Mr. Hope. He mentioned the particulars of it.

812. It was a casual conversation?—Yes. Hearing that we were from Gloucester, he expressed an interest in the borough, and said he had known it ever since the passing of the Reform Bill.

813. Having received from Mr. Monk his consent to become a candidate, did you then return to Gloucester with Mr. Innell?—Yes, immediately.

814. And I suppose you communicated to the Reform Club the fact that Mr. Monk would become a candidate?—We had a meeting of the committee. It was arranged that we should be back on Monday night, and a meeting of the committee was summoned to get our report when we arrived. We did not inform the Reform Club immediately, but waited, I think, until the following Thursday, the committee having agreed first of all that Mr. Monk should be requested to attend that meeting on the following Thursday. I wrote to Mr. Monk, at their request, enclosing a resolution passed by the committee requesting him to attend the meeting on the following Thursday.

815. Mr. Monk, I presume, did attend?—Mr. Monk came down.

816. Was the result of his appearance a resolution that Mr. Monk should be adopted as the second Liberal candidate?—Yes, it was.

817. From the time of the passing of that resolution, is it the fact that Mr. Price's friends and Mr. Monk's friends co-operated for the return of both those gentlemen?—Exactly; I believe they did so from the very first, with the exception of about three or four gentlemen.

818. And the organization, I suppose, was then arranged of a committee, a sub-committee, and a district committee, for the purpose of canvassing, in order to insure their return?—Yes.

819. Can you give us the names of the committeemen?—I really cannot.

820. You can, I suppose, supply to us the names of the various parties that were employed?—No. After that I had nothing but a voice in the management. I took no part in the book-keeping or anything of that sort.

821. But I presume you were an active member of the committee yourself?—I was.

822. And you were backwards and forwards from the committee-room to the district committee-rooms?—Yes, I was.

823. The committee-room was in Westgate Street, was it not?—Yes, it was; next door below here.

824. What were the district committee-rooms; how many were there?—I only know of the two that I visited. One was at Mr. Hutton's, in Northgate Street; that was the north ward committee-room; and the other was a committee which met sometimes in one place and sometimes in another, but generally speaking they met at a public-house in Barton Street; that was the east ward committee.

825. What public-house was that?—The Crown and Thistle.

826. Then one committee met at Mr. Hutton's?—Yes.

827. That was the central committee-room?—The central committee-room near here. I really do not know where the other two were; they were entirely out of my beat, and I had nothing to do with them.

828. There was one committee that sat at Mr. Hutton's, and one at the Crown and Thistle?—I do not know that that was their fixed room; they met there occasionally. I do not think that the east ward had any fixed committee-room.

929. Mr. Hutton's was the north ward?—Yes.

830. And the other the east ward?—Yes.

831. How many district committees were there besides?—There were four wards, north, south, east, and west.

832. And a district committee sitting in each ward?—Yes.

833. But where the other committees sat you do not know?—I do not know, and I do not know who composed them.

834. Was your committee composed entirely of members of your Reform Club?—Not for election purposes only. You will see according to the rules there are certain meetings of the committee of the Reform Club, and those meetings were held as usual; but there were several special election meetings of that committee.

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835. Were there no meetings of the Reform Club held previous to or during the election which would not have been held but for the election coming on?—The Reform Club met once or twice in addition to their usual meetings.

836. Where did they meet?—At their usual meeting-room at the Fountain.

837. The committee of the Reform Club quâ committee only met at the regular place fixed by your rules?—Yes; for the transaction of the ordinary club business.

838. And when they met at the Fountain they met in a body?—Yes.

839. Were any of the arrangements necessary for conducting the election discussed or concocted at those meetings of the Reform Club?—No.

840. There was only in fact the ordinary business of the club or benefit society?—Yes. There were one or two meetings,—I think two, but certainly one, at which I myself was present to hear the report of how the Liberal candidates were getting on with their canvass.

841. Except as a member of the committee, do you wish us to understand that you did not yourself take any special part in the management of the election?—I really do not understand your question.

842. Except as a member of the central committee sitting here in Westgate Street, are we to understand that you did not take any special part in the conduct of the election?—I attended meetings of the electors and canvassed. As for any part in the management I had nothing to do with it.

843. Were there any communications made to you by any one with respect to the money that would be required for gaining the election?—I do not understand you.

844. Did any person who was engaged in the Liberal interest represent to you that any sums of money would be required for the purpose of obtaining the support of particular voters? Do I make myself understood?—I really cannot say that I do quite understand your question.

845. Did any persons engaged in the Liberal interest represent to you that it would be necessary to pay money to any electors for their votes?—Yes.

846. Who made communications of that nature to you?—I think the best answer that I can give to that question would be by furnishing the names of those to whom I supplied money.

847. Suppose you do that. To whom did you give money?—During the course of the election?

848. From the time you went to London to see Mr. Monk down to the day of the polling?—I gave money to Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk, Charles Hutton, Jefferson Bryon, William Henley, and Harry Jacobs.

849. Any other person?—Yes; there were other sums that I paid; small sums.

850. Just name the parties who received them?—I really cannot. They were during the course of the canvass in the election.

851. How much did those small sums amount to?—Those small sums amounted to 149*l.*, as far as I can make out.

852. £149 paid in small sums to different persons whose names you cannot furnish?—Yes.

853. How much did you pay to Mr. Brewer Monk?—I paid to Mr. Brewer Monk two different sums; I paid him a sum for messengers of 93*l.* 11*s.*, and I paid him for the purchase of certain votes which he mentioned to me, 81*l.*

854. (*Mr. Welford.*) Votes which he mentioned to you?—Yes.

855. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Those two sums were the only amounts you paid to Mr. Brewer Monk, were they?—During the election. I paid him 100*l.* since for messengers.

856. Do you understand from Mr. Brewer Monk that there is any further sum of money that you will have to pay him?—No.

857. How much did you pay to Hutton?—£31.

858. For what purpose was that?—The purchase of votes.

859. What did you pay Jefferson Bryon?—I paid Bryon 100*l.*; but that includes an account which if I had expected I should be examined to-day I would have put in my pocket; it is for 22*l.* odd for refreshments had at his house during the election.

860. What house is that?—The Berkeley Arms; the house about which you made an inquiry just now of one of the other witnesses.

861. Was that for refreshments only?—I believe so, and the 100*l.* included likewise payment for refreshments at two other houses that he named.

862. Has that 100*l.* been paid since the election or during the election?—That 100*l.* of Bryon's was paid during the election.

863. Do I understand that that was for refreshments?—£22 10*s.* was for refreshments.

864. Was any other sum besides that 100*l.* paid to Bryon?—Yes; I paid him 100*l.*, but that 22*l.* for refreshments was part of it.

865. Was there any other sum besides that 100*l.* which included the 22*l.* for refreshments paid to Bryon?—No; not by me; certainly not.

866. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say this was paid during the election; has any been paid since?—Not to Bryon.

867. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the difference between the 22*l.* and the 100*l.* you paid to Bryon paid to him for; was it paid to him for votes?—Portions of it. I believe he is summoned.

868. Mr. Henley, what did you pay him?—I paid Mr. Henley 23*l.*.

869. Was that the total sum you paid to him?—That is the total sum I paid to Mr. Henley.

870. What did you pay that to him for?—For the purchase of votes.

871. Then Harry Jacobs; how much did you pay to him?—£177.

872. For what purpose?—For the same purpose.

873. (*Mr. Welford.*) The purchase of votes?—The purchase of votes, and expenses.

874. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Expenses attending the purchase?—Bribery and treating.

875. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For the purchase of votes and incidental expenses?—Yes; incidental expenses.

876. Did you pay any money to Mr. Hall?—That is the only sum that I have not accounted for. He had money from me.

877. How much?—He had twelve pounds ten shillings.

878. Had he any more than that?—No, certainly not.

879. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is Mr. Hall a grocer?—Yes, he is a grocer.

880. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were those the total sums of money that you paid to any persons in Gloucester during the election or since the election in respect of the purchase of votes or treating?—To the best of my recollection.

881. Was there any other money disbursed by yourself during the election except these monies you have now mentioned?—Not to my recollection.

882. To the best of your belief there was no other money?—To the best of my belief there was not.

883. Where did you obtain this money from?—I received four hundred pounds that was brought down by a man of the name of either Thompson or Thornton; or rather three hundred and ninety-nine pounds, I should say exactly.

884. Where did you receive that?—I received it in two places; partly in one place and partly in another; part I received at my own house, and part I received at the Gloucester Coffee House.

885. Is that sum, 399*l.*, the whole money you received from Thompson or Thornton?—Every farthing.

886. You are aware that it has been stated that you received more than that from him?—I am perfectly aware of it.

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887. But you deny that that is so?—I deny it entirely, completely; and I also would wish to state, that with the exception of the fact that I did receive that sum of money, there is not one word of truth in the evidence that was given by that man Clarke. Then as for the fact of his packing up these sums, or seeing them packed up, and being present when I received them, and bringing them to my house, and all those statements he made before the House of Commons, there is not one syllable of truth in the whole of it; he never saw one single farthing pass.

888. From what other person did you receive any other portion of the money?—I received 200*l.* that I borrowed from Mr. Bretherton. I borrowed during the course of the contest, during the course of the day following, very early in the morning, 40*l.* from Mr. Cooksey.

889. Do you say you borrowed 200*l.* from Mr. Bretherton?—Yes.

890. And borrowed 40*l.* from Mr. Cooksey on the day of the polling?—Yes; between seven and eight in the morning.

891. Who is Mr. Cooksey?—Mr. Cooksey is a grocer, a large wholesale and retail grocer, residing in the Southgate Street, Gloucester.

892. What other money were you in possession of?—I received 50*l.* from my uncle, Robert Wilton, during the election, early in the election, for the purpose of paying the messengers.

893. During the election?—Yes; I think it was about a fortnight before the polling day.

894. Any other money?—Yes. Subsequent to the election I received 200*l.* from Mr. Moffat.

895. He is the gentleman that you spoke of before as having met at the Reform Club?—Yes.

896. How long ago would that be?—I think the date of the letter I received from him enclosing it was the 4th or 5th of June.

897. What other money was there?—No further money.

898. When did you see Thompson?—I think it was on the Tuesday previous to the election that I saw Thompson. That was the first time; Tuesday I think it was.

899. The Tuesday before the election?—Yes.

900. At what time were you there?—I saw him about three o'clock in the afternoon.

901. Where was it?—At my house.

902. Had you any previous communication with Thompson before you saw him at your house?—None at all.

903. Did you ask how it was that Thompson came to know where you lived, and how it was that he came to your house?—Thompson told me that he was directed to come to Gloucester, and ask for young Mr. Wilton, a surgeon, as my father, who is an elderly person, is also in practice.

904. Did he say by whom he was directed to come?—No, he did not.

905. Did he say from whom he came?—No; he told me it was no business of mine.

906. You asked him the question, did you?—Yes.

907. He having stated that he was directed to come to Gloucester, and to inquire for you, did he say for what purpose he was directed to come to Gloucester?—He told me he had come to bring me some money.

908. Did he say from whom he had received the money?—No.

909. Did he say how the money was to be employed?—No, he did not.

910. Did you ask him any question about the employment of the money?—No. I understood he had brought it for us to employ it.

911. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) According to your discretion?—Yes.

912. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How long was he with you in the afternoon at your house on the Tuesday?—He was in my room for some time. I left him to get my dinner. He was there long enough to drink two thirds of a bottle of sherry while I was away, and for about half an hour or three quarters of an hour afterwards. I left him with a little sherry, and when I came back I found he had finished it, and was fast asleep.

913. Did he enter into any conversation or discussion with you as to the state of the borough, and as to the probability of success?—No, he did not. The only thing he said with reference to the probability of success was, that he knew, or had the means of knowing, that there were very large sums being spent by the other side; because before he left London he happened to have been with Mr. Rose, of the firm of Baxter and Company, the Carlton parliamentary agents, and there saw a list drawn up of sums that were to go to different places. He saw 2,000*l.* marked for Gloucester, 4,000*l.* for Bristol, and other sums for other places that were mentioned, and therefore, as he knew there was this 2,000*l.* coming, he thought it would require very great exertion on our part to beat it.

914. That he stated to you while you were engaged in conversation?—I will not say he stated it to me then, but he stated it either then or the next day. I think it is more probable that it was the next day, because it was in consequence of a communication he made to me as soon as Clarke arrived. When Clarke arrived I went into my room, and found those two men sitting together.

915. That was on the Wednesday?—Yes.

916. Was it on this occasion only, on the Tuesday, that you saw Thompson?—No; I saw him again at night.

917. Where was he stopping?—He was stopping at the Gloucester Coffee House.

918. By the railway?—Close to the railway.

919. Did he tell you in private conversation that the money he had brought down was intended to be employed for bribery; that he was sent down with the money for that purpose?—Yes; he told me that he was sent down for that purpose; that he was sent down because it was thought he might be wanted to use it.

920. In bribing; in distributing the money?—Yes. My reply to that was that nothing of the sort would be needed.

921. That you could do it yourselves?—Yes, exactly; that we wanted to pay the messengers and such like people, which we should not require him to do.

922. What time was it that you saw Thompson again on that Tuesday evening?—It was late; I dare say it was eleven o'clock.

923. Did you go to him to see him that evening from understanding that he required your medical services?—He told me in the afternoon that he was not very well, and he had some medical assistance from me during the time he was here; all the time he was here he had medicine.

924. You went to see him?—I did.

925. And you went to see him as a medical man would go to see his patient?—No.

926. That was the ostensible object?—Yes.

927. But you never intended he should take any of the medicine you sent him?—Yes. The fact is that when he came here he had been suffering; he was in a weak state of health. I thought he had been living a little too hard, and I gave him a tonic to take; that was the long and short of the matter. He used to take a little quinine, I think, or something of that sort. There was always a bottle there, and he was always taking it.

928. At what time in the evening was your visit to Mr. Thompson?—I cannot tell; during the time he was here I visited him at all hours; early in the morning and late at night.

929. You found him sometimes up and sometimes in bed, I suppose?—Sometimes in bed.

930. On the Tuesday night when you went to see him was he up or in bed?—He was up.

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931. On that occasion did you receive any money from him?—I think on that occasion I received 50*l.* from him.

932. Was the money he had in notes or sovereigns? —In sovereigns.

933. Was all the money you obtained from him in sovereigns?—Yes; sovereigns and half sovereigns.

934. It was all in gold?—All in gold.

935. Was the money made up in packets?—No, certainly not; not one.

936. How did you convey it away?—Generally in my trousers pocket or coat pocket.

937. You did not put it into a bag?—No. You will find Mr. Clarke has stated that he saw me receive 300*l.* at one time. I never, from first to last, received more than 100*l.* at a time. It makes no very great difference, except that if he had not sworn that he saw me receive it he could not have given evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons.

938. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Mr. Thompson ever say to you he had parted with all the money he had brought from London?—No; he told me this: that he had received 500*l.* to give me, but that somewhere else he had parted with 100*l.*; not in Gloucester, but before he came here.

939. He told you that?—He told me that, and also that he had only 400*l.* for me then.

940. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Clarke, I see in his evidence, does not say he saw you receive that money?—No; but he says he made it up in packages for me to receive it.

941. His answer is: "Thompson had the money in his pocket, for fear it should be seen in the coffee-room, and Wilton and him went into the passage; he gave it to him; he came back immediately to me; he said, "They have got it, but they shall have no more." That is the answer. The money might have been made up?—Yes; but there are one or two things that are perfectly inconsistent with that. In the first place, there is no passage in which I could have received this. The door of the coffee-room in which we sat is exactly opposite the door of the bar, which is constantly open; consequently going from the room into the passage is going from a private place into a public one. The only transactions that took place between Thornton and myself were either in my surgery or his bed-room. There was no other place in which transactions took place between us.

942. The contradictions are more matters of detail than anything else, for substantially the evidence pretty much agrees with what you have stated?—It disagrees in one important fact, that there is an account of 500*l.* expended, whereas I only acknowledge to have received 399*l.*

243. But if I remember rightly the total amount of money stated to have been handed over to you is 450*l.*?—The last 50*l.*, he says, was given to me on the morning of the polling; there is a statement of 350*l.*, 100*l.*, and 50*l.*

944. You state you received only 399*l.*—Yes; 399*l.*

945. You saw Mr. Thompson from time to time during the election?—Frequently.

946. And down to the day of polling?—Yes.

947. And on the polling day?—Yes; in the morning, and after the polling was over, when I gave him a receipt for 400*l.*

948. Was any communication made by you to him that more money would be required than you had already received from him?—No; not to him.

949. Was any telegram sent from Gloucester by your direction or with your knowledge?—Certainly not by my direction.

950. Was it with your knowledge to the effect that a repetition of the medicine would be necessary?—Well; it was to my knowledge, not that it was sent, but that it had been sent. I mean by that that after he had telegraphed to London he told me that he had done so; because he said this: he told me he had received 500*l.* for me, and that he had only got 400*l.* for me, and that therefore he had telegraphed up for more.

951. Did he not tell you that he had come down straight from London to Gloucester?—No; he never told me how he came; he did not tell me even where he had come from; not even that he had come from London. Of course I knew eventually he had, because he gave me his address before he left Gloucester, which is the same that your messenger has endeavoured to serve him with his summons at.

952. But you are not aware of any telegrams being sent by him to London before they were sent?—Not before they were sent.

953. You were told by him afterwards that they had been sent?—Yes.

954. Did he tell you to whom he had sent them? —No, certainly not.

955. You did not know then from him or from any other source that the telegrams were sent to Mr. Webb of the King's Arms in London?—Certainly not; most positively on my oath I did not know that. I do not believe Mr. Webb's name was ever directly or indirectly mentioned; I do not recollect that it was.

956. Did you receive any communication from Thompson with respect to Mr. Ralli?—Certainly not.

957. Was Mr. Ralli's name mentioned at all by Thompson?—Certainly not; I had no idea in any way from whom whom he had received the money.

958. None of the names of the gentlemen you mentioned as having met you at the Reform Club were mentioned by Thompson in conversation with you?—Yes; but not with reference to money matters; they were mentioned.

959. Whose names were mentioned?—I believe Mr. Parkes's name was mentioned.

960. By Thompson?—I mentioned to him that I had seen Mr. Parkes, and the conversation that we had had with reference to the Gloucester election; and he told me then something about the fact that Mr. Parkes had been extensively concerned in political matters for many years past.

961. But with reference to the election itself, nothing was said by Thompson with regard to Mr. Parkes, or Mr. Moffatt, or Mr. Ralli, or Mr. Price? —No; he was much too well aware of the consequences to say anything to me of that nature. He declared he never would from first to last; that he had come down here at somebody's bidding (he would not tell me whose) to do certain work, and that he had come furnished with material. Who it was furnished him with it, or how he came to be employed, or who his employers were, I do not know.

962. Do you know whether any other money was sent down to him while he was here?—I do not; I do not think any money was sent.

963. Do you know that he stated he was requested to go to some parties in the town for the purpose of getting money?—That is Clarke; not Thompson.

964. But I want to know whether you heard from Thompson that he himself had been requested to go into the town if he wanted any more money?—Certainly not, and I believe it is perfectly untrue. My reason for believing so is, that nobody knew of Thornton's presence or of Clarke's presence in Gloucester but myself; nobody knew that either Thornton or Clarke were here; therefore nobody could have sent for them.

965. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Thornton know anybody in Gloucester but you?—I do not think he did. Yes; there was one other person that he knew.

966. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you hear from Thompson that the answer which was sent to his telegram for more money was, that the parties were away from town, and that the money must be had in Gloucester? —I only knew this, that no more money was coming from that source, and therefore what the communications were I really took no notice.

967. Did Thompson tell you that if more money was wanted it must be had in Gloucester?—I believe he did.

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J. P. Wilton.
26 Sept. 1859.

968. Did he say he had been to some parties in Gloucester, and was told that if he wanted 1,000*l.* more he could have it?—I really do not recollect that he made such a statement to me.

969. Do you think he might have made such a statement?—He might have said anything.

970. But as far as you believe do you think he did make such a statement as that to you?—I should be very sorry to express an opinion positively one way or the other. I have read that evidence, and that did not strike me at the time as being either true or false, and I do not know that I could express an opinion whether he said it or not.

971. To the best of your knowledge, did Thompson tell you———You were aware that he had sent a telegram to London, and that the answer came down that he must have the money in Gloucester, if more was wanted?—Yes.

972. In connexion with that, did he tell you he had seen anybody in Gloucester, and that he could have 1,000*l.* if he required it?—Well, I do not think he did tell me that; and I will tell you why, because I think if he had said he could have 1,000*l.* I should have said, "Well, then, get it."

973. And that you do not remember to have said to him?—That I am positive I did not say, because I took the step of borrowing the 200*l.* I have mentioned from Mr. Bretherton; in consequence of finding that it was necessary, I borrowed that 200*l.* as soon as I found there was no more money to be had.

974. (*Mr. Fitzgerald*). But you do not positively say he did not say so?—No; but I think if he had I should have said, in all probability, "Then you shall take the trouble of getting the money instead of me."

975. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know that any person's name was mentioned as being in Gloucester who would advance 1,000*l.* if necessary?—Certainly not.

976. Was there no name mentioned to you by Mr. Thompson with reference to any sum of money that might be obtained here?—No.

977. Although you say you do not think anything was said about 1,000*l.* being able to be obtained in Gloucester, do you believe that nothing was said to you about any money at all being obtainable in Gloucester?—Yes; because, as I said before, and although it called forth a laugh from the audience, you will see that it is likely I should have said to him, "If you can get the money you had better do so instead of me"?

971. Did you know Mr. Ralli?—I have never seen him.

979. Neither Mr. Ralli, the father, nor Mr. Ralli, the son?—I believe I saw the son on the occasion of the declaration of the poll; in fact he was down here at the declaration of the poll with Mr. and Mrs. Monk.

980. Mr. Ralli, junior?—Mr. Ralli, junior.

981. Did you communicate with him during the election?—Never; I never spoke to him. He was Mrs. Monk's brother.

A. T. Bailey.

ALFRED THOMAS BAILEY sworn and examined.

982. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you serve a summons on Richard Thompson to attend here and give evidence before the Commissioners to-day?—I served a copy of this summons (*producing it*) on September 2d, at his residence at Number 4, Bridge Road, Hammersmith. I gave it to his wife.

983. Did the person to whom you gave it state to you that she was his wife?—She did the day before. I made every inquiry, and was quite satisfied as to the identity of her being his wife, and also as to its being his residence.

984. That was on the 2d September?—Yes; it is dated the 1st of September.

985. Is that a copy of the summons?—This is a correct copy.

986. Did you serve a summons also on a person of the name of Gilbert?—In the first instance I served a summons on the 12th September, at 25, Parliament Street, Westminster. I served one at his residence on Saturday last, at Bristol. Perhaps I may state that I called on Tuesday last at the residence of Thompson, and the landlady of the house told me that Thompson and his wife had gone out the day before, and would return in a day or two, and she admitted to me that Thompson had had the summons.

(Adjourned to to-morrow, 10 o'clock.)

Second Day.—27th September 1859.

G. Moffatt,
27 Sept. 1859.

GEORGE MOFFATT sworn and examined.

987. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a member of the House?—I was a member of the House, the beginning of this year; I am not at the present moment.

988. Do you remember attending a meeting at the Reform Club of some gentlemen connected with the city of Gloucester in the month of March last?—I do.

989. Can you say on what day that was?—No; I think about the middle of March. I am not certain.

990. Did you attend more than one meeting there?—Only one meeting.

991. Was that a meeting that took place upon a Sunday?—On a Sunday evening.

992. At that meeting can you tell me who attended?—A gentleman of the name of Wilton, and another gentleman of the name of Innell; stating that they came as a deputation from Gloucester.

993. Was Mr. Monk present at that meeting—the late member?—It was after this wise; the two gentlemen who formed the deputation, I believe, were stopping at a hotel in the neighbourhood; they came to me at the Reform Club; they proposed to come on the Monday morning, and I had a special engagement, and could not see them then, and I saw them on Sunday evening. The two gentlemen were Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton.

994. Was Mr. Monk present at that meeting?—Mr. Monk was present at the close of that meeting.

995. Was Mr. Price also present?—Mr. Price was present during part of that meeting; not at the commencement.

996. Did you hear the conversation that took place between the deputation and Mr. Monk on the subject of his becoming a candidate for Gloucester?—As far as my memory serves, there was scarcely any conversation, if any at all, between Mr. Monk and the deputation. I had spoken as Mr. Monk's friend; I had been invited by Mr. Monk to speak as his friend. He first consulted me at the election of 1857, in reference to the contest for the borough of Cricklade, and I having been his advising friend at that time, having looked over the whole of his accounts, and settled in fact almost everything for him in that contest, he came to me to act as his friend; consequently I saw the deputation, and I asked them what the election was likely to cost, and they stated what it would cost according to their belief.

997 (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that in the hearing of Mr. Monk?—No; not in the hearing of Mr. Monk.

998. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did Mr. Monk first

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consult you upon the subject?—I think, probably, several days or weeks before he was offered the representation of Gloucester. He spoke of his chances with reference to Gloucester.

999. Did any conversation take place between the deputation and Mr. Monk at which you were not present, as far as you know, that is to say, did you leave them together and return to them again afterwards?—No, certainly not. I think Mr. Monk left the Reform Club with me when I left; as far as my memory serves me he did.

1000. I understand you to say that no conversation took place on money matters between you and the deputation in the presence of Mr. Monk?—That would be inaccurate; when I had had the conversation with them in reference to that, my belief is that I told Mr. Monk in their presence what would be the cost of the election, and it was for him then to accept or reject the candidatureship.

1001. You stated what the cost would be according to the information you had received from the deputation?—Decidedly.

1002. What was the amount you stated?—What was stated to me was that it would not exceed 1,200*l.*, but when pushed to the extent they said 1,500*l.*; but they said that in no case would the expense of the two candidates exceed 1,500*l.*

1003. At the time when you had that conversation with the deputation were you led to believe that it would be necessary to resort to bribery for the purpose of carrying the election?—I think rather the contrary; they stated that Sir Robert Walter Carden was a very unpopular candidate, and seemed to speak very lightly of the contest, and spoke of the money to be spent, taking the worst view of the affair.

1004. They spoke of the chances of Mr. Monk, independently of the expenditure of money?—Yes; they stated that he was very popular; his connexions with the city had made him naturally so.

1005. Was anything stated in direct terms by either of the gentlemen forming the deputation, as to the mode in which the money would be required to be expended?—No; I do not recollect that there was; it was only mentioned as general expenses; there was no detail given.

1006. Was there anything said about bribery or malpractices having existed at any previous election at Gloucester?—I can hardly recollect; it is quite possible I may jokingly have alluded to something of the kind; because Gloucester did not enjoy a very good reputation.

1007. Had you any information from them as to the extent of corrupt practices that had prevailed at any previous election for Gloucester?—Well, I think that is very probably uncertain; it is a conversation that I am speaking to, and therefore I can only give you the probabilities from memory; but I think they did state that Sir Robert Walter Carden had spent a good deal of money at the last election, from their belief; but that was mere hearsay evidence.

1008. Do you think that was stated by them to you?—I think it was.

1009. That Sir Robert Carden had spent a good deal of money at the previous election?—I think so; that they believed he had.

1010. Did they say in what way that money had been spent by Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Not at all; and if it was stated it was only stated incidentally.

1011. It was not stated by them, in direct terms to you, that Sir Robert Carden had spent a large sum of money in bribery at the previous election?—No.

1012. Was the impression left upon your mind, from any statement made, that money would be required for the purpose of bribery to ensure the return of Mr. Monk?—No; the impression on my mind was the reverse, rather, of that; that he was so popular a candidate that his return was certain, or that his return was tolerably sure.

1013. Do you know that Mr. Monk, at that time, had become a candidate for the representation of Gloucester?—He had not, so far as I know; I believe he had not.

1014. Are we to gather from your statement that Mr. Monk was so popular a candidate that it would not be necessary to expend money in bribery?—Be so good as to correct the word that he "was" so popular; that he "would be" so popular a candidate.

1015. Did I understand you to say that Mr. Price was present at the whole of that interview, or only at part?—Only at part.

1016. Had you a private conversation with Mr. Price apart from Mr. Monk and the deputation?—No; I had no private conversation with Mr. Price.

1017. Had you a conversation with Mr. Price at all in the presence of those other gentlemen?—He joined in the general conversation, when he came in, with the deputation.

1018. Do you remember stating to Mr. Price that he was to regard you as Mr. Monk's confidential friend?—No; I do not think I stated to Mr. Price that, but I acted in that capacity in seeing the deputation.

1019. Have you any recollection as to whether you did tell Mr. Price that he was to look upon you as Mr. Monk's friend in the event of any communication being necessary, or anything of that sort?—No; I have no distinct recollection of anything of the kind. I spoke to Mr. Price frequently in the House of Commons with reference to the progress of the election, seeing him there, but I have no recollection of having told him, in distinct terms, to apply to me as Mr. Monk's friend.

1020. Did you meet Mr. Price upon the subject specially more than once?—I never met Mr. Price specially on the subject.

1021. I thought this was a special meeting?—No; he came in while my interview was going on with the deputation from Gloucester.

1022. You are not aware whether he came in casually or by appointment?—I am not aware.

1023. Did any conversation take place between you and Mr. Price, either on that occasion or at any other time, respecting money for the election?—Yes; Mr. Price was present or was cognizant of the arrangement made with regard to expenses; he was present when the arrangement was made as to the expenses of the election and what it would cost.

1024. Was anything said by Mr. Price to you as to the requirement of money for conducting Mr. Monk's election?—Subsequently to that period I do not think that any conversation passed between us in reference to that, but I believe I received a letter from Mr. Price some time after Mr. Monk had accepted the candidatureship, in which he stated that money would be required for the preliminary expenses; and shortly before the general election he wrote to me, so far as my memory goes in the affair, saying he would be glad if the money was made ready whenever Mr. Monk should appoint an agent to pay a portion as his expenses. Mr. Monk had not appointed an agent, and therefore the money could not be sent at present, but he wished me to make an arrangement by which the money could be sent down by hand to Gloucester when an agent was appointed; and he said that in case I was going out of town, I had better speak to Sir William Hayter, who would probably be the last member in London, and give the money to him, to be sent down when the agent was appointed.

1025. When was the first letter written by Mr. Price to you upon the subject?—I should think rather early in April, but I have no recollection of the precise date.

1026. Have you not those letters?—No, I have not.

1027. You did not keep them?—I did not keep them, but I did speak to Sir William Hayter as he wished me to.

1028. Do you think the first letter written by Mr. Price to yourself was in the early part of April?—

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G. Moffatt. 27 Sept. 1859.

About the 10th of April, probably, but I speak from memory entirely.

1029. The meeting at the Reform Club took place about the middle of March ?—It did.

1030. You state, as far as you remember, that no conversation took place between yourself and Mr. Price about providing money for Mr. Monk's election ?—I have no recollection of it. You mean in the House of Commons ?

1031. I mean anywhere ?—I only saw Mr. Price in the House of Commons afterwards. I have no recollection of any conversation between him and me then.

1032. As to any specific amount, or in fact any amount of money ?—None.

1033. How was it that, no communication having been made by Mr. Price to yourself about providing money for the election, Mr. Price came to write to you respecting the providing of money on the 10th of April ?—Merely knowing that Mr. Monk was acquainted with me; he was not acquainted with Mr. Monk. I had been Mr. Monk's advising friend in his acceptance of the proffer of the candidature-ship of Gloucester.

1034. Was Mr. Price aware, or did he understand from you yourself, that you were Mr. Monk's advising friend ?—I think he would naturally infer that from the conversation which occurred at the meeting of the deputation, and from my conversations with him in the House of Commons afterwards.

1035. You think he would arrive at the conclusion that you were the proper person to write to with respect to providing money as Mr. Monk's friend ?—You may infer that from the fact of his having written.

1036. And that letter, as far as you remember, was not written in consequence of any conversation which had previously taken place between you and Mr. Price ?—Just so.

1037. How many letters were written by Mr. Price, do you know, in relation to this matter ?—I think two letters were written, but I am not quite certain.

1038. The first you say was about the 10th of April, and the second was, when ?—I believe it was written somewhere about the 20th or 24th of April. I received it when I was on my own canvass in Devonshire.

1039. At that time you were on your canvass ?—Yes.

1040. The purport of the second letter was what you have conveyed to us ?—That the money was required.

1041. Will you state, as far as you can, what the contents of that letter were ?—The second letter ?

1042. The second letter ?—My belief is that the second letter stated that an agent was now appointed, and that the sooner the money was sent down the better; that is my impression, but I was in a hurry with my own canvass at the time, and it made a very slight impression upon me.

1043. Did you receive any communication at all about that time from Mr. Monk ?—I may have received some note from him in reference to his prospects of success, but I do not recollect it.

1044. You know perhaps that Mr. Monk was at Gloucester at that time ?—Perfectly well.

1045. Did you expect to hear from Mr. Price and not from Mr. Monk when the money was required ?—From the tenor of Mr. Price's first letter I should certainly have expected to hear from Mr. Price, and should have preferred to hear from Mr. Price. The reason of that will be obvious to the Commissioners.

1046. You were not astonished that the communication came to you from Mr. Price and not from Mr. Monk ?—On the contrary, I was rather pleased it should come from Mr. Price, as a man of great experience not likely to misapply the money.

1047. Do you remember ever saying anything to Mr. Price to the effect that if there was anything that he wanted to communicate he might do so to you rather than to Mr. Monk ?—No, I do not recollect making a communication of that kind.

1048. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you prepared to say that such a conversation did not occur ?—Certainly not; it is quite possible that it might or might not.

1049. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you were out of town when you received the second letter; upon the receipt of that second letter what course did you take ?—I had sent a cheque for the money when I left town, as I stated before, at Mr. Price's request, to Sir William Hayter; and upon the receipt of the communication requiring the money I sent, as far as my memory serves, an order on Sir William Hayter to deliver the cheque. The cheque which I had to deliver was one I had given on Mr. Monk's father-in-law, Mr. Ralli.

1050. What was the amount of that cheque ?—£500; that was stated by Mr. Price to be the proper sum to be sent down.

1051. £500 was the amount of the cheque you received from Mr. Ralli ?—No; the one I gave was on Mr. Ralli to pay the bearer *500l.*

1052. You had not received any money from Mr. Ralli ?—None whatever.

1053. But having received that letter you sent a cheque on Mr. Ralli to Sir William Hayter ?—I sent a cheque. Mr. Price had requested that in case I was leaving town I should send the cheque to Sir William Hayter, to be given to whoever should be appointed to bring the money down. When I left town I left in a great hurry; and the night after I arrived at Ashburton I sent a cheque to Sir William Hayter to be disposed of with Mr. Price's approval.

1054. You sent the cheque to Sir William Hayter before the receipt of the second letter ?—Precisely.

1055. Before the receipt of that second letter did you write to Sir William Hayter upon the subject ?—I think I did, but I cannot be sure.

1056. I suppose you would make some communication to some one ?—Yes; it is clear I either wrote to Sir William Hayter or to the person introduced to me to take the money down to Gloucester; and I think the probability is that I wrote to that person to go to Sir William Hayter.

1057. Who was the person introduced to you to take the money to Gloucester ?—His name was Richard Thompson.

1058. Richard Thompson was introduced to you; who introduced Thompson to you ?—He came to me on the day of my leaving for Ashburton a few hours before I left, with a few lines from Sir William Hayter saying he would be a trustworthy person to convey the money to Gloucester.

1059. Have you any of the letters that passed between yourself and Sir William Hayter ?—I do not think any letters passed between us.

1060. I thought you said there was a note ?—It was only some hurried thing of three lines: "The "bearer is a trustworthy person to take the money "to Gloucester."

1061. Have you such a note as that now, or did you destroy it ? Whatever notes or letters you received from Sir William Hayter did you keep them or did you destroy them ?—I certainly did not destroy them. I know I had it some two months ago, but I have not got it now. I could find it, I dare say; it was a mere scratch.

1062. Have the kindness to look when you return, and send it to us if you can find it ?—I will. I think it most likely I shall find it among my papers.

1063. How long was it before you left town that Thompson had been introduced to you ?—About three or four hours.

1064. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How long before the election ?—It was on the Wednesday. I left, I think, on the Tuesday or Wednesday evening, and the election came on at Ashburton on the Saturday week following. I was there for ten days. It would be somewhere about the 19th or 20th.

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1065. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you see Sir William Hayter upon this business?—When I received Mr. Price's note I spoke to Sir William Hayter, saying that I was shortly going out of town; and I asked him, whether he knew a trustworthy person to take down the money, as it was a large sum of money. He said he did not recollect any one at the time, but he would make a memorandum of it.

1066. He afterwards wrote a note to you, saying that Thompson was a trustworthy person?—Yes.

1067. Upon your receiving the second letter you communicated to Sir William Hayter the statement contained in Mr. Price's letter?—I sent the cheque to Sir William Hayter, telling him to give it to Mr. Thompson, Mr. Price approving; and I think I wrote to Mr. Thompson to go to Sir William Hayter.

1068. Were you in any way given to understand that that money would be required at Gloucester for the payment of any other than legal expenses?—Certainly not.

1069. Were you under no impression at all that any portion of it would be spent for the purpose of bribery?—Will you repeat your question? I think you are putting a very broad question there.

1070. I merely asked you whether you were not under the impression that a portion of that money would be spent for the purpose of bribery?—I had no information or knowlege which led me to believe it would be so spent.

1071. You had no reason to believe that any portion of that money would be spent for the purpose of bribery?—No; on the contrary, I had rather a satisfaction in feeling that it would be properly applied, being sent at Mr. Price's instance.

1072. I suppose you are aware of the provision of the Act of Parliament, which requires the payment of all expenses to be made by the election auditor?—I, having been one of the House and Senate that passed that Act, ought to have been aware of it, but I was reminded of it by your secretary in an interview I had with him three weeks ago. I certainly was not cognizant, before he told me, that it was illegal to remit that money before the election. Mr. Coleridge gave me that information, and it was news to me when he gave it me.

1073. At the time when that money was sent it did not occur to you that for the purpose of satisfying legal expenses that money could not then be required?—No, certainly not. I thought it was required for the expenses.

1074. Then you, knowing of a cheque for 500*l.* on Mr. Ralli having been sent down to Sir William Hayter, were not aware of the mode in which that 500*l.* was afterwards employed?—I became aware of that about three weeks ago, on reading the evidence in the Gloucester Election Committee.

1075. But previous to that you knew nothing whatever of the mode in which that money was employed?—Not in the slightest.

1076. Besides that 500*l.* what other money were you instrumental in obtaining for the election?—Some time early in June application was made to me for money to pay some of the outstanding debts of the election; and I conferred with Mr. Monk, and obtained from Mr. Ralli 200*l.*, and sent it to Gloucester; that was from Mr. Pandia Ralli, Mr. Monk's father-in-law.

1077. That was in June?—Yes; some time early in June.

1078. You obtained from Mr. Ralli 200*l.*?—Yes.

1079. By whom was the application made to you?—By Mr. John Pleydell Wilton, of Gloucester.

1080. You remitted the money to Mr. Wilton?—I remitted that money to Mr. Wilton.

1081. What money besides that did you obtain?—None; no other money.

1082. Was there any other cheque for 150*l.*?—None that I know of; nor have I ever heard of any other sum of money.

1083. So far as regards the expenses of the election, your knowledge only extends to the cheque for 500*l.* and a cheque for 200*l.*?—I have also heard of a further payment. I do not know whether it is right I should give it in evidence.

1084. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Yes, if you please?—I have heard there was another sum of 200*l.* sent down to Gloucester on account of Mr. Monk's expenses; of which 80*l.* was disbursed, and the other 120*l.* is in the hands of the party to whom it was sent.

1085. To whom was it sent?—It was sent to a gentleman of the name of Wilton, as I have heard.

1086. The same Mr. Wilton?—No, not the same Mr. Wilton.

1087. Who did you hear that from?—I am not sure. I rather think it was in a conversation with Mr. Ralli that I heard it.

1088. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know when that cheque for 200*l.* was sent down, which you say you heard was sent?—No; I only heard, long after the election, that there was a further cheque sent down, of which 80*l.* was disbursed.

1089. Do you know of any pecuniary transactions relating to the election excepting those which you have disclosed to us now?—None whatever.

1090. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have had a dood deal of experience in election contests, have you not?—Several.

1091. I will not ask you what your own elections have cost you, but whether you think 1,200*l.* or 1,500*l.* could be disbursed in legal expenses?—For such a constituency as that of Gloucester?

1092. Yes?—Yes.

1093. You think it could?—I think it could; it depends, in a case of that kind, on how many attorneys have to be employed, and how the outvoters have to be brought in.

1094. Then the amount of 1,200*l.* or 1,500*l.* did not at all suggest to you that the money was to be spent in any illegal manner?—Certainly not; I thought it a very fair expenditure for a city such as Gloucester.

1095. You acted throughout as Mr. Monk's friend?—In my examination in chief I think you have heard all the part I took in the matter.

1096. Did you advise him as to the necessity of appointing an agent?—No; I do not think I did.

1097. Did you think it extraordinary that he did not appoint an agent?—I do not think I thought about it.

1098. Did you think if these expenses which were to be incurred were legal that there would be any necessity for sending down the money secretly?—No; I followed Mr. Price's instructions.

1099. Did Mr. Price's instructions suggest to you that the money was to be employed in illegal expenses from the fact of its being sent down in that way?—Certainly not.

1100. I will put the question again. Did not the secrecy that obtained in this transaction suggest to your mind that something wrong was intended to be done with this money?—There was no secrecy in the transaction; it was simply that the money was to be sent down by hand.

1101. Why then was it necessary for you to apply to Sir William Hayter?—I had no other reason for it than that Mr. Price suggested that if I was going out of town Sir William Hayter would probably be the last member in town.

1102. Did you know anything of this man Thompson before he came to you upon the matter?—No; I had never heard of the man before.

1103. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you ever see Mr. Thompson except on the occasion of giving him the cheque?—I did not give him the cheque; I gave him an authority to receive it.

1104. Have you ever seen him since?—Never.

1105. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand that the arrangement between Mr. Price and yourself was, that the money should be sent to Sir William Hayter, inasmuch as he would probably be the last gentleman in town of your political friends?—Yes.

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G. Moffatt.
27 Sept. 1859.

1106. That you were acquainted with Sir William Hayter, and as he would probably be the last gentleman in town connected with your political party, it was desirable that the money should be sent to him?—That was exactly the tenor of the letter.

1107. The suggestion did not emanate from you or Sir William Hayter, but from Mr. Price?—From Mr. Price most assuredly.

1108. Was that suggestion made to you by letter?—By letter.

1109. I understand you to say that the letters of Mr. Price you have not retained?—No, I have not retained them.

1110. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you received that letter from Mr. Price saying that money was wanted at Gloucester, did you apply upon that to Mr. Ralli?—No; I think my communication with Mr. Ralli was when I was about leaving town.

1111. You gave a cheque on Mr. Ralli?—Yes.

1112. Was that by Mr. Ralli's previous authority?—Yes; I had an interview with Mr. Ralli, and asked him if it would be agreeable that I should do so, and he said "Yes."

1113. When you received this letter and drew this cheque did you make any application to Mr. Monk?—No.

1114. Did it not occur to you that the proper person to apply to for the expenses of his own election was the candidate himself? Mr. Price wrote to you to send the money to Gloucester; I want to know why you applied to Mr. Ralli and not to Mr. Monk?—Mr. Ralli was Mr. Monk's father-in-law, and Mr. Monk was at Gloucester.

1115. You state that the reason you applied to Mr. Ralli and not to Mr. Monk was, because Mr. Monk was not to be informed how the money was spent; had that anything to do with your motive for applying to Mr. Ralli and not to Mr. Monk?—No; my motive for applying to Mr. Ralli was that Mr. Monk had informed me before he went out of town that in case any money should be required his father-in-law would pay.

1116. Mr. Monk had informed you previously that you were to apply to Mr. Ralli if you wanted any money?—Any money for the preliminary expenses.

1117. In consequence of that you applied to Mr. Ralli?—Yes.

1118. Have you got from Mr. Ralli any other money than that you have now stated you obtained?—None whatever.

1119. In your conversation with Sir William Hayter did anything pass as to the mode in which this money was to be expended?—None.

Sir W. Hayter, Bart., M.P.
27 Sept. 1859.

Sir WILLIAM HAYTER, Bart., M.P., sworn and examined.

1120. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a member of the House?—I am.

1121. And have been so for many years?—I have.

1122. Have you heard the statement which has been made by Mr. Moffatt?—I have. If the Commissioners will allow me, I will make a statement in the first instance. I beg then to say that just some short time previous to the last election (I cannot say precisely the day) I had a conversation in the House of Commons with Mr. Moffatt with reference to the Gloucester election; Mr. Moffatt told me that he had been in communication with Mr. Price respecting the probable expenses that would be incurred by the election at Gloucester, and especially with regard to the expenses that might be incurred by Mr. Monk, for whom Mr. Moffatt, as I understood, was acting as a friend; and he told me, or it was the result of that communication, that very probably a sum of money would be required to be sent down by some private hand to Gloucester on behalf of Mr. Monk, and he asked me, if I knew anybody who would take it down. I said, I did not, but that I would inquire and let him know. That was the whole of the conversation that passed between us; that conversation never was renewed, nor am I aware that from that time until after the general election I ever saw Mr. Moffatt. A day or two afterwards, or I think the next day, I saw a person of the name of Webb, who was the chief clerk of a parliamentary agent of the name of Gilbert. Webb told me that he understood I had inquired for Mr. Gilbert, and that anything he (who I knew was the chief clerk of Mr. Gilbert) could do he should be very ready to serve me in. I then stated to him exactly what Mr. Moffat wished, and I asked him if he knew of a suitable person; he said he could recommend a person who might be entirely relied upon. He said the man's name was Thompson. I gave him subsequently a short note of introduction of Mr. Thompson to Mr. Moffatt, and the terms of the note (I am sure it was not more than about two lines) were to the effect, "the bearer is quite trustworthy," or something like that; that was the note I gave to him. And there, so far as I am concerned, the whole matter would have ended, if it had not happened that I was going to remain in town for a longer period than most other members. I have stated that I had no further oral communication with Mr. Moffatt, but about the 20th, 21st, or 22d of April I received a note from Mr. Moffatt containing a cheque for 500*l* on Mr. Ralli, who I understood was the father-in-law of Mr. Monk, and in that note Mr. Moffat stated he was going out of town, and he requested me to give that cheque to Thompson if I received a communication from Mr. Price to that effect. I put the cheque in an envelope, and I never have seen that letter since. My impression is, but I will not be certain about it, that I put the note and the cheque both in the same envelope, in order that the one might demonstrate the purpose for which the other was intended. I put that note with the cheque sealed in the despatch box. Time passed on, no communication came from Mr. Price, and I went out of town; but before I went I saw Mr. Parkes, who was in the habit of passing, on his way to his office, my lodging; and I said to Mr. Parkes, "In the event of any note or letter "coming from Mr. Price with reference to this "cheque of Mr. Moffatt's, I wish you would have "the kindness to do what Mr. Price wishes." When I was at Wells, I received a letter from Mr. Parkes. It was a letter relating to a variety of other matters, but it stated, I recollect, that he had given that cheque to a person who had called for it, and had authority to receive it, and I have an impression on my mind that he enclosed the letter of Mr. Price to me, but I am not quite certain; I think the letter must have been enclosed to me, because in that letter, or in Mr. Parkes's extract from that letter, there were the words, "that the money was to be paid to Mr. John Wilton," and under that name "John Wilton" there was a dash, implying that there were two gentlemen of the name of Wilton in Gloucester. Those letters were destroyed, I regret to say. I thought the whole matter was concluded, and I am not in the habit of keeping letters. That is the whole of the case, as far as I am concerned.

1123. I understand you to say that you had only one conversation with Mr. Moffat upon the subject?—Yes.

1124. And that was in the House of Commons?—Yes.

1125. How long was that before the division, or was it before the division that took place upon the Reform Bill introduced by the late government?—I have not the slightest recollection.

1126. Can you fix any time before then as the date of that conversation?—I have not the slightest recollection of the date of that conversation. I know the place where it occurred.

1127. Was it before the dissolution of Parlament?—I have no recollection with regard to the time, but

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it could not have been a great while before the dissolution of Parliament, because it had reference to Mr. Monk as a candidate.

1128. It must have been subsequent to the time fixed by Mr. Wilton and Mr. Moffatt as the time of the meeting at the Reform Club in London?—Yes.

1129. That time was stated to be upon the Sunday before the division on that Bill; would that enable you to fix the time?—If you were to ask me I do not know when the division took place. I recollect there was a division, but I do not remember the time.

1130. At all events, though you yourself cannot recollect the time, your impression is that it was subsequent to the time when Mr. Monk was spoken of as a candidate?—I think it was before the beginning of April.

1131. Did Mr. Moffatt say why it was that he wished you to name some person that would be trustworthy to take the money down?—He gave me no reason whatever, and no statement whatever connected with the matter, either as to the object of sending him, nor what his views were in any respect. I had no further conversation with him than that which I have stated. I believe I have stated almost to the letter what occurred. He said he wanted some person to be sent down to Gloucester to take the money by private hand. I believe that was the whole of the conversation.

1132. Did he state from what source he would obtain the money?—Not at all.

1133. Did he mention Mr. Ralli's name in the conversation?—No; I never knew Mr. Ralli's name as connected with it until I received the cheque. I did not at that time know there was any connexion between Mr. Ralli and Mr. Monk.

1134. I understand from you, that from that time down to about the 22d April you had no further communication with any one with respect to sending the money, or as to employment of any person to go down to Gloucester?—Not after I sent Thompson to Mr. Moffatt.

1135. And you sent Thompson to Mr. Moffatt two or three days after you had this conversation with Mr. Moffatt?—Yes.

1136. You stated that you saw a person named Webb, who was a clerk of Mr. Gilbert, who stated that he understood you had called and made inquiry for Mr. Gilbert. How came you to make inquiry for Mr. Gilbert?—The object was to obtain a person to take this money down to Gloucester. I must state, therefore, what I had known of Mr. Gilbert. I had known him for fifteen or sixteen years as a very active and intelligent election agent in the eastern division of the county of Somerset, in which I resided. He had been extremely active, and held some official position in the city of Bristol, I believe. In the autumn of last year Mr. Gilbert wrote to me, and stated that he should come to London and practise as a parliamentary agent, and solicited from me any support and assistance I could give him. From my long knowledge of him, I wished to give him what support I could; and in February last I was applied to, in the great contest for East Worcestershire, by one of the committee, Mr. Foley, to recommend him an able man, and recommended him. He was employed in one of the districts of Worcestershire, and conducted himself with great propriety there; and I had a letter from Mr. Foley expressing his satisfaction at the manner in which he conducted his business.

1137. That was the sole reason which induced you to apply to Mr. Gilbert to get a person to take the money down to Gloucester?—That was the sole reason.

1138. About two or three days after that you met Webb, and the result of what he stated to you, with regard to the person named Thompson, was that you wrote a note to Mr. Moffatt, in which you stated that Mr. Thompson might be considered a trustworthy person; you stated that entirely from the reliance you placed upon the recommendation of Mr. Gilbert. With regard to that term "a trustworthy person," was it intended or sought to be conveyed that "trustworthy" meant anything else than honest in the conveyance of money?—Upon my word I can scarcely say what was meant. I did not scan or weigh the word; but certainly at that time I had no knowledge that any money at all would be sent, or that any money was to be sent, for any improper purpose.

1139. But did not Mr. Moffatt tell you in conversation in the House of Commons that he required some person, and that he wanted to know from you whether you could recommend a trustworthy person, to take money to Gloucester?—He asked me if I could find some person to take the money down to Gloucester. "Trustworthy" meant, in that case, "honest."

1140. That was the interpretation you put upon it at that time?—I cannot say at this moment what my impression was then.

1141. Was any sum of money mentioned in that conversation?—None whatever; nor was it stated to be even certain that any would be sent. It was simply stated that it possibly might be sent.

1142. Did you gather, directly or indirectly, from what Mr. Moffatt stated to you, that any money would be required to be spent in Gloucester for bribery?—Most assuredly not; Mr. Moffatt never said a single word to me that could imply in any way that he intended to send down any money for the purpose of bribery.

1143. Did you hear from, or were you led to believe by any other person than Mr. Moffatt, that money would be required for bribery to gain Mr. Monk's election?—I never spoke, that I am aware of, to any person connected with Gloucester; I knew nothing of Gloucester. That conversation between myself and Mr. Moffatt was the only one that took place with reference to it, and I do not believe I had any conversation upon the subject with any other person.

1144. The next stage in the business is the receipt of a letter about the 22d of April?—The receipt of a letter containing a cheque.

1145. From whom did that letter come;—From Mr. Moffatt.

1146. Where did you receive that letter?—In Ryder Street, at private lodgings I had.

1147. Were those lodgings taken in Ryder Street for any other purpose than a residence?—They were never taken as a residence. I had a great deal to do with the elections of the Liberal party, and took those lodgings for myself; my own residence being a great way off.

1148. That being a more central spot, you took lodgings in Ryder Street, it being convenient to yourself in the political arrangements that were going on?—Precisely.

1149. You were largely connected with the various elections that were proceeding throughout the country?—I was.

1150. And it became necessary to make arrangements in different places, and those lodgings in Ryder Street were convenient for that purpose?—Yes.

1151. And it was to Ryder Street that that letter was addressed to you by Mr. Moffatt?—Yes.

1152. Did you not state just now that you expected to receive a letter from Mr. Price upon the subject?—No; I never expected to receive a letter. What I stated I believe was, that in that letter which Mr. Moffatt sent to me he desired that this cheque should be given to Thompson when Mr. Price wrote to that effect; when he wrote approving of it, or giving orders with respect to it.

1153. Did Mr. Price write to you upon the subject?—I mentioned before that Mr. Price did write to me upon the subject, and that I was not quite certain whether his letter was sent to me or not, but my impression was that it was sent to me at Wells.

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Sir W. Hayter, Bart., M.P.

27 Sept. 1859.

1154. I gathered just now that the letter from Mr. Moffatt was received by yourself, and that that was about the 22d April?—Yes.

1155. When was it that you left town and went down to Wells?—About six or seven days or more I think after that. I went out of town when the writs issued.

1156. The nomination day for Gloucester was the 29th of April?—That I do not know; it was after the Wells election. I know the cheque of Mr. Moffatt's stayed some days there in a sealed envelope before it went down.

1157. Was it about the 22d that you received that letter from Mr. Moffatt?—I am not positive as to the date; it might be the 20th or 21st. I cannot say the precise date; it was somewhere about that time.

1158. You yourself did not take any part, I understand, in obtaining the money?—I knew nothing whatever about it.

1159. The cheque was given by you to Mr. Parkes?—I put it into an envelope, and put it into my despatch box; and I requested Mr. Parkes, in the event of receiving a letter from Mr. Price, to send it as Mr. Price directed.

1160. But you left the cheque for Mr. Parkes to obtain possession of it if he wished?—It was desirable that he should.

1161. You only received the cheque in the letter which was sent to you by Mr. Moffatt; that cheque was a cheque on Mr. Ralli; by whom was that cheque signed?—I believe by Mr. Moffatt. I believe it was a cheque by Mr. Moffatt on Mr. Ralli.

1162. To whom was it payable; to bearer or order?—I do not know; I do not think I ever read the cheque. I was in a hurry, and put it into the envelope.

1163. Did any other money at all, or cheques, pass through your hands or come under your cognizance respecting the Gloucester election except that?—Not one single farthing. That was the only sum of money of any description that I ever heard of or knew anything about as connected with the Gloucester election.

1164. I think you have stated that you are under an impression that a letter was received by Mr. Parkes from Mr. Price, and that that letter of Mr. Price's was forwarded to yourself?—I am satisfied a letter was received from Mr. Price, not addressed to Mr. Parkes, but addressed to me, because on my going out of town I requested Mr. Parkes to open all the letters directed to me, thirty or forty, perhaps, of a morning, and if he found one from Mr. Price to act upon it; and my strong impression is that Mr. Parkes did send that letter down to me at Wells; but I am bound to say it is an impression only; and I have no recollection of the precise terms of that letter other than I have stated.

1165. Was it with reference to the person to whom the money was to be sent?—It was with reference to the person to whom the money was to be sent. It was to be sent to Mr. John Wilton.

1166. Your impression is that the statement was that it was to be sent by you to Mr. John Wilton?—Yes.

1167. Had you any knowledge of any sort of Thompson before his name was mentioned to you by Gilbert?—I most solemnly declare I never heard or knew anything of him before.

1168. You did not know that he had been for many years before engaged as an electioneering agent, and connected with elections in a very ambiguous manner?—I certainly, most emphatically and solemnly, say that I never knew or heard of him till that time, or that he had been engaged, or that he was in existence. I was deceived, no doubt.

1169. Did it at all appear to you as extraordinary that the money should be required to be sent to Mr. Wilton by Thompson for the purpose of conducting Mr. Monk's election?—I relied upon Mr. Price. I cannot refer to the grounds which Mr. Price will state when examined by the Commissioners, but if I am at liberty to say what Mr. Price told me, I would say certainly more.

1170. We will hear what Mr. Price has stated to you; we are quite ready to hear that?—Mr. Price stated that there was great difficulty in Mr. Monk procuring any agent at all; that there was a pressure made upon him for money for expenses, for messengers and various other matters. Mr. Price will recollect it better than I can. He stated that there was a great pressure made upon Mr. Monk for money, and that he had provided his own agent with money, and that no money came from Mr. Monk's agent; that there was a great difficulty as to the agent, first of all in consequence of the late agent refusing to act, and that up to the last moment no agent was appointed at all. Mr. Wilton and another gentleman whose name I do not recollect were continually pressing for money; and he thought, under the circumstances, that Mr. Wilton was more like an agent than anybody else. It was with that motive that he directed the money to be sent to Mr. Wilton under the pressure made for money.

1171. Is that a statement which had been made to you by Mr. Price subsequent to the election, and subsequent to the disclosures which took place before the Parliamentary Committee in London?—It was made to me subsequently to that time. Mr. Price said he had no difficulty about being examined; he said he should state precisely what was the case; I relied upon Mr. Price.

1172. You relied on Mr. Price, and considered that any arrangement that was made by him would be one which you would be justified in sanctioning?—I thought so.

1173. You were not of opinion yourself that any transaction in which you were concerned with Mr. Price would involve the employment of money for the purpose of bribery?—Not at all.

1174. As far as you are concerned you were entirely unaware at the time that money was sent to you that it was required for the purpose of bribery?—I solemnly declare that I never knew, and had no means of knowing, that any money of any sort was to be applied for the purpose of bribery.

1175. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you inquired of Mr. Gilbert for a trustworthy person, did you understand that he was to be merely a carrier of so much money, or that he was to disburse money?—I certainly understood that he was to be a trustworthy person to carry down the money; but I never had a notion at any time that such a man was to be employed for the purpose of disbursement, or that there was any person to be employed for the purpose of making disbursements.

1176. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have had very great experience in elections. Has not the part you have taken in political affairs brought to your knowledge the character of the different boroughs and counties in England?—With regard to a great many I know a good deal about them.

1177. I suppose your knowledge is not inferior to that of the late Mr. Coppock?—I really know very little. Mr. Coppock knew a great deal.

1178. Does Mr. Parkes now occupy the position Mr. Coppock formerly did?—Undoubtedly not; he holds a legal position of considerable emolument.

1179. Who occupies the position that Mr. Coppock did?—There is no person; it is quite open.

1180. It is not occupied by a person named Baker, is it? Do you know Mr. Baker?—I do.

1181. Mr. Cooper?—Yes, I know him. I may say, that Mr. Coppock's place is "in commission."

1182. Amongst other boroughs have you ever heard the character of Gloucester?—It really does so happen that with many boroughs I have had connexion of different kinds, but I have never had on any occasion any connexion whatever with Gloucester. The fact is, I have never been in Gloucester until yesterday in my life, except for an hour; and

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I do not think I have had any communication with anybody connected with Gloucester or with reference to Gloucester.

1183. Are you not aware that this borough has been charged for years past with bribery at elections?—I have heard of a great many boroughs that have been pure and impure; but I should certainly say that the character of Gloucester does not stand high.

1184. That you are aware of, and you were aware of it at the time, were you not?—It is notorious of course.

1185. You were aware of it at the time you consented to nominate a person to carry down money on behalf of a candidate. At the time that you were asked to be the medium of communication with respect to the money, had you any suspicion as to the object for which the money was wanted?—I do not think that that is a question I can fairly answer. I say distinctly I had no knowledge whatever of there being any intended application of money for improper purposes, but when you come to suspicion you must pardon me for saying that that is hardly a fair question.

1186. I dare say you would endorse the opinion the late Mr. Coppock gave, that if he were allowed to go through the list of boroughs in England in the manner in which Mr. Edwardes went through the register at St. Albans he would make as extraordinary a disclosure as Mr. Edwardes had made; are you prepared to endorse that opinion?—No; on the contrary, I believe a great many places against which allegations are made with regard to impurity are perfectly pure. It is a common thing for people to say a great sum has been expended in a place, whereas it turns out on inquiry that not a third of the money has been spent.

1187. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose you are acquainted with the Act of Parliament which regulates the manner of paying election expenses?—I confess to you that I ought to be acquainted with it, but practically I have always considered it a dead letter.

1188. Did you not take part yourself in the House of Commons in passing that measure?—Very probably, but I never considered it as practically carried out. Everybody acquainted with election matters knows it is almost invariably the practice to send the different agents the money necessary for election expenses. I have never known a contest myself of any sort in which the funds have not been sent notwithstanding that Act; I think it is quite useless.

1189. But the auditors are appointed under the sanction of Parliament?—No doubt it is wrong not to obey an Act of Parliament; I am not saying it is not; what I say is, that practically that Act of Parliament is uniformly disobeyed, and I believe the experience of the Commissioners will extend to justify that opinion.

1190. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have stated what you know about Mr. Gilbert; is that all you know about him?—That is all I did know of him till the period of the last general election; since the last general election I have heard a good deal of Mr. Gilbert which I was very sorry to hear.

1191. You were under the idea that Mr. Gilbert was in London practising as a parliamentary agent?—He wrote to me to say so, and his card says so; parliamentary agent and election agent; he wrote to me in the character of a parliamentary agent.

1192. Have you any knowledge whether he ever did practise as a parliamentary agent?—No; he solicited me to get him practice as a parliamentary agent and also as an electioneering agent.

1193. Have you seen Mr. Gilbert lately?—I once saw him casually; he was sent down, I believe, to make inquiries with respect to supposed corrupt practices at Dover by the agent who was employed against the sitting members, and I recollect Mr. Gilbert having some documents with reference to that.

1194. You have had no communication with him with reference to this inquiry?—Not a word; I never saw him.

1195. Have you had no communication with any one else with reference to this inquiry?—Not that I am aware of.

1196. Not with Mr. Parkes?—I have stated that I had a communication with Mr. Parkes; and he is here.

1197. Were you present at any meeting that was held last Friday in London with reference to this inquiry?—No; I do not know of any meeting with regard to this inquiry. I never attended any.

1198. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did the letter of Mr. Moffatt of which you have spoken get into Mr. Parkes's hands?—My impression is that the letter was put into or by the side of the envelope. I am sure it was put somewhere or other with the envelope, so that one should demonstrate the use of the other.

1199. Will you see if you can find that letter?—I have a perfect knowledge that on the receipt of Mr. Parkes's letter I tore it up. I thought the matter was concluded, and there was an end of it; but I am perfectly certain that there was nothing in that letter which would induce any suspicion that Mr. Price had any knowledge of anything wrong.

1200. Are you aware of any money having been sent to Gloucester during the election in 1857?—I forget who were the candidates.

1201. Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Price, and Sir Maurice Berkeley?—I have really no recollection whatever of any money having been sent to Gloucester at any time. I recollect at that time that there was a petition, and Sir Maurice Berkeley was rather angry that he could not get assistance in that petition, and I think at that time upon the petition there was a small sum of money (300*l.* I think) advanced, which he subsequently repaid. That is the only sum, I think.

1202. So far as you know, prior to the petition no money had been supplied from any source over which you had control?—I believe not. I think I should have known it had it been so, but I really do not remember it. I have no means of ascertaining.

1203. Not at this moment?—No; nor have I any means of ascertaining hereafter.

1204. Have you any distinct impression upon the subject, so as to enable you to say "Yes" or "No," that the money was sent or not sent?—My belief is that no money at all was sent; not a farthing. That is my strong belief and impression at this moment. I believe he was rather hurt that no assistance was given.

1205. You are aware that at that election there was a strong contest for the city. Sir Robert Carden was then a candidate for the first time in the Conservative interest. The only amount of money you speak to was a sum of 300*l.* which was advanced to Sir Maurice Berkeley?—Yes, for the petition, which he repaid.

1206. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are in the habit at the Reform Club, are you not, of sending down money to boroughs at the elections?—Certainly not. I will willingly answer any question you put upon that subject. It is an entire misapprehension. The Reform Club had nothing to do with it.

1207. You say 300*l.* was sent for the petition. From what fund did that come?—It was a fund subscribed; it had nothing to do with the Reform Club.

1208. Who had the administration of that fund?—I had; I had not at the last election.

1209. Then you are not aware whether any money was sent from that fund at this last election?—I am sure there was not. Of course I am not sure, because I had not the management of it; but I do not believe there was a farthing. I am as morally sure of it as that I stand here. I do not believe that there was any application made for it, or any intention of sending it.

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P. Ralli.

PANDIA RALLI sworn and examined.

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1210. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are the father-in-law of Mr. Monk, who was returned as member for this city ?—Yes.

1211. Do you remember having any conversation with Mr. Moffatt, some time in the month of March last, regarding the expenses of your son-in-law's election ?—I will give you a statement of all the transactions which I have had with Mr. Moffatt upon that question. The 19th of April was my first communication with Mr. Moffatt. As far as my recollection goes, I received a note from Mr. Moffatt to call upon him touching Gloucester. I knew that my son-in-law was to be a candidate for the election at Gloucester, and I waited immediately on Mr. Moffatt. We had a short conversation concerning some money which must be found for the expenses of the election of my son-in-law, and Mr. Moffatt asked me if I would advance the money. I had no communication whatever with Mr. Monk upon the subject of these expenses, but I heard from Mr. Moffatt and others that the candidates ought not to interfere with the expenses of the election till after the election should be over, and so, knowing that Mr. Moffatt was the adviser of Mr. Monk, I had no great objection to advance the money. Then he said, "As far as £500 would you advance ?" I said, "Most certainly, yes."

1212. Was that the whole conversation that took place on the 19th of April ?—On the 19th.

1213. Did you see Mr. Moffatt again ?—On the 21st I think I received a note from him, advising of having drawn upon me a cheque for 500*l.* I think that was on the 23d as far as I recollect.

1214. Did you not see Mr. Moffatt after the 19th of April, and between that time and the election at Gloucester ?—Yes, I saw him.

1215. When did you see him ?—I cannot recollect the day when I saw him.

1216. On the 19th of April you saw Mr. Moffatt first ; the 29th of April was the nomination day at Gloucester ; there are ten days between those two dates ; can you say on what day it was that you saw Mr. Moffatt ?—I cannot answer that question.

1217. But you did see him ?—A correspondence took place between me and Mr. Moffatt.

1218. But I am asking you as to seeing him ?—I cannot recollect whether I saw him. I saw him after the election, but before the election I cannot recollect whether I saw him but once.

1219. Can you recollect whether any conversation took place between you and Mr. Moffatt, except what you have already stated to us about the election ?—No, I do not recollect.

1220. Did you receive any letter from Mr. Moffatt except the one on the 21st of April ?—Yes, I did receive some others.

1221. When was the next one ?—If you will allow me, I will refer to my memorandum (*the witness refers to some papers*). I received another note on the 21st April.

1222. Are those papers which you have in your hand the letters which you received from Mr. Moffatt ? —Yes.

1223. Just tell us the dates of them, and then hand them in, if you please ?—The first on the 19th of April, the next the 22d, the next the 26th, and then one on the 1st of June, the next on the fourth of June, and the last the 6th of June.

1224. Will you be kind enough to hand those letters in, if you please ?—

[The witness delivers them in.]

1225. I understand Mr. Moffatt told you in conversation that it was not usual for candidates to take part in the affairs of elections till after the elections were over, as regarded money matters ?—Yes.

1226. Did he give that as a reason why the money should come from you ?—I suppose he did ; I suppose he understood it so.

1227. And you understood it so ?—I understood it so.

1228. Your son-in-law, Mr. Monk, I believe, is a gentleman of fortune, is he not, himself ?—He is well off.

1229. Did Mr. Moffatt at all say to you for what purposes the money would be required, or for what special purposes it would be required ?—Only for expenses, for legal expenses.

1230. For legal expenses ?—Of course.

1231. He said so ?—I do not recollect that he said so, but I have not a doubt that if he had said illegal I should not have advanced the money ; of course I should not, because it would have been against my son-in-law.

1232. Did he say he required the money for legal expenses only ?—That is what I understood.

1233. You sent a cheque to Mr. Moffatt, we understand, for 500*l.* ; at least Mr. Moffatt drew a draft upon you for 500*l.* ?—Yes.

1234. In whose favour was that cheque drawn ?—It was through Sir William Hayter, to be paid to a person of the name of Thompson.

1235. But what I want to know is this ; whose name appeared as the payee of the cheque, as the person to receive the money ?—The cheque is there (*referring to the papers before put in*).

1236. "Please pay to Mr. Richard Thompson, the bearer of this, taking his receipt for the same, the sum of 500*l.* sterling, in pursuance of your wishes expressed to me yesterday." The receipt is behind. This is dated the 20th of April ?—The receipt is on the 26th of April ; I think I paid it then.

1237. After the payment of that money were you applied to again to advance any further sum of money? —Yes, I paid a cheque of 200*l.* to Robarts and Co., Bankers, of London, to the credit of Robert Wilton.

1238. When was that ?—I think it was on the 23d of April that I paid it ; I think I paid it then.

1239. Then that second payment to Mr. Robert Wilton was paid by you before the 500*l.* ?—Yes ; but I had a communication on the 21st for the 500*l.*.

1240. After that what further sums did you supply ?—It was, I think, on the 4th of June I paid a further sum of 200*l.* to Mr. Moffatt.

1241. £200 ?—£200.

1242. Any further sum ?—No more.

1243. Have you had any conversation with your son-in-law, Mr. Monk, as to the expenses of the election ?—No, none, except much after the election.

1244. Prior to the election had you no conversation with him ?—No conversation with him.

1245. But since the election you have ?—Yes, since.

1246. Did you ascertain from him how much money he himself had paid to different parties on account of the election ?—No, I have not asked him. In conversation I have heard him complaining of the expenses, but I have not asked him any questions about it.

1247. You have not received from him any account of what he did pay further than his complaining of the expenses ?—No.

1248. And that, I understand you to say, has been recently ?—Yes.

1249. In conversation ?—In conversation.

1250. Were you yourself in Gloucester during the election ?—No, I was not.

1251. Was your son here ?—My son was here.

1252. What is his name ?—Peter Ralli.

1253. Did you before or during the election yourself send any person down with money to Gloucester ?—No, certainly not.

1254. Does the total amount of money which has passed through your hands, and come from you in connexion with this election, consist of the various sums of 500*l.*, 200*l.*, and 200*l.* ?—Yes; no more than 900*l.* in three different amounts.

1255. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know, besides what you have paid yourself, of any other money having been expended ?—No.

1256. Have you ever heard the amount which the election cost your son-in-law ?—No, I have not heard. I heard him complaining of the large amount. I

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heard him complaining of the expense, but he never mentioned the amount.

1257. Have you heard what the amount was from anybody else?—No. I take very little interest in electioneering matters.

1258. Who told you your son-in-law was to be a candidate?—I heard it from himself. He was residing with me in London.

1259. He told you he was about to become a candidate?—Yes.

1260. Was anything said to you about the expenses?—He did not say anything whatever.

1261. Not one word?—No.

1262. Did he tell you he would not speak to you on the subject of expenses?—He did not say anything about them.

1263. Did you ask him about the expenses?—No. I do not understand electioneering matters, and I did not ask him.

1264. Did it not occur to you to ask whether it would be an expensive thing his becoming a candidate?—I do not think I asked him that question.

1265. From whom did you understand that candidates ought not to know anything about expenses till after the election?—I heard it from Mr. Moffatt and others.

1266. Was any reason given to you for that?—No.

1267. Did you think it in the ordinary course of business that a person who was to spend his money should know nothing about the way in which it was spent?—No. As I have said, I do not understand electioneering.

1268. Did you not think that it was an extraordinary circumstance that a person's money was to be spent without his knowledge?—It is extraordinary.

1269. Did it not occur to you at the time that it was extraordinary?—It did not strike me at all at the time.

1270. Can you give me any reason whatever for your conduct in not asking Mr. Monk about the expenses?—I cannot give you any reason. I did not ask him.

1271. Was it Mr. Moffatt who told you not to communicate with him about the expenses?—Mr. Moffatt said, "It is customary that the candidates should not interfere with money for the election expenses till after the election is over."

1272. Was that the reason why you made no communication whatever to your son-in-law on the subject—Yes.

1273. In consequence of what Mr. Moffatt said to you?—Yes.

1274. You received no suggestion from your son-in-law himself upon the matter?—None.

1275. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you understand that if the candidate himself paid money his seat would be in danger if he were elected; was that your understanding?—Will you repeat your question, if you please?

1276. Did you understand that if the candidate himself paid money at the election his seat if he were elected would be endangered?—What I understood was this, that the candidate ought not to interfere in expenses till after the election was over.

1277. Why should he not interfere; did you understand that?—No, I did not. I do not understand about elections; I never interfered in any election.

1278. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I see among the letters you put in there is a letter dated the 1st of June 1859, signed by Mr. Moffatt, and it runs thus: "Confidential. My dear Sir,—I have received the enclosed letter from Gloucester this morning. I also send other documents, Nos. 1 to 5, for your perusal, and shall be very glad to confer with you on the subject of these documents as early as you please. I think them both unpleasant and very unsatisfactory. Yours faithfully, G. Moffatt." Will you tell me what the nature of those documents was?—Mr. Moffatt wrote me that note, and sent a letter from Gloucester asking further money for the expenses of the election, besides those five envelopes relating to further expenses. Well, I waited upon Mr. Moffatt on receiving this note, and I told him that I had perused his letter as well as those enclosures, and I said, "As I do not understand anything about them, I will not pay any further money for the account of Mr. Monk unless I have an order from him, or upon his responsibility."

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1279. Upon Mr. Monk's responsibility?—No; Mr. Moffatt's responsibility; that, on his responsibility, I should have no objection to pay a further sum of money for Mr. Monk. Mr. Moffatt said, "Never mind; I will try either to see or to write to Mr. Monk;" which he did, and I think one or two days after, if I recollect right, I received an order from Mr. Monk to place to the credit of Mr. Moffatt 500*l.* Mr. Moffatt has drawn only 200*l.*, and that is what was paid on the 4th of June, or the 6th of June, I think it was.

1280. My question related to the documents Nos. 1 to 5, which were enclosed in this letter from Mr. Moffatt for your perusal; what were those documents?—They were asking about further money.

1281. From whom did the applications come?—I do not recollect who they were; they were from Gloucester, but from whom I do not know.

1282. You have handed in these letters, but documents Nos. 1 to 5 do not appear to be among them; what was done with them?—I returned them to Mr. Moffatt.

1283. What was the amount referred to, do you know?—The amount they were asking?

1284. Yes.—I do not recollect.

1285. He says they are both unpleasant and unsatisfactory.—Yes, because they were asking more money.

1286. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you received an order from Mr. Monk to place 500*l.* to the credit of Mr. Moffatt; when was that?—I think it was on the 2d of June.

1287. Had you any conversation with Mr. Monk about the order at the time?—No; I think he was at his house in the country at that time, and he sent me the order to London.

1288. Have you that letter?—The order you mean?

1289. Yes.—Yes, I have got it.

1290. Was there a letter with it?—No.

1291. No explanation was given to you of it.—No explanation of it; I think there was an explanation of it by Mr. Moffatt.

1292. Here is a letter of the 6th of June. "The enclosed is an extract of a letter received this morning from Gloucester, which appears satisfactory, to explain your second remittance." And this is the extract, "I have omitted to mention that I find on inquiry that 200*l.* was transmitted to a gentleman in Gloucester, a relative of mine, who has expended 80*l.* in legitimate expenses, and is willing to account for the remainder." Do you know from whose letter that was an extract?—I do not know.

GEORGE MOFFATT called, and further examined.

G. Moffatt.

1293. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I read you a letter just now dated the 1st of June, signed by yourself; will you be kind enough to explain this paragraph: "I also send other documents, Numbers 1 to 5, for your perusal, and shall be very glad to confer with you on the subject of those documents as early as you please; I think them both unpleasant and very unsatisfactory." What were those documents?—Those documents were letters from Gloucester, as far as my memory serves, for more money; to the extent, I think, of 500*l.*

1294. Can you state what the extent of that application was?—I think the extent of it was 500*l.*, which I declined to accede to on the part of Mr. Monk. I sent him 200*l.*

1295. Were those documents which were sent, 1 to 5, five different documents, numbered 1, 2, 3, 4,

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G. Moffatt.
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and 5?—My belief is, that they would be most likely letters from Mr. Wilton.

1296. Were they accounts or statements of claims on Mr. Monk?—No; I think they were rather general statements of moneys they had disbursed or that they had promised should be paid, and that they wanted the money to fulfil their promises. I should rather say they were statements of engagements that they had made on the part of Mr. Monk, and which they wanted the money to fulfil.

1297. What has become of those letters?—I think I sent them to Mr. Price, who had a curiosity to see them, and I am in doubt whether he returned them; my impression is that I sent them to Mr. Price.

1298. Why did you send them to Mr. Price?—They shared in the expense, and Mr. Price wished to see them.

1299. Then there is a letter, which is dated the 6th of June 1859, addressed to Mr. Ralli, and on the back of the letter there is this: "I find on inquiry that 200*l.* was transmitted to a gentleman in Gloucester, a relative of mine, who has expended about 80*l.* in legitimate expenses, and is willing to account for the remainder." To whom was that 200*l.* sent?—That I think was to Mr. John Pleydell Wilton. Will you allow me to look at the letter? [*The letter is handed to the witness.*] This is an extract of a note or letter which I received from Mr. John Pleydell Wilton.

1300. Did you understand when you received those documents 1 to 5, that they referred to expenses not legal?—I should say from the tenor of my note to Mr. Ralli that it was so; I have no hesitation in saying that it was so, that they did refer to expenses not legal.

1301. They were "unpleasant and very unsatisfactory"?—Yes; my impression is that they were unpleasant and very unsatisfactory.

1302. Did they express in direct terms that the money was required for the purpose of satisfying promises for votes?—No; I do not think it was so strong as that.

1303. Did you understand from the letters that the money was wanted to repay money that had been borrowed from parties in Gloucester?—That is rather the impression that I have on my mind. I do not think it was stated in precise terms, but that was the impression left on my mind.

1304. Mr. Wilton, in his examination yesterday, told us he borrowed 200*l.* from a Mr. Bretherton, and 40*l.* from a Mr. Cooksey, and 50*l.* from Mr. Robert Wilton; do you know whether the names of those parties were mentioned in that letter?—I am perfectly sure they were not.

1305. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you received applications yourself from any other person in Gloucester since the election?—No; I know no person in Gloucester.

1306. But, acting as the friend of Mr. Monk, have you received any applications for repayment of money spent on his behalf in Gloucester?—Not a single one.

1307. Have you heard from Mr. Price that such applications have been made?—I do not remember to have heard it.

1308. I do not think we had in your examination, in a complete form, what the agreement was which was originally made by you on behalf of Mr. Monk as to the sharing of expenses between Mr. Monk and Mr. Price?—Mr. Monk was to pay two thirds, and Mr. Price one third.

1309. Was there any reason assigned for such an arrangement as that?—Yes; reasons were assigned which were perfectly satisfactory to me.

1310. Was it understood at the time that that agreement was made that there were two classes of expenses, one of which was to be divided equally, and the other of which was to be shared in the manner you state?—Most certainly not.

1311. Did the agreement relate to the legal expenses alone?—As I have stated in my evidence in chief, it did; I have stated so twice.

1312. How came it then that afterwards the legal expenses were actually divided equally?—I am not aware that they have been divided equally. Will you be good enough to inform me how it appears that they have been divided equally?

1313. Did you ever have any conversation with Mr. Monk on the subject of paying the expenses of the election?—I advised him not to pay any more money till all the bills were got in.

1314. He desired you not to pay any money?—I advised him not to pay any more money until the whole of the bills against the two candidates were sent in.

1315. Did Mr. Monk assent to that advice?—Yes, I believe he did.

1316. Did he request you not to pay the money?—No, he did not; I advised him not to pay.

1317. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you received the documents 1 to 5, mentioned in that letter to Mr. Ralli, you were asked to pay 500*l.* but actually paid 200*l.*; upon what principle did you select 200*l.*?—It is very difficult to answer the question as to the principle upon which I selected 200*l.*, but I should say generally upon this account, that there were urgent expenses, and I thought 200*l.* would be sufficient to meet those, and it would still keep the total amount Mr. Monk would have to pay considerably within the mark he had agreed to pay.

1318. Did you understand the 200*l.* applied to legal or illegal expenses?—I should certainly, as far as 200*l.* would go, think it would go for legal expenses.

1319. Did you look at the demand made amounting to 500*l.*, and did you distinguish that 200*l.* were legal expenses and 300*l.* illegal, or did you distinctly say, "Instead of paying 500*l.* we will pay 200*l.*"?—Such a calculation did not enter into my mind; I simply advised 200*l.* because it kept the amount considerably within the amount Mr. Monk would have to pay according to his agreement.

1320. You paid 200*l.* in fact on account of the "unsatisfactory and unpleasant" applications?—On account of the claims made.

1321. And the claims referred to in Mr. Wilton's letters which you have mentioned?—No; the intention was that the 200*l.* should be only applied to the payment of debts for which there was a legal claim.

1322. Did you give any particular direction how the 200*l.* should be applied?—No.

1323. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) With reference to the original agreement, was it not understood that Mr. Monk should pay no other expenses than those included in the agreement under which he would have to pay two thirds and Mr. Price one third?—Decidedly; there was a strong pledge given by the deputation that in no event could the expenses exceed 1,500*l.*, of which Mr. Price was to pay one third.

1324. Did Mr. Monk, when he gave you credit with Mr. Ralli for 500*l.* on the 4th of June, request you not to draw upon it until you had received from his agent an account of the expenses?—No; I think it was rather after this way: I said an application had been made for 500*l.*, but I advised him not to remit more than 200*l.*, and he said very well.

1325. Was anything said about payments being postponed till after the accounts were made up?—I think it most likely I advised him,—it is common sense that I should do so,—to pay no more money on account.

1326. Did you communicate those letters to Mr. Monk before you communicated them to Mr. Ralli?—I really do not know.

1327. Afterwards did you?—I am not sure that he ever saw them; I believe he has not seen them.

Sir W. Hayter.—I wish to state that, on further recollection, it occurs to me that I may have been led into error in what I have said with regard to the election of 1857. I have no recollection upon the subject now, but I will make inquiry and ascertain.

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FRANK GREY called, and further examined. *F. Grey.* 27 Sept. 1859.

1328. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you made a list of those telegrams ?—Yes.

1329. You were examined here yesterday ?—Yes.

1330. How many telegrams do you produce ?—39.

1331. Just count them over, and see that you have the number correctly, if you please ?—They are quite correct.

1332. Hand them in, if you please.

[The witness delivers them in.]

JOSEPH PARKES sworn and examined. *J. Parkes.*

1333. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You heard the statement made by Sir William Hayter this morning, did you not ?—I heard it generally.

1334. You were in court during his examination ?—Yes.

1335. We learn from Sir William Hayter that he had a communication with you respecting the manner in which a cheque for 500*l.* was to be dealt with if it reached Ryder Street in his absence ?—No ; not exactly that ; an order in his absence.

1336. An order on Mr. Ralli ?—I knew nothing of that.

1337. A letter from Mr. Price was to be addressed to Sir William Hayter, in Ryder Street, and upon the receipt of that letter you were to do something with a cheque for 500*l.* ?—The fact was this ; that Sir William Hayter, who was leaving town for his own election which was unopposed,—leaving the evening before the day of nomination,—was in the room where I was, and he asked me if I would be good enough to open his letters, and he also gave me, I think, two directions. He stated, to the best of my rocollection, that there was a cheque of Mr. Moffatt's, of what amount I do not know, and that he should leave it in the box. He had a despatch box in which were some private letters and papers, and he stated, as I recollect the matter, that if Mr. Price of Gloucester or Mr. Moffatt sent any order, I was to deliver the cheque to the bearer ; that is to my recollection all that passed.

1338. You yourself did not see what the contents of that envelope were ?—I did not, and I know not, except so far as I have heard here ; I knew there was a cheque of Mr. Moffatt's from Sir William Hayter, and simply that.

1339. Was that envelope and the cheque in it left in this box at the lodgings in Ryder Street ?—It was.

1340. Were you in the habit of going to those lodgings daily ?—During the four days of Sir William Hayter's absence I went to open his letters, and did open them ; such few as I thought were private I remember I sent to Wells, or they were sent by somebody in the room by my direction.

1341 What was the day on which the communication was made to you by Sir William Hayter ?—I think the day before the day of his nomination. I have no doubt it was. I know there was a cab at the door, and there were only two things he mentioned to me, one this letter and the cheque, and the other was about a county election.

1342. What day was it that you received the letter from Mr. Price ?—I have not the least recollection of receiving any letter from him.

1343. Do you believe a letter did come from him ?—I assure you I have not the least recollection of it, or of my sending any letter ; for though the borough correspondence was over, or the greater part of it, still a great number of letters came.

1344. Did you, by Sir William Hayter's directions, open various letters addressed to him ?—I had been an old friend of his, and he asked me to do it ; and I did it. Generally, I went there in the morning, early.

1345. Have you no recollection of receiving a letter from Mr. Price, or of sending one to Sir William Hayter ?—I have not ; I may have done so, but I have not any recollection of it.

1346. When did you give that envelope to a person of the name of Thompson ?—I did not give it to any such person, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1347. To whom did you give it ?—I was called out of the room by one of the messengers, and a very respectable looking person presented to me a note, which I believe was from Mr. Moffatt, but it was not to Sir William Hayter.

1348. It was a note addressed to you ?—No ; it was not addressed to me ; it was not a note addressed to Sir William Hayter, or to anybody.

1349. Not addressed to any person at all ?—I do not know to whom it was addressed ; nor do I know anything further than that on being shown the letter I knew that it was Mr. Moffatt's order to the individual to receive the envelope.

1350. From whom did the note purport to come ?—From Mr. Moffatt ; I have a most confident recollection of that. I never thought of the matter till three weeks ago, but I have a confident recollection that the instruction to me was to deliver it on the order of Mr. Moffatt or Mr. Price.

1351. Do you remember what day that was ?—I do not ; I know it was not the first day that Sir William Hayter left.

1352. Had you ever seen the person before who presented that note ?—I do not know that I had or had not ; I do not think I had.

1353. Do you know a person of the name of Thompson ?—I do not.

1354. Whether the person who presented the note was Thompson or not you are are not able to state ?—I only heard last night, in conversation, that it was Mr. Webb ; I had forgotten the name, and that brought it to my mind. I believe it was a Mr. Webb who gave it to me. I am not quite certain that I should even know the gentleman again. I might do so, but I am not certain that I should.

1355. I presume you would not part with an envelope containing what you knew to be an order for money unless you were satisfied that the person who applied for it was a proper person to receive it ?—I was satisfied by Mr. Moffatt's note.

1356. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it a sealed or an open note ?—I think it was open in the gentleman's hands who brought it to me. I did not know him. I know the names of scarcely any of the election agents now.

1357. Mr. Gilbert ?—I do not know his name ; I may have met him in former days, but I do not know him now.

1358. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you, after the day on which you gave that envelope to the person who came from Mr. Moffatt, see that same person to whom you gave the envelope ?—I have no recollection that I ever did.

1359. You have no recollection of seeing that person during the progress of the election ?—No ; indeed I was not there except the greater part of one Saturday. I was there generally at ten o'clock, and again at half past four or five.

1360. Do you recollect seeing a person who introduced himself to you as Webb ?—I should not have recollected his name at all, not having read the evidence on the Gloucester election petition in London or even a newspaper report of it. I never thought of the name till it was mentioned to me last night on my arrival, and when some conversation passed upon the subject.

1361. As far as your memory serves you, you did not see Mr. Webb during the progress of the elections in April last ?—I have no recollection that I did, but I cannot say who I might have seen or not if I did not know their names.

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J. Parkes.
27 Sept. 1859.

1362. Do you know Mr. Gilbert?—I do not, to the best of my knowledge; I may have seen him for all I know, but I have no sort of recollection of his name or person.

1363. When Sir William Hayter left London about that time I understand you were left in charge of those rooms, to take the place which he had filled up to the time he left London?—I told him I would go there every morning, and open his correspondence, and attend to anything pressing. I said that I would always write to him in the evening, and I believe I did write, with the exception of one day.

1364. Was it understood at those rooms that if any application with regard to electioneering matters was made, application should be made to you?—Only so far as the correspondence; I believe it only took place with regard to one borough; nearly all the nominations for boroughs in England and Wales took place at the same time.

1365. After that envelope had been given by you to the person who came to you for it, was any application made to you in respect of the requirment of a further sum of money to be sent down to Gloucester?—I have no recollection of any application being made to me; it might have been made to some one else in the room. I am certain what my answer would have been; that I had no authority in the matter, and no money.

1366. Do you remember any statement of such an application having been made being communicated to you by any person at that place?—I have no recollection of it; I would not say that none was made, but I think I should have remembered it if it had been. There are idle people who at election times come and ask questions. I did not know anything about Gloucester. I am not sure that I knew the second candidate's name. I did know Mr. Price personally as a member of the Reform Club, but I did not know the relation of Mr. Monk with the city of Gloucester.

1367. There is a telegram which we have here from George Webb from the King's Arms Hotel to Edward Thornton, Gloucester Hotel, Gloucester. We understand that Edward Thornton was in fact Thompson, and the telegram is in these words: "I have seen 'P,' and submitted the case; all the rest from home; cannot do more." ?—I have not the slightest recollection of any communication whatever with any one except the man who received the envelope.

1368. You do not know that the 'P' mentioned here was meant for the initial of your name?—I never could have known of it.

1369. Do you say you do not know Webb?—Unless it was a gentleman of that name who called for the envelope; if that was Webb then I do know him, but I am not confident that I should recognise him again.

1370. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You do not recollect his appearance?—Yes, I do; I should say, from recollection, he was a very respectable looking man, a man rather stout and not tall; that is my recollection. I do not think the delivery of the letter was a matter of a quarter of a minute, for I went into the room after seeing his note, and took the envelope and delivered it to him.

1371. That telegram to which I have called your attention was an answer to a telegram sent by Thornton, Gloucester Hotel, to Webb at the King's Arms Hotel, Palace Yard, Westminster; that telegram is dated 28th April. "I want repetition of my medicine; if got send Clarke with it."?—I never heard the name of Clarke in any transaction, to the best of my knowledge.

1372. The other telegram was the answer to that dated 29th April: "I have seen 'P' and submitted the case; all the rest from home; cannot do more." ?—If anybody called to get money for a place, my answer would have been "I know nothing of it, and cannot get any;" but I have no recollection of such a call.

1373. Was any communication made to you by anybody that some person had called requiring more money to be sent to Gloucester?—No; some other person may have received such a telegram, but to my recollection I am utterly ignorant of the application.

1374. Except so far as your evidence goes, and the part you took with regard to that envelope which you were requested by Sir William Hayter to deliver, you have no information as to the transactions connected with the election for this city?—No; none whatever.

1375. Was any communication made to you about it by Sir William Hayter?—None whatever.

1376. Have you any knowledge at all with respect to past elections for this city?—I never had, to the best of my belief, in the great number of elections and petitions in which I have been concerned, anything to do with Gloucester till the year 1838, when I was the agent, and came down to Lord Segrave's and passed a day and night there; there was then a petition, I think against one of the Hopes; I did not get up the facts of the case, but I was the agent of some solicitor, I forget who; that is all I have had to do, directly or indirectly, to the best of my belief, with the city.

1377. You yourself were not cognizant of any of the corrupt practices which prevailed here in 1857?—I was not; I have taken very little interest lately in election matters. I used to take in all the parliamentary reports, but I have not done so for the last six or seven years; and I did not know even till I came down to this city of the impurity imputed to the constituency, or its degree. I do not say it bore the highest reputation in my mind, but I did not know at all the extent of it.

1378. Have you any knowledge, direct or indirect, of any money having been sent down to this city for the election of 1857?—None whatever.

1379. Have you any knowledge of Thompson, who otherwise is called Thornton, or of Clarke?—None whatever, and so far as regards the election you refer to, the last, I am not cognizant of any illegal arrangements or payments; on the contrary, I understood it to be the wish of the Liberal party who interested themselves in the election that nothing of the kind should take place, so far as their own subscribed funds were concerned; and I have never been a party, directly or indirectly, to any appropriation of money for illegal electioneering purposes; nor is there any committee of the Reform Club connected with elections that I have been a party to or have known of. In the three last general elections the Reform Club has not been used for the purpose of the Liberal party arrangements, and I personally have always been opposed to the use of it for such purposes, but for the purpose of parties seeing candidates, and for assignations with local partisans it has, of course, frequently been used. The Reform Club has had nothing whatever to do as a club or committee with elections.

1380. Any arrangements made by the Liberal party are made irrespective of the Reform Club?—Yes; in the three last elections. I have been always opposed, as an early member of the Reform Club, to it, and their name is taken in vain repeatedly and foolishly.

1381. Do you know of any other club at which such arrangements are made?—I have no right to know it; I do not know it of my own knowledge.

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JOHN CLARKE sworn and examined. *J. Clarke.*

27 Sept. 1859.

1382. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your name is John Clarke?—Yes, John Clarke.

1383. Do you know a person of the name of Richard Thompson?—Yes.

1384. How long have you known Mr. Thompson?—I suppose more than twenty years.

1385. In what way have you known him during that period?—As being employed at different elections.

1386. Do you mean that you have been employed by him at different elections?—Yes.

1387. To serve and act under him?—Not exactly to act under him, but with him.

1388. Where are you now residing?—At 22, Hensworth Street, Hoxton, London.

1389. What is your occupation?—A Wholesale Fancy Milliner.

1390. Do you carry on that trade at Hoxton?—Are you the proprietor of the business?—Yes; I assist them in going out for orders when I am not employed on other business.

1391. What I mean is, are you the proprietor of the business, or are you employed by some other person who is the proprietor?—No; it is our own business.

1392. And you carry on that business at 22, Hensworth Street, Hoxton?—Yes.

1393. How long have you carried on that business?—I suppose ten or twelve years.

1394. Before you carried on that business what occupation did you follow?—I was with the late Mr. Joseph Croucher, the well-known Conservative agent; I was in his employment for many years.

1395. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He was an election agent?—Yes.

1396. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many years were you with him?—Twelve or fourteen years, I think; I know I was with him more than twelve.

1397. Did your connexion with Thompson commence when you were with Mr. Croucher?—I was his principal office clerk.

1398. In what capacity did Thompson serve there? He used to attend to the elections that we had.

1399. Was Thompson acting as a clerk?—No, not exactly as a clerk; he was engaged day by day, not as I was; he used to come when he was required.

1400. To attend to the business of elections?—Yes.

1401. You were there as a permanent resident clerk?—Yes.

1402. Did your duty bring you into connexion with the various elections that were superintended by Mr. Croucher?—Yes.

1403. And in that way you became acquainted with Thompson?—Yes.

1404. Were you in the habit of going with Thompson to different places during the time of the elections for the purpose of making arrangements at those elections?—Yes.

1405. Both during the time that you and he were with Mr. Croucher and subsequently?—Yes.

1406. How many elections have you been engaged in, in connexion with Thompson?—I should say more than twenty, considerably since Mr. Croucher's death.

1407. How many during Mr. Croucher's lifetime?—I am sure I cannot say, but a great many.

1408. About how many should you think?—Mr. Croucher had a very extensive business, conducting elections in almost every part of the kingdom.

1409. About how many elections should you think you were engaged in with Thompson during Mr. Croucher's lifetime; can you form any notion?—I should say twenty.

1410. Mr. Croucher, you tell us, was a Conservative election agent?—Yes.

1411. The elections that you took part in during Mr. Croucher's lifetime were elections in the Conservative interest?—Yes, in the Conservative interest, generally.

1412. Of what character, with regard to party distinction, have been the elections in which you have taken part with Thompson since Mr. Croucher's death? Have they been sometimes of one character and sometimes of another?—Yes; principally on the Liberal side.

1413. But since that time there have been elections in which you also have been engaged with Thompson in furtherance of the Conservative side?—No; not with Thompson.

1414. Have you by yourself?—Yes.

1415. In how many elections have you been engaged with Thompson on the Liberal side since Mr. Croucher's death?—I am sure I cannot say positively.

1416. How many should you think?—I should say perhaps a dozen.

1417. During the time that you were with Mr. Croucher in what way were you and Thompson engaged in those elections in which you and he took part?—To assist in the general management of the elections.

1418. In their management in such a way as was necessary to ensure the success of the party by whom you were engaged?—Yes.

1419. Did you and Thompson during that period attend at various places where elections were going on for the purpose of bribery?—Shall I be held harmless if I answer the question?

1420. Yes.—I answer yes, certainly.

1421. It will depend on the way in which you give answers to the questions whether you get a certificate of indemnity or not. Were you and Thompson during the time you were with Mr. Croucher engaged in acts of bribery at places where elections were going on in the Conservative interest?—Yes; in paying the voters.

1422. Have you, since Mr. Croucher's death, been engaged in a similar capacity in various elections in conjunction with Thompson, or in which he took a part?—Yes.

1423. Do you understand my question? Have you been engaged in acts of bribery at elections at places in which you and Thompson have appeared or in which you have appeared since Mr. Croucher's death?—Yes.

1424. I suppose that you knew Mr. Thompson's address and Mr. Thompson knew your address?—Yes.

1525. Whenever you wished to communicate with each other?—Yes.

1426. Where does Thompson live?—4, Bridge Road, Hammersmith.

1427. Were you on intimate terms with him, independent of the arrangement between you and him with respect to elections?—Yes, previous to the last Gloucester election.

1428. Do you know Thompson's handwriting?—Yes.

1429. Do you remember in the month of April last receiving a communication from Thompson?—Yes.

1430. How was that communication made to you?—It was left at the Guildhall Coffee-house in the city of London during the time of the city election.

1431. Where were you?—I was at Maidstone; I had gone in the morning, and was telegraphed back home to London the same evening.

1432. You were at Maidstone on what day?—I think it was on the Tuesday.

1433. What day of the month?—I cannot speak to the day of the month.

1434. Was it on the Tuesday before the day of the election at Gloucester?—Yes.

1435. On Tuesday in the election week?—Yes.

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J. Clarke.
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1436. What had you gone to Maidstone for?—I was sent for to assist at the election.

1437. At the election then going on at Maidstone?—Yes.

1438. On whose behalf were you sent for to Maidstone?—I do not know the gentleman who sent for me; but it was to assist at the county election; not the borough.

1439. To assist which party?—The Conservative party.

1440. How long did you remain at Maidstone?—I went in the morning and came back in the evening.

1441. How came you not to remain there?—Because I received a message from London that I was wanted there; there was a letter waiting for me at the Guildhall Coffee-house.

1442. From whom did you receive that message?—A gentleman told me at Maidstone.

1443. Was there a telegram delivered to you at Maidstone?—I heard it read; I had it not in my own hands, but I heard it read, that I was to return to London, and that I was wanted immediately.

1444. From whom did that telegraph come?—Probably from Thompson; but I cannot say who sent it, because it did not come to me; it came to another party.

1445. Did it state what you were to do?—No.

1446. Did it state where you were to go?—Yes; to go to the Guildhall Coffee-house; that was the committee-room of the Liberal members.

1447. Did you go there?—Yes.

1448. When?—The same evening.

1449. The Tuesday evening?—Yes, the Tuesday evening.

1450. When you went there did you see anybody?—No. I found an envelope directed to me with a card in it; that was the only instruction that I had.

1451. Did you inquire whether there was any note directed to you there when you went there?—I went upstairs, and found it on my own table.

1452. Had you a room in the Guildhall Coffee-house?—I had a table there.

1453. At the Guildhall Coffee-house?—Yes, at the Guildhall Coffee-house.

1454. How long had you a table in a room at the Guildhall Coffee-house?—The whole time the election was pending.

1455. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What election?—For the city of London; I am always employed.

1456. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How long had you been employed there?—About three weeks, I suppose, from the commencement of the election.

1457. Who employed you?—Mr. Ledger and Mr. Sidney Smith; Mr. Ledger was the manager.

1458. How came you to go to Maidstone if you were employed at the Guildhall Coffee-house?—Because it was understood that there would be no contest for the city.

1459. Were you told that your services were not required at the Guildhall Coffee-house?—No. I had seen Mr. Thompson, I think the day before, and he said, "I have got some business in the country; do you think Mr. Ledger will spare you in case I require your services?" I named it in the morning to Mr. Ledger, and he said "I think you had better go, because you will better yourself by going there rather than staying here."

1460. Had you seen Thompson on the Monday?—Yes, on the Monday.

1461. And you applied to Mr. Ledger, and Mr. Ledger was willing that you should go?—Yes.

1462. With Mr. Thompson?—Yes, with Mr. Thompson.

1463. Then how came you to go to Maidstone?—Because I had not a positive answer on the Monday evening from Mr. Thompson, but on the Tuesday there was a letter came for me with this card [*producing it*].

1464. Is that Thompson's handwriting?—Yes.

1465. "Mr. Richard Thompson, Railway Hotel, Gloucester; wait;" that was a card in a letter on a table in a room at the Guildhall Coffee-house?—Yes.

1466. When you were at Maidstone did you tell the parties by whose direction you went to Maidstone that you were about to return to London?—No.

1467. Had you been engaged at Maidstone?—I was not engaged when I went, but I went in expectation of being engaged.

1468. You were requested to go down there?—Yes.

1469. By the Conservative party?—Yes.

1470. Were you not engaged after you got down there?—No, I was not.

1471. In consequence of receiving this card did you leave London and go to Gloucester?—Yes.

1472. When did you leave London?—On the same evening by the mail.

1473. The Tuesday evening?—Yes.

1474. And when did you reach Gloucester?—Perhaps about two o'clock in the morning; it was in the middle of the night.

1475. Did you go to the Railway Hotel?—I did.

1476. You went to an hotel that you thought was the Railway Hotel?—Yes.

1477. The following day you did not meet with Thompson?—No, I did not.

1478. And you then came into Gloucester to make inquiries?—Yes, I did.

1479. What time did you come into Gloucester to make inquiries about Thompson?—About three o'clock in the afternoon.

1480. Where did you go?—I inquired for the Liberal committee-room, and I was told where it was, and I went there to inquire if there was any gentleman I could see connected with the election.

1481. Do you mean by the committee-room, the room that is next to the Shire Hall in Westgate Street?—Yes.

1482. Did you see a gentleman there of the name of Smith?—Well, I inquired of one of the messengers who were the principal parties there that I could speak to on the election, and they referred me to a Mr. Smith; I then went to his office, and the clerk said Mr. Smith was gone home to dinner, but that he would return in the course of an hour.

1483. Did you ultimately see Mr. Smith?—I do not know whether it was Mr. Smith; when I called again I was introduced to a gentleman, but whether it was Mr. Smith or not I cannot tell; it was a gentleman upstairs.

1484. You do not know now who it was?—No, not at this present time I do not.

1485. You saw him upstairs?—Yes.

1486. Did you put to him any questions with respect to a person of the name of Thompson?—I did.

1487. Did he give you any information as to where he could be found?—He did not know a person by that name.

1488. Did you describe the person?—I did.

1489. In consequence of the description you gave were you directed to go anywhere?—After waiting some time there was another gentleman came out, and we had some talk about Mr. Thompson, and he said, "Oh, I think I can direct you where to go to see the person you want."

1490. Who was that other gentleman; did you know him?—I did not.

1491. He having told you he thought he could tell you where the person was that you wanted, what took place; did he refer you to any person?—He went with me.

1492. Where did he go?—To Mr. Wilton's.

1493. You went with him?—Yes.

1494. Where was that, in what street?—I think it is King Street, but I am not sure; I was a stranger in Gloucester.

1495. What time was it?—Between four and five in the afternoon.

1496. Mr. Wilton is a surgeon?—Yes.

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1497. You know that?—Yes, I am quite aware of it.

1498. When you got to Mr. Wilton's was Mr. Wilton at home?—No, he was not.

1499. Did you remain there till Mr. Wilton returned?—Yes.

1500. How long did you remain before he came back?—Do you mean Thompson?

1501. No, Mr. Wilton?—Probably about a quarter of an hour.

1502. Did Mr. Wilton come and see you where you were?—Yes.

1503. Alone?—Yes.

1504. Did you then make any inquiry of him about Thompson?—Yes. He said, "We do not know him by that name here."

1505. By what name did he say he knew him?—Thornton.

1506. You I believe did not go here by the name of Clarke?—No.

1507. You went by the name of Brettles?—Yes.

1508. After Mr. Wilton had told you they did not know him by that name, but by the name of Thornton, did he tell you where you could see him?—He said he expected he would come in very shortly, and asked me to wait.

1509. Did you wait?—Yes.

1510. Did he come in?—Yes; in about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

1511. Then were you, Mr. Wilton, and Thompson together?—Yes.

1512. About what time was it that that meeting between you took place?—I should think between four and five o'clock, as near as I can say.

1513. Did Thompson introduce you to Mr. Wilton?—Yes.

1514. In what capacity?—As a person who had a great deal of experience in election matters.

1515. Did any conservation then take place between you and Mr. Thompson and Mr. Wilton as to what was to be done in Gloucester by yourself and Thompson?—A conversation took place respecting the election, but I think there was nothing particular said as to what was to be done then.

1516. How long were you together at that meeting? You were there between four and five; when was it that you separated?—When we left we went directly over to the Gloucester Hotel; it was just seven o'clock when we got there.

1517. What was the burden of the conversation about the election?—There were several gentlemen present as well as Mr. Wilton.

1518. Who were present besides?—I do not know; they were strangers to me.

1519. Do you know their names?—No, I do not.

1520. What was said? What was the purport of the conversation?—It was about the election, as to what was to be done; but I do not recollect anything very particnlar taking place.

1521. Were any suggestions made as to what would be necessary to be done?—While I was there I recollect a person coming in and saying they were going to have a supper; I recollect that perfectly well.

1522. Who was that?—I do not know; Mr Wilton was present at the time.

1523. Did that person say what would be required?—He said they were going to have a supper, and Mr. Wilton said, "Well, I have no money except for my own private purposes. I will see what I have in the house." And I think he gave him either 6*l.* or 7*l.*, and he said, "Well, you see I have only one half sovereign left, which I shall keep for myself.

1524. Had Thompson before that made a statement to Mr. Wilton that he was come down to Gloucester with money?—Not in my hearing.

1525. Was anything said at that time about money?—No.

1526. Was anything said as to what had been done on the other side?—No.

1527. It was a general talk; was it about the election?—Yes.

1528. After you got to the Gloucester Hotel did you and Thompson remain at the hotel during the evening?—Yes.

1529. Did Mr. Wilton come to the Hotel in the course of the evening?—Yes.

1530. About what time?—I should think it might be about eight or nine o'clock.

1531. That was at the Gloucester Coffee-house?—The Gloucester Coffee-house.

1532. Were you and Thompson together when he came?—Yes.

1533. Where were you?—In the coffee-room.

1534. Mr. Wilton came to you in the coffee-room?—Yes.

1535. Did any conversation then take place between you three?—Mr. Wilton said he should require some money, and Mr. Thompson said, "I do not know whether we are justified in paying you the money, because we came down here to disburse it ourselves."

1536. Did he say by whose directions he had come down?—Thompson?

1537. Yes.—He told me he had come from the Reform Club.

1538. Did he say to Mr. Wilton by whose directions he had come down?—Not in my hearing.

1539. In conversation with you privately he told you he had come from the Reform Club?—Yes.

1540. Do you know whether that was true or not? I do not know.

1541. Did Thompson give you reason to believe that it was not so?—Oh dear no.

1542. You were examined, were you not, in the House of Commons upon this subject?—Yes.

1543. Thompson said he had come from the Reform Club; did you say where you had come from?—No, I did not, because Thompson knew where I had come from.

1544. Did you say at all when you were in Gloucester where you had come from?—Yes, I did.

1545. Where did you say you had come from?—From the Reform Club, because I found I was not likely to find Thompson unless I made some sort of excuse.

1546. Was that true or false?—It was not true.

1547. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you tell that to?—To the two gentlemen when I inquired for Mr. Smith at the committee-room.

1548. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At the committee-room where you went to inquire for Mr. Thompson?—Yes; I told the gentlemen I saw there that I had come from the Reform Club, because I thought I should then get to see Mr. Thompson sooner.

1549. That was what you said, and in making that statement you said that which was not true?—Yes.

1550. Had Thompson any conversation with you on this subject before Mr. Wilton came?—Yes; we talked the matter over, and Mr. Thompson said, "I do not think I shall let them have any money, because we shall not be required here, because they seem determined to pay the money themselves."

1551. Had anything been said in your presence at Mr. Wilton's on that subject?—No; I do not recollect it.

1552. Did you hear any one at Mr. Wilton's say anything about the disbursement of any sums?—No.

1553. Was that the first communication made to you by Thompson after you had got back to the hotel from Mr. Wilton's?—Yes, that was the first communicatiou made about the money.

1554. He said, "I do not think I shall let them have any money because they want to disburse the money themselves." Was that it?—Yes.

1555. Did he tell you what money he had?—When Mr. Wilton went away.

1556. But before that?—No.

1557. In the conversation before Mr. Wilton came he had not told you what money he had?—No, he had not.

1558. Was all the conversation that took place between you and Mr. Thompson limited to that which you have just stated, that he thought he should not let them have any money?—Yes.

1559. Did he tell you for what purpose he had left

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J. Clarke.
27 Sept. 1859.

his card at the Guildhall Coffee-house?—No, I do not know that he told me; but I knew directly I saw the card the purpose for which I was required.

1560. What purpose was that?—For the purpose of paying money to the electors in case it was necessary to do so.

1561. In fact it was not necessary for Thompson to make any communication to you as to the object for which you had come down?—No.

1562. How long was Mr. Wilton at the Gloucester Coffee-house in the evening when you and Thompson were there with him?—Not very long.

1563. Did the conversation take place in the coffee-room?—In the coffee-room.

1564. Were other persons there?—No.

1565. Will you state what it was that Mr. Wilton said when he came into the coffee-room?—He came in and said they must have some money or they would lose the election. That I recollect perfectly well. There was a general conversation I dare say took place.

1566. Did he say how much they would want?—No.

1567. Did Thompson tell him how much he had?—Not that I know of.

1568. Was anything said between them which induced Mr. Wilton to come back again in the course of that same evening?—Yes, I think he was to call again.

1569. For what purpose was he to call again?—For some money.

1570. At what time did he call again?—I should think about twelve o'clock.

1571. Twelve at night?—Yes, twelve at night.

1572. Had you been requested by Thompson before Mr. Wilton called again to do anything with any money which Thompson had?—Yes.

1573. What did Thompson tell you to do?—He gave me the key of his carpet bag, and said, "Could you go upstairs, and you will find in my carpet bag a canvas bag with 500 sovereigns in it."

1574. What were you to do?—To count out 300 from the bag.

1575. Did you do so?—I did.

1576. Did you put them into a bag or put them into packages?—I made them up into small packages of 25*l.* each.

1577. Did you give those to Thompson?—I did.

1578. Before Mr. Wilton came?—Before Mr. Wilton came.

1579. When Mr. Wilton came at twelve o'clock were you present? Did he come into the coffee-room?—Mr. Wilton did not come into the coffee-room but Mr. Thompson went out to him in the passage.

1580. Did you see Mr. Wilton on that occasion?—I think I saw him in the passage, but I am not exactly sure.

1581. You did not see him in the coffee room?—He was not in the coffee-room.

1582. You did not leave the room in which you and Thompson were sitting together?—No, I did not.

1583. Was a message brought in that Mr. Wilton was there?—I think Thompson knew he was there.

1584. Did Thompson give him the packages of sovereigns?—Yes.

1585. How do you know he did?—Because he shortly returned into the room, and said, "I have given it him, but he shall have no more." And he said, "I am very glad you are here to see I have paid the money."

1586. Had he all the packages that you had given to him?—He put them into his trowsers pocket so that they might not be seen.

1587. He said, "He has got the money, but he shall have no more?"—"He shall have no more."

1588. And then Mr. Wilton went away?—I did not see him any more.

1589. Not that night?—No.

1590. When did you next see Mr. Wilton?—I think it was on the Thursday morning; I think so.

1591. What time on Thursday?—It was very early in the morning, when I was at breakfast.

1592. At what time?—About eight o'clock.

1593. What did Mr. Wilton come for?—He wanted some more money.

1594. Did he say that to you?—Yes.

1595. In consequence of that did you go upstairs?—I went upstairs to Thompson.

1596. Did you tell Thompson what Mr. Wilton had said to you?—Yes.

1597. Upon that did Thompson say or do anything to you?—He said, "Will you count out another 150 more?" which I did.

1598. Did you do so?—I did so.

1599. Upon that did you remain in the room or go downstairs?—I made the money up into small parcels of 25*l.*, and put them on the dressing table, and I fetched Mr. Wilton upstairs.

1600. Did you remain in the room while Mr. Wilton was there?—I think not the whole time. I think I was fetched out for some purpose.

1601. While you were there were the packages handed over to Mr. Wilton?—I believe so; the money was gone when I went into the room again, and Thompson told me that Mr. Wilton had taken it.

1602. Was anything said by Thompson to Mr. Wilton on his going into the room?—No, only, "You must mind and charge me with plenty of medicine."

1603. Thompson said, "You must charge me with plenty of medicine"?—Yes.

1604. Thompson was an invalid, was he, at that time?—Not particularly so that I know of.

1605. When you went back into the room Thompson said that Mr. Wilton had had the money?—Yes.

1606. Did you see Mr. Wilton again that day?—No, I think not.

1607. Did you see him on the Friday?—I saw him on the Friday.

1608. Where did you see him on the Friday?—I met him here in the street; it was on the nomination day morning.

1609. Did Mr. Wilton represent to you that he wanted any more money on Friday?—No.

1610. Did you hear from Thompson that any more was required?—Yes.

1611. On Friday?—Yes.

1612. What did Thompson say to you?—That he must send a telegram to London for more money.

1613. Why did he say he must send a telegram to London for more money?—Because he told me that after parting with what he had he had only 50 sovereigns left out of the 500, which I knew was the case.

1614. How much did he tell you he should telegraph to London for?—He did not say any amount.

1615. But only that he should send a telegram to London for more money?—For more money.

1616. Did he state that an application had been made to him for more money by Mr. Wilton or any other person?—No, I am not aware that he did. He said that Mr. Wilton wanted more money.

1617. On the Friday, when you saw Mr. Wilton, had you any conversation with him?—Merely a conversation. He said, "We are at the Fountain, and if you will look in probably we may want your services."

1618. Were your services required?—No.

1619. Do you know whether any more money was sent to Thompson from London or from anywhere else?—No.

1620. How long did you and Thompson remain in Gloucester?—We went away on the Sunday morning.

1621. Do you know what became of the 50 sovereigns left unaccounted for?—Mr. Thompson told me, when I returned on the poll day morning, "Well, I have had Mr. Wilton again, and I have given him the 50 sovereigns." And I found fault with Thompson for it, and I said, "Why, you will leave us without money to take us home."

1622. According to what you say was stated to you by Thompson, the whole of the 500 sovereigns were disposed of by Thompson to Mr. Wilton?—I

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saw the 450, but the 50 I did not, only I knew of it from what Thompson told me.

1623. According to what Thompson told you the whole 500 sovereigns that he had were handed over to Mr. Wilton ?—Yes.

1624. Thompson passed as Thornton ?—Yes.

1625. How many telegrams were sent to London by Thornton ?—I do not know how many were sent, because one was sent, I think, before I came.

1626. Did you see a Mr. Webb before you left London to come to Gloucester ?—No, I did not.

1627. Do you know a Mr. Webb ?—I know him.

1628. The clerk of Mr. Gilbert ?—He was engaged in the office.

1629. How do you know he is in the office of Mr. Gilbert ?—I have seen him there.

1630. Did Thompson tell you to whom he should send telegrams with reference to more money ?—He said to Mr. Webb.

1632. Did he say why he should telegraph to Mr. Webb, do you remember ?—I do not know; I have no reason for knowing save that he was accquainted with Mr. Webb from knowing him.

1632. Did you see the telegrams that were sent ?—Some of them I did.

1633. What day of the month was it that you came to Gloucester ?—I left London on the Tuesday evening by mail, and arrived here in the middle of the night.

1634. You say that Thompson and you met on Wednesday the 27th, in Gloucester ?—Yes.

1635. The nomination here was on Friday the 29th, therefore Wednesday would be the 27th. Is there any other person living at No. 1, Northford Street, Hoxton ?—I live there.

1636. There is a telegram, dated April 28, purporting to be sent by Thornton of Gloucester to Webb, King's Arms Hotel, Palace Yard, Westminster. The 28th would be on the Thursday. "I want a repetition of my medicine. If got send Clarke with it. He lives at 1, Northford Street Hoxton." Can you explain how it was that this telegram was dated April 28, on Thursday, sent by Thornton, whom you saw the day before, and requesting that you should be sent down ?—No, indeed, I never saw that in the printed evidence.

1637. Just read that [*handing the telegram to the witness*] ?—That is not Thompson's writing.

1638. Did you see the telegram before it was sent off ?—No.

1639. Did you see a telegram of that sort ?—No.

1640. Did Thompson show you the telegrams that he himself received from London ?—He read them over; some I dare say I had in my hand.

1641. Do you remember his reading over to you this telegram from Webb to Thornton: "I have seen P. and stated the case. All the rest from home. Cannot do more" ?—Yes, I recollect seeing that.

1642. Did he make any observation about that telegram ?—No.

1643. Did Thompson tell you that he had received a communication from London, to the effect that if he wanted any more money he was to apply to a party in Gloucester ?—Yes.

1644. Did he say from whom that communication was received ?—No, he did not.

1645. Do you know on what day it was that he told you that ?—I think it was on the nomination day.

1646. On the Friday ?—Yes.

1647. Did he mention the name of the party ?—I think he did. He said that the parties were out of town, and that if more money was required it must be had in Gloucester.

1648. Did he say where it was to be had in Gloucester ?—He went out in the course of a quarter of an hour after, and returned in about an hour, and said he had seen the parties, and he could have 1,000*l.* if he wanted it, but he must give an acknowledgment for it.

1649. Did he name any sum that he could obtain ?—£1,000; and not only that, but he pulled out of his pocket a large roll of notes. He said, "I have got this, but they know nothing at all about it."

1650. Had you heard anything about those notes before that day ?—No.

1651. Did you understand from him where he had obtained them ?—No.

1652. Had he possession of them to your knowledge before he went from the Gloucester Coffee-house that morning ?—He was in possession of some notes, but I do not know the amount. When he came in again he showed me a roll of notes, much larger than he had shown before.

1653. Did he tell you what the amount was ?—No; he said he could have 1,000*l.*

1654. After you came down from London on the Tuesday did you go back to London at any time before you went back on the Sunday ?—No.

1655. You remained in Gloucester the whole time ?—The whole time.

1656. There is no mistake about that ?—I am certain of it.

1657. Had Thompson those notes in his possession when you went back to London ?—Yes.

1658. He had them in his possession ?—He had some of them, I know, in his possession.

1659. It was on the Saturday that he told you he had given those 50 sovereigns to Mr. Wilton, was it not ?—I think it was on the nomination day. No, it was on the Saturday morning.

1660. He told you he had given those other 50 sovereigns to Mr. Wilton ?—He did.

1661. And you were angry with him ?—Yes.

1662. Saying there would be nothing left to carry you back to London ?—Yes; and he pulled out a small quantity of notes from his pocket, and said, "I "have something here that they know nothing at all "about."

1663. But you knew that Thompson had possession of those notes on the Friday ?—No; not on the Friday

1664. That is what you have told us. You told us it was on the nomination day that Thompson informed you he had been into the town, and that he could have 1,000*l.*, and he showed you a roll of notes ?—That was on the Saturday, the poll day.

1665. You said just now, distinctly, that it was on the nomination day. You said that you saw Thompson in possession of those notes on Friday, the nomination day; how came it that you should have been angry with Thompson when he told you he had paid the other 50*l.* to Mr. Wilton, and how came you to say, "You have left us nothing to take us back to "London" ?—He told me about paying the money, but I was not sure about the notes or the number he had.

1666. You say there was a large quantity of notes produced by Thompson on Friday, the nomination day. You say he pulled them out of his pocket ?—Yes; the large roll of notes he showed me after he said he had seen the parties in Gloucester.

1667. I want to know, if that were the case, how it came to pass that you should be angry with him for paying the other 50*l.* to Mr. Wilton, and that you should say there was nothing left to take you back to London ?—I told him he was very foolish to pay the money, because we should have nothing to take us back to London, and he then said, "I have some-"thing here." I was not sure they were notes.

1668. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he show them to you ?—He put his hand in his pocket, and said, "I have "got some notes here."

1669. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On that occasion, on the nomination day, there was a large roll of notes shown to you ?—After he had been in Gloucester then he he had a large roll.

1670. A small roll and a large one ?—He had a small roll before he went into Gloucester, and when he came back he showed me a large roll.

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1671. You saw the notes on the Saturday ?—Yes.

1672. And you left town on the Sunday ?—Yes.

1673. Had you any further communication with Thompson as to what had become of those notes ?—I was to meet him by appointment the next day in London, which I did ; and some parties I wanted to see were not in town. He said, "But you will have "to go to Gloucester and get that acknowledgment "back; I must not let any person know it but "yourself."

1674. That was on the Monday after you returned to London ?—Yes.

1675. Had he told you he had given an acknowledgment for the money ?—Yes.

1676. Did he say to what amount ?—£1,000.

1677. Did he say he had received 1,000*l.* ?—He told me he had given an acknowledgment for 1,000*l.*

1678. What was it he said to you on the Monday about that acknowledgment ?—That the parties he wished to see in London were out, but would be in London on the Tuesday after. I saw the note.

1679. The next day ?—No ; the Tuesday week.

1680. You saw the note ?—I saw the note.

1681. Was the note shown to you by Thompson ?—Yes.

1682. Did the note bear any signature ?—No ; only the initials.

1683. What initials ?—"W.H.," I think.

1684. And did you see upon that occasion the notes ?—No, I did not.

1685. The notes that Thompson had in his possession ?—No, I did not.

1686. What were you to go to Gloucester about the acknowledgment for ?—To get it back again.

1687. To get the acknowledgment ?—Yes ; he told me twice the money would be repaid, and the acknowledgment I must go for ; that it must go into no other hands.

1688. Did he make any appointment with you to go down to Gloucester for that purpose ?—I was to see about it ; and I complained about my expenses not being paid.

1689. You did not go down to Gloucester. You did not receive the money from him to take up the acknowledgment ?—No.

1690. As he wished you to go down, and said he should not like it to pass through any other hands but yours, did he mention to you the party to whom you were to go in Gloucester ?—No.

1691. Did you have any conversation at all with Thompson as to whether or not he was engaged at that time in any other election as well down in the country ?—He was engaged upon the Middlesex election afterwards.

1692. But at that time when you were at Gloucester ?—No ; I think he had no other election.

1693. You gave evidence before the Committee in London, and these questions were put to you : "*Q.* To whom was the message sent ?—*A.* To a "Mr. Webb, at the King's Arms, Palace Yard. "*Q.* Did you get an answer to that telegram ?—"*A.* We did. *Q.* About what time of the day ?—"*A.* In the course of two or three hours after.—"*Q.* Can you tell us what was in the telegram ?—"*A.* It was for more money, or the election would "be lost. *Q.* What was the answer ?—*A.* The "answer came back that the parties were away from "town, and that the money must be had in Glou-"cester. *Q.* On the answer coming back that the "money must be borrowed, what was done ?—"*A.* Mr. Thompson went to see some parties ; I do "not know whom. *Q.* You did not accompany "him ?—*A.* No. *Q.* When he came back, did Mr. "Thompson inform you what had been done ?—"*A.* He said he could have 1,000*l.* if he required it, "but he must give an acknowledgment for it" ?—That is strictly correct.

1694. That was the answer you gave in London ?—Yes.

1695. Upon your examination in London you did not state what you have stated to-day, that he did have 1,000*l.*, and did give an acknowledgment for it ?—I do not mean to say he had 1,000*l.*, because I did not see him count it ; but he said he could have 1,000*l.*, only he must give an acknowledgment for it.

1696. I understand you to say now that he had given an acknowledgment for it ?—Yes ; and twice he wished me to come to Gloucester for it.

1697. You say now he had given an acknowledgment for it ?—Yes.

1698. But in your examination in London you said he could have 1,000*l.*, but he must give an acknowledgment for it. Upon that occasion you never said he had received the 1,000*l.*, or that he had given an acknowledgment. Now you say he did receive 1,000*l.*, and did give an acknowledgment ?—I do not say that he had received 1,000*l.*

1699. But did he give an acknowledgment ?—Yes.

1700. And he did receive money ?—Yes.

1701. How came you not to say then that he had given an acknowledgment ?—Probably the question might not have been put to me. I only answered those questions that were put to me.

1702. But the question is one which would have admitted of the answer you have given to-day. The question was this : "When he came back, did "Mr. Thompson inform you what had been done ?" That is the question. Why then, in answer to that question, did you not state, "he told me that he had "received money, and had given an acknowledgment "for it," if the fact is as you have stated to-day ?—It is the fact as I have stated.

1703. Why did you not give that answer ?—I do not know, I am sure. I do not want to say anything more than I know to be strictly true.

1704. I do not say you do ; but I wish to give you an opportunity of explaining what appears to me to be a material variance between your evidence to-day and your evidence given before the Committee of the House of Commons ?—If I had been asked the question before the Committee of the House of Commons I should have told them that, if I had understood the question correctly.

1705. I have read the question which was put to you. Either Thompson did make the statement to you which was contained in the answer you gave before the Committee of the House of Commons, or he made the statement which you have given to-day. Which is the correct one ?—The correct one is what I state to-day, that Thompson told me he could have a thousand pounds, but he must give an acknowledgment for it.

1706. Can you say why you did not give that answer to the Committee of the House of Commons ?—The only reason probably is that I did not understand the question correctly.

1707. That is the only explanation you can give of it ?—That is the only explanation of it.

1708. Do you know a person of the name of Frail ?—Yes, I do.

1709. Of Shrewsbury ?—Yes.

1710. Did you see Mr. Frail here during the time you were at Gloucester ?—I did.

1711. Where did you see him ?—In the street, I am pretty sure it was.

1712. On what day ?—I think it was the day after I got here, on the Wednesday.

1713. What day was it you saw him ?—I think it would be on the Wednesday.

1714. In what street was it ?—It was close by the Cross here, where there are four streets.

1715. Was he alone ?—Yes, he was alone.

1716. Had you any conversation with him ?—No.

1717. Not in the street ?—No.

1718. Did you know where he was stopping in Gloucester ?—No.

1719. Did you not know that he was stopping at the Wellington ?—I am not certain that he was

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staying there. I saw him, I think, in the coffee-room; but I did not want him to see me.

1720. You say you are not certain that he was staying there; but you saw him in the Wellington?—Yes; he came in, and I went out at the other door.

1721. Why did you not tell me you had seen him in the coffee-room at the Wellington when I asked you where he was staying?—I was not positive about his stopping there; he might merely come in, you know, and go out again.

1722. What time of the day was it that you saw him in the coffee-room of the Wellington?—About eight or nine o'clock of the day.

1723. On what day?—I think it was on the Wednesday.

1724. You had seen him in Gloucester on that day in the afternoon?—No; it was in the evening when I saw him then.

1725. In the street in Gloucester?—Yes.

1726. What time was it when you saw him in the street?—I should think between seven and eight o'clock. I know I came up with a letter to the post office.

1727. You had no conversation with him at all, had you?—No.

1728. Did you see him again on the following day?—No. I never saw him afterwards; not in Gloucester.

1729. Do you know at what time he went away from Gloucester?—No.

1730. Did he say anything to you, or do you know whether he said anything to any person, about his stopping in Gloucester?—No.

1731. Had you any conversation or communication with any one about Mr. Frail?—Never.

1732. Did you tell any person that you had seen Mr. Frail here?—I think I told Thompson.

1733. Did you tell anyone else?—No; but I recollect at Mr. Wilton's, when I was there, that some gentleman came in, and said that Mr. Frail was in Gloucester.

1734. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What day was that?—That would be the first day.

1735. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On the Tuesday?—Yes.

1736. Somebody came in when you were at Mr. Wilton's, and said that Mr. Frail was in Gloucester?—Yes.

1737. Did you then say that you had seen him there?—No. I had not seen him then.

1738. You did not say at that time that you had seen him?—No, I could not, because I had not seen him then.

1739. Did Mr. Frail know you?—Yes.

1740. He knew you and your name and your occupation?—Oh yes.

1741. And I suppose you knew Mr. Frail and his occupation?—Yes.

1742. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he see you?—Not that I know of. If he had he would have spoken to me.

1743. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you seen Mr. Frail since the election?—I saw him during the parliamentary inquiry several times.

1744. Did you see him with regard to the Gloucester election before the inquiry before the Committee of the House of Commons began?—I think I did. I am very often down there when there is Parliamentary business going on, and so is Mr. Frail.

1745. Had you any conversation with Mr. Frail about this election?—No; indeed I have not spoken to him about any elections at all lately.

1746. You had no communication or conversation with Mr. Frail respecting this Gloucester election, either during the time it was progressing or since?—No.

1747. Has any communication been made to you by Mr. Frail in any way?—No.

1748. Were you ever employed by Mr. Frail in electioneering matters?—I have worked at one election where he has been, but not under Mr. Frail.

1749. One election, and only one?—Only one.

1750. You made a communication to Sir Robert Carden before you gave your evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Yes.

1751. You felt discontented that you had not been paid the money that you expected to have received for your services in coming down to Gloucester?—I did.

1752. And in consequence of the discontent you felt you made the communication which you did to Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

1753. Was any inducement held out by any person to you to make that communication before you addressed Sir Robert Carden on the subject?—No. I never spoke to any person about it.

1754. No inducement of any sort was held out to you?—No; none whatever.

1755. Had you any communication with Mr. Thompson about the nonpayment of your remuneration?—Oh yes.

1756. After the election?—After the election.

1757. Did you tell him of your discontent?—Yes, I did.

1758. And did you tell him what you would do in the event of your not being paid?—I do not know whether I did or not, because I was to see him on the Tuesday after. He was to see his party, and get the money, and pay me; but I never saw him afterwards.

1759. Did you write to him?—I wrote to him. I wrote him a statement of the evidence I was prepared to give before the committee.

1760. Before you communicated with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. I also wrote another statement to Mr. Gilbert's office; and I told him that unless I was properly settled with by Thompson I should be at liberty to do as I liked.

1761. That unless you were properly settled with you should make a communication of the part that you and Thompson had taken with respect to this election?—Yes.

1762. What were you to have received?—£50; and if both Liberal candidates were returned I was to have more.

1763. With whom was the agreement for that payment made?—Thompson.

1764. That was made after you came to Gloucester?—After I came to Gloucester.

1765. You came down from London on receiving that card on speculation?—Well, yes, of course.

1766. Thompson did not fulfil the contract which he had entered into with you. How much money had you received?—I received 5*l.* from Thompson, and I paid 3*l.* for expenses at Gloucester.

1767. Was that the total amount you had received before you communicated with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

1768. Are the statements that you have made here to-day the correct and true evidence which you are prepared to give as to the transactions in which you yourself were engaged?—Yes.

1769. Have you seen Thompson since that time?—I have not seen him, I should think, for these three or four months.

1770. Have you seen him since the inquiry before the Committee of the House of Commons?—No; nor long before that.

1771. Do you know where he is now?—No, I do not.

1772. Have you written to him?—I sent a statement to him of what I could prove, which he knew, about the money that was paid to Mr. Wilton; I sent it by post to his own house, and I never heard from him since.

1773. Have you written to him since the termination of the inquiry before the Committee of the House of Commons?—No.

1774. Has he written to you?—No.

1775. Have you received more money than that 5*l.* in respect of your services at Gloucester?—I have.

1776. You did receive 25*l.*?—Yes.

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J. Clarke.
27 Sept 1859.

1777. £25 was paid to you by a person of the name of Kingdon ?—Yes.

1778. Is that Mr. Kingdon a clerk employed by Mr. Gilbert?—He is employed in Mr. Gilbert's office, but in what capacity I do not know.

1779. When was that sum of 25*l.* paid to you ?—It was a long time after I was served with the Speaker's warrant.

1780. After the communication had been made by you to Sir Robert Carden ?—A long time after that.

1781. And before you gave your evidence before the committee ?—Yes.

1782. Did you see either Mr. Gilbert or Mr. Webb after your return from Gloucester to London ?—I saw Mr. Webb once. I called at the office to know if he knew where Thompson was, for I wanted to have a settlement with him ; and Mr. Webb said he did not know anything about him, nor where he was.

1783. How long was that after the election ?—I should think it might be perhaps three weeks.

1784. Did you not then make any statement to Mr. Webb as to your disappointment at not having received the money that was promised to you ?—Yes.

1785. What did Mr. Webb say to that ?—He said he knew nothing at all about it ; that he had nothing to do with it in any shape or way. He said he thought I was hardly dealt with by Thompson.

1786. Did you ever see any receipt given to Thompson for money paid to Mr. Wilton by Thompson ?—No.

1787. Did you hear from Thompson that any receipt was given for money ?—No.

1788. Has any promise been made to you by Sir Robert Carden as to any remuneration that should be made to you for the evidence that you might give ?—No.

1789. You have never been promised any sum of money at all by any person in respect of your evidence ?—No ; the only money I got was for my day's attendance before the Committee of the House Commons ; that was three guineas, and 4*s.* 6*d.* for cab hire.

1790. Before you made the statement did you write to Sir Robert Carden ?—I did.

1791. Did you hold out to him a possibility of your imparting some information if you were paid for it ?—No.

1792. Nothing of that sort ?—The word "paid" was not used at all. I told him I had been very ill used by the party.

1793. And that therefore you wished to make a disclosure ?—Yes.

1794. But there were no terms entered into between you and Sir Robert Carden, or anyone else on his behalf, with regard to the price to be paid to you for your evidence ?—None whatever.

1795. Has any intimation been made to you that if you did give your evidence in a manner satisfactory to them you should receive some payment, or some consideration for it ?—None whatever.

1796. Have you since that time received anything at all from Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

1797. Or from any member of his party ?—No, I have not.

1798. And are you without expectation of receiving anything ?—I say in my evidence that I think I ought to have something for what I have done.

1799. But have you a strong expectation that your evidence will be remunerated ?—No ; I do not know that it will.

1800. Have you a strong expectation that it will ?—No, I have not.

1801. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I understand that you came on the Tuesday to Gloucester ?—On the Tuesday night I left London.

1802. And arrived on Wednesday morning ?—Yes.

1803. On Wednesday you saw Mr. Wilton ?—Yes, at his own home.

1804. Where did you sleep on Wednesday night ?—At the Gloucester Coffee-house. The night before I slept at the Wellington.

1805. You mean the morning when you arrived ?—Yes.

1806. And on the Wednesday night you slept at the Gloucester ?—Yes.

1807. Where did you sleep on the Thursday night?—I slept at the Gloucester every night while I was there.

1808. On the Wednesday night and the Thursday night ?—Yes.

1809. And on the Friday night ?—Yes.

1810. And on the Saturday night ?—Yes.

1811. Did you see Mr. Wilton every day there ?—I am not certain about every day.

1812 Did you see him on the Thursday ?—Yes, I am pretty sure I did. The last time I saw him was on the nomination morning.

1813. Did you see him to speak to him on the Thursday ?—It is probable I might have.

1814. You have already said you did ?—I think I did. He was there almost every day.

1815. Did you speak to Mr. Wilton on the Thursday ?—I should be sure to.

1816. What time did you go to bed on the Thursday night ?—We never went to bed before one or two o'clock in the morning.

1817. Who do you mean by "we" ?—Thompson and myself.

1818. Were there a great number of people who saw you upon that day? Had you communications with a great number of people upon that day ?—Several called.

1819. Mention the names of some of them ?—I cannot, because I was quite a stranger to the parties.

1820. Where did these people call and see you ?—At the Gloucester.

1821. Where ?—In the coffee-room.

1822. What did they call to speak to you about ?—About the election ; how it was getting on, and what had been done.

1823. Was Thompson present when they came ?—Generally.

1824. Did they come to you or to Thompson ?—They inquired for Thompson.

1825. You are quite certain of that ?—I am certain of it.

1826. Who did they ask for Thompson ?—I suppose they would ask the servants and waiters.

1827. Did you hear anybody ask for Thompson ?—I did

1828. Who did they ask ?—The servants.

1829. The servants of the hotel ?—Yes.

1830. You said you frequently heard them ; what did they say ? "Is Mr. Thompson in ?"—Yes, "Is Mr. Thompson in ?"

1831. You will swear that ?—Yes, of course I do.

1832. You have told us before that Mr. Thompson was there under the name of Thornton ?—Yes, Thornton.

1833. You said just now "Thompson"?—Throughout the evidence it is Thompson.

1834. Are you prepared to swear that you were in Gloucester on the Thursday at all ?—Certainly.

1835. Between the Wednesday and the Friday you did not go up to town ?—I did not.

1836. Who communicated to you that Frail was in the town ?—The first I heard of it was at Mr. Wilton's ; some gentleman came in and said that Mr. Frail was in the town.

1837. It was not Mr. Wilton who told you, was it ?—No.

1838. Was it you who told Mr. Wilton ?—No.

1839. Do you know what train Sir Robert Carden came to Gloucester by ?—I do not.

1840. You do not know ?—No.

1841. Were you in the station when he arrived ?—I was.

1842. Then you must know the train he came by ?—I saw him at the station.

1843. You saw him come ?—Yes.

1844. Did you communicate that fact to Mr. Wilton ?—Yes ; I said I saw Sir Robert Carden come,

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but it was the morning train when I saw Sir Robert Carden at the station.

1845. Did you tell Mr. Wilton at the same time that Mr. Frail came in the same train with Sir Robert Carden?—No, I did not.

1846. You swear that?—Yes.

1847. You are on your oath, you know?—Yes.

1848. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What train was it that Sir Robert Carden did come by?—The morning train.

1849. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What time?—Perhaps 11 or 12 o'clock; I scarcely know the time the trains come in here.

1850. And you are prepared to swear you had no communication with Mr. Frail the whole time he was here?—Yes.

1851. Did you ever tell Mr. Wilton that in the event of Sir Robert Carden being returned you had heard sufficient cases of bribery to unseat Sir Robert Carden?—No.

1852. Did you tell Mr. Wilton that?—No.

1853. You never told him so?—No, certainly not.

1854. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You never told it to any one?—No.

1855. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Mr. Wilton ask you, upon that, to remain in Gloucester to hunt out those cases of bribery?—No, he did not; certainly not.

1856. Did Mr. Wilton ask you if you would stay in Gloucester to hunt out those cases of bribery?—No.

1857. Did Mr. Wilton ask you to watch the opposite party, as you were not employed to spend the money for his party?—No, certainly not; and as a proof of that, I was engaged in the country elsewhere, that would better pay me than to remain here.

1858. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where were you engaged in the country?—I was engaged in East Surrey.

1859. Where?—And Middlesex.

1860. Had you those engagements in Surrey and Middlesex at the time you were in Gloucester?—No; but I knew I should have them.

1861. Were you engaged at the time you were in Gloucester?—No; but I knew I should be engaged the moment I got back.

1862. Mr. Wilton did ask you to remain in Gloucester, I understand you to say?—No; he did not ask me to remain.

1863. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When was the last time you saw Mr. Wilton?—On the nomination day.

1864. Will you swear you did not see him on the day of polling?—I think I did not.

1865. On the Saturday?—Not on the Saturday.

1866. What day did you go to London?—On the Sunday.

1867. Have you ever stated that you went on the Monday?—No; it is a misprint.

1868. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you and Thompson go back together?—We did.

1869. Who paid the fare?—He paid his fare, and I paid mine.

1870. Did you ever go to the Saracen's Head in this town?—I did.

1871. What did you go for?—Some gentleman called, and saw Mr. Thompson; he said there were a party of voters at the Saracen's Head, and that they had better be seen; that they wanted some money, and that if something was not done they would go over to the other party.

1872. Did you go to the Saracen's Head?—I did.

1873. Who did you see there?—I do not know; they were strangers to me; and I told the gentleman who was there I would see him the next morning about it.

1874. What street is the Saracen's Head in, do you know?—No; down that way [*pointing in the direction of the Eastgate Street*].

1875. Did you see the voters there?—I saw parties who I was told were voters.

1876. What did you say when you were there?—I told the gentleman who seemed to have the management of it, that I would call again in the morning.

1877. Did you hear anybody make a communication to Thompson on the subject?—There was a person came down.

1878. Do you know who he was?—I do not.

1879. What day was that?—It might be on the Thursday; no, it was the evening before the nomination.

1880. Whom did you ask for when you got there?—I asked for the committee-room.

1881. Whom did the person who came for Mr. Thompson inquire for?—For Mr. Thompson; at least Mr. Thornton.

1882. Was he a person who you had seen before?—No.

JAMES BRETHERTON called, and further examined:

J. Bretherton.

1883. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were examined yesterday with regard to your knowledge of the accounts?—I was.

1884. And upon your examination I asked you if you were aware of there being any outstanding accounts which the candidates in the Liberal interest were liable to pay, and you told me there none; you remember that?—Yes.

1885. Since you were examined Mr. Wilton has been examined; and he has told us that he borrowed 200*l.* from you?—Yes, he did.

1886. Has that 200*l.* been paid to you?—It has not.

1887. Who do you consider liable to repay you that money?—Mr. Wilton.

1888. Do you know for what purpose that money was borrowed by Mr. Wilton?—It was for election purposes.

1889. Should you not rather have expected that money to be reimbursed to you by the gentlemen who were more immediately engaged in that election, namely, the candidates?—I did not know in what way Mr. Wilton might be repaid; I took his acknowledgments for the money when I lent it at two different times.

1890. But you knew that it was obtained by him for the purposes of the election?—I did; and I was prepared to have stated that yesterday, but there was no question which would have led to the answer. I was asked simply whether I had paid any money for illegitimate purposes.

1891. No. I will read the question that was put to you:—"Do you know that besides those accounts "that have been so paid there are other accounts "outstanding for which the persons to whom the "money is due, or alleged to be due, expect they "shall be afterwards reimbursed by either of the "candidates?"—I answered not, and I do not.

1892. Then you are asked, "Has any claim been "made upon you since the rendering of that ac-"count? *A.* No. *Q.* No claim has been made? "*A.* Not that I recollect; I do not recollect any at "all. *Q.* To the best of your belief, is there any "account outstanding which either Mr. Price or "Mr. Monk might be called on to pay? *A.* I believe "not, to the best of my belief; I have no doubt "about it; there is none so far as I am aware of." That is so.

1893. Do you not think that when those questions were put to you it was your duty to have stated, "There was a sum of 200*l.* which I advanced to Mr. Wilton on account of election expenses, and I expect that to be repaid?"—If I had been asked if I had advanced any money for the purpose of the election, I was prepared to have stated my loan to Mr. Wilton. I knew he was to be examined afterwards, and would state having borrowed that sum from me, and I was fully prepared to have stated it myself if a question

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had been asked which would have led to the answer. I might be wrong, and it was one of the points I intended to mention when I presented myself this morning.

1894. I am glad you did intend to correct it, but it occurred to us that it would have been more satisfactory for you to have given the explanation at once?—I was expecting a question to be put to me to lead to that answer.

1895. The question was of a general nature?—I thought it would have implied a knowledge on my part that the money was to be expended for an illegal purpose, which I could not say I knew, whatever I may have suspected.

1896. That was not implied by the question put to you?—I thought it would have been.

1897. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When was the money lent?—£100 on the 29th and 100*l.* on the 30th.

1898. That was the nomination and the polling day?—Yes.

1899. At what hour in the morning was it borrowed?—I think early in the morning.

1900. Early in the morning on both days?—I am not certain about the first day, but I know the second day was before ten in the morning.

1901. Did you not suppose, the money being borrowed at that time, that it was to be spent in illegal expenses?—I really did not inquire whether it was or not; I might have suspected it was.

1902. I ask whether the mode in which it was borrowed did not lead you to that inference?—It might have led me to suspect as much, but I knew Mr. Wilton was generally employed in the conduct of the election; that he was more a manager than anyone else; and for what purpose he might need the money I could not tell; I abstained from inquiring because I had no wish to know.

1903. (*Mr. Welford.*) You stated yesterday that you were one of the managers of the election?—Of the legal part of the election.

1904. And you conceived Mr. Wilton to be the manager of the illegal part; is not that so?—When I say "legal" I mean the professional part.

1905. Did you not believe that Mr. Wilton was the manager of that part which was contrary to law?—I cannot say that I did.

1906. Will you say positively that you did not?—I cannot say that I did.

1907. Did you not believe then that your 200*l.* was to be employed for bribery?—No, I cannot say I did.

1908. You suspected it?—I suspected, of course, that a portion of it might be, but I lent it to Mr. Wilton, taking no other security than his, and I have no one else to look to but him.

1909. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Wilton made no statement to you as to the purpose for which he required the money?—No.

1910. He merely came, and said, "Mr. Bretherton, "I want 200*l.*?"—£100 on the 29th and 100*l.* on the 30th.

1911. That was the only statement he made to you, "I want 100*l.*?"—"I must have some money; let me "have 100*l.*"

1912. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) For the election?—I knew it was for the election, of course.

1913. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And you, discreetly, did not ask for what special purpose he wanted the money?—I did not ask.

1914. Have you any other explanation to make of your evidence?—I have; I should say that when I was called yesterday I did not expect to be examined so soon; it was by accident that I was in court, and I was therefore not prepared with the statement I should make. One of the questions asked was, whether I had made any payments beyond those stated in the audited account, and I believe I answered, "No;" and I still say that I have made none that the members were asked to pay or knew anything about; but the account itself had been prepared with a view to the petition that was heard in London.

1915. (*Mr. Welford.*) The account sent in to the auditor?—The account sent in to the election auditor had been prepared with a view to the petition, and there were certain names that it was thought advisable to omit. I should say that previously, I believe, a certain sum had been named to Mr. Monk as the amount of the expenses; in that amount certain sums had been included that it was thought advisable to omit from the audited account, as it would probably have to be produced before the election committee.

1916. Which sums you had paid?—Which sums had been paid.

1917. Which sums were paid by you?—Were paid by me, or were to be paid.

1918. And you wish, I suppose, to supply the account?—I wish to supply the account; I should also add, that in order to balance the accounts as nearly as could be certain sums were added on the other side; names omitted; some were omitted altogether; others were omitted as to part of their demand, the whole having been paid.

1919. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you give us the names that were omitted altogether?—The names omitted altogether were Mr. Evans, an attorney.

1920. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How much?—£25. Mr. Roberts, 25*l.*, an attorney; Brewer Monk, 15*l.*; Probert, 5*l.*

1921. What Christian name?—William.

1922. Are the Christian names given in that list?—No, they are not; I can put them in. Those four items were for services previous to and at the election.

1923. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the amount to Brewer Monk?—£15.

1924. Were there any other names than those you have given that were wholly omitted?—Yes, one more, Hutton.

1925. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he?—A hairdresser.

1926. What is his Christian name?—Charles.

1927. How much?—7*l.* 10*s.*

1928. What was that for?—For rent of committee-room.

1929. What room was that?—A district committee-room.

1930. In his own house?—In his own house. Those are the names that were entirely omitted; the others were omitted merely as to part; the printer's bill, Mr. Jeynes, a portion of that was omitted.

1931. How much?—£13 8*s.*; that is the omission. He had been paid in full. Mr. Henley.

1932. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a printer?—He is a printer.

1933. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much?—£13. The Gloucester Journal, 6*l.* 19*s.*; and Gardiner, the bill poster, 5*l.* 6*s.* Those were the amounts omitted from the account which had been actually paid.

1934. The four persons whose names you have last read were paid a portion?—They are in the account for a portion which was considered to be strictly proper; the other that was doubtful it was thought advisable to omit. They would have gone in for the whole, every one of those, but for the petition; it was thought advisable, with a view to the petition, to omit them from the account, some of them wholly, and some only in part.

1935. You thought, on an examination of the account, that if any pressure were put upon the witnesses with regard to any of these sums, it might transpire that, either wholly or partly, they were paid for illegal purposes?—Yes; it was thought so, or that they would prove agency. As to the first four items I think the objection to them was that it would be recognizing the parties as agents. I did not myself see any necessity for the omission, but it was thought advisable.

1936. (*Mr. Welford.*) All those sums were paid?—Yes; I should have preferred their going into the accounts.

1937. Were they paid at the same time as the

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others; I can hardly say that; they were paid some at one time and some at another.

1938. Had they been paid when the auditor's account had been sent in to the election auditors?—I think most of them had.

1939. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who objected to those names appearing?—I forget who it was, but there were several persons present when we were about making up the accounts.

1940. Was any reason assigned?—The reason assigned was that it would not be safe for them to appear in the audited accounts.

1941. Was that because they had been known to have been engaged themselves in illegal practices?—That I cannot say, but they had been so mixed up in the election that anything they might have been proved to have done would have been considered as having been done by the members.

1942. They were unsafe names to appear in the account?—They were unsafe names to appear in the account, so it was thought; as I have said just now, I would have allowed them to stand.

1943. You, being totally unaware of the illegal practices, would have allowed them to stand?—Yes.

1944. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Have you yourself been paid anything?—I have.

1945. Beyond that which appears in the account rendered to the auditors?—Nothing at all.

1946. Your name appears, I think, for 50*l.*?—I am going to explain; I have not, in fact, received so much as that which stands to my name in the account.

1947. What have you received altogether?—I have received 20*l.* less than I appear to have received by the audited account; and the same as to Mr. Smith. I should say that the sums I am about to name were added to the sums really paid to the parties, with a view to make up something towards the amount of these sums omitted.

1948. Then, in fact, having obtained a certain sum from the candidates, you wanted to show how that money was expended, and inasmuch as you omit it on the one side, you add it on the other. What were the added sums?—£30 to Mr. Ellis, so that instead of 50*l.* he had only 20*l.*; 25*l.* to Mr. Jones, making his amount 50*l.*, whereas it was only half the amount; 20*l.* to myself; and 20*l.* to Mr. Smith. That was 95*l.* altogether

1949. Do those four last sums balance the other sums?—No, they do not exactly balance them; they go a good way towards it. That was the statement I wished to correct. I should say that the members knew nothing of that arrangement; they paid the amount of the audited account, as far as I know, and no more; no more came to my hands.

1950. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Mr. Ellis know of that arrangement?—Yes; I should add that two small bills have come in that are not paid; one is 3*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, William Perris, that is not paid.

1951. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is William Perris?—An innkeeper.

1952. What is it for; refreshments?—They are refreshments, all of one sort, beer and tobacco, and two bottles of sherry; and the other is Mr. Bryon for the hire of rooms, pens, ink, &c.

1953. What is his Christian name?—Jefferson. Those are the only two accounts that I know of that have been sent in and not paid.

1954. What is the public house kept by Perris?—The Maidenhead.

1955. Jefferson Bryon's is the Berkeley Arms?—The Berkeley Arms.

1956. With the exception of the last two sums, have those amounts all been paid?—They are now paid, all of them; at the time of the audited account they had not all been paid; but they have all been paid now.

1957. (*Mr. Welford.*) To whom have those two small sums been charged?—They are not charged to any one; the accounts have been sent in to me and not paid.

1958. I thought you said the two were paid?—No; they were not paid.

Adjourned to to-morrow, ten o'clock.

Third Day.—28th September 1859.

R. H. Carter
28 Sept. 1859.

Richard Hodges Carter called and further examined.

1959. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to give some explanation of the evidence you gave to us on Monday?—Yes. In the first instance, in my evidence, I inadvertently stated that the petition against Sir Robert Carden after the election of 1857 was presented by the friends of Mr. Price; now Mr. Price was the sitting member, and Admiral Berkeley was the defeated candidate, and therefore in that respect I think I was wrong; the petition must have been promoted by the friends of Admiral Berkeley. In the next place, I was asked by one of the Commissioners, of what description of persons the out-voters (that is the freemen) consisted, and I stated that some of them were country gentlemen, some farmers, and some dealers in cattle, and so on, and so far I was correct; but I should have added that a great number of them were persons in very indigent circumstances, that is to say, labourers and very small tradesmen.

1960. That is with regard to the out-freemen?—Yes.

1961. That is the freemen living within the seven miles and outside the precincts of the city?—Without the boundary of the city, and within the seven miles. I was also asked as to the time when I ceased to take an active part in the elections here; I find that I resigned after the election in 1843. There is another thing, which I wish also to have on the notes of the Commissioners, and that is that at the time when the Reform Act was before the House, they sent down two commissioners here, Lieutenant Drummond and Captain Chapman, for the purpose of forming a parliamentary boundary, and when the bill was before the House we sent an enlarged plan to the committee who had the management of the bill, and in consequence of that they sent down one of the commissioners (I do not know which of them it was), and he went from my house in company with one of the electors round our plan; he approved of it, and it was introduced as an amendment when the bill was in the House of Peers; it was then objected to by one of the Peers (of this county, I believe), and it stood over, and as far as I could collect from the newspapers, when the subject was again mentioned, the noble Lords who were present did not at all object to the amendment, but it was said that it was received, in the first instance, in so cavalier a spirit that it was withdrawn.

1962. I do not think that that has any particular reference to the subject-matter of our inquiry?—I do not know that it has, but I was asked the other day by one of the Commissioners whether the 5,026 would have been within our enlarged boundary, and it would. I therefore thought it right to give you the fullest information I could upon that matter.

1963. Those are all the explanations you wish to offer?—Those are all.

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G. Webb.

28 Sept. 1859.

GEORGE WEBB sworn and examined.

1964. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—An accountant.

1965. Where do you reside?—I reside at Brompton in Middlesex.

1966. Where there?—Alexander Square.

1967. Are you acquainted with Mr. Gilbert?—I am.

1968. What is his Christian name?—Thomas Field.

1969. Is he a Parliamentary agent?—A Parliamentary and election agent.

1970. Where does he carry on his business?—At 25, Parliament Street, Westminster.

1971. Does he reside there?—No.

1972. Where does he reside?—He resides at St. Vincent's Parade, Bristol, on Durdham Down.

1973. Is that the address to which you send his letters?—When he is at home.

1974. When he is in Bristol?—Just so. No; I send them to his office oftener than to his residence.

1975. If you have occasion to write to Mr. Gilbert when he is at Bristol do you address your letters to him at St. Vincent's Parade, Durdham Down, Bristol?—No; I address them to All Saints Court, Bristol, his place of business.

1976. What number there?—It is a small place, I am not aware that there is any number.

1977. Are you employed by Mr. Gilbert in London?—I assist him in his business occasionally; generally in London.

1978. Is your employment permanent or only occasional?—I may say occasional. I am in partnership with him as an accountant and appraiser, but not as election agent. I am his assistant in those matters when he requires assistance.

1979. Are you, generally speaking, most days at the office in Parliament Street?—Yes, until lately; Mr. Gilbert has been out of town, and I have been out of town, and the office has been shut for a fortnight or three weeks.

1980. The office has been closed altogether?—Yes, except that I send there daily for letters.

1981. Why was the office closed?—There was nothing doing in Mr. Gilbert's line of business, and I had business to attend to myself in other places. I had his letters daily, and forwarded them to him wherever he was.

1982. Up to what time were you in the habit of giving regular attendance at the office?—Up to about a fortnight ago, I think; a fortnight or three weeks ago. I was taking the usual holiday; most of the gentlemen in that line of business have been out of town for the last fortnight or three weeks.

1983. How long have you been so connected with Mr. Gilbert?—About six months, I should think; six or eight months; perhaps a little longer, I am not certain.

1984. Do you know how long Mr. Gilbert has carried on the business of a Parliamentary agent in London?—Well, I should say about a year and a half or two years; I am sure I cannot tell; probably two or three years.

1985. Should you say two years?—I should say two years; certainly more than one.

1986. In London?—Yes.

1987. During the time that you have been connected with Mr. Gilbert, until a fortnight ago, have you been in the habit of being at the office daily?—Yes, for the last six or seven months.

1988. And during that period of time had you an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the various businesses with which Mr. Gilbert was connected?—I had.

1989. Do you remember, some day in the month of March or April last, Sir William Hayter coming to Mr. Gilbert's office in Parliament-street?—I was informed by Mr. Patch that Sir William Hayter had been there.

1990. Do you know what day that was?—I do not.

1991. Was it in the month of March or the month of April?—I should say April; I think it was. I made no minute of it.

1992. Can you say about what day it was?—No, I cannot. I know Mr. Gilbert was at Wakefield; I remember that very well; and I remember he went to Wakefield on the 5th of April, and I should say, therefore, it was after that.

1993. From the fact of Mr. Gilbert having gone to Wakefield on the 5th of April, and Mr. Gilbert being at Wakefield, you should say it was after the 5th of April?—I should say so; it was, I think, about the 5th of April that he went.

1994. What communication did Mr. Patch make to you upon the subject of Sir William Hayter having called on Mr. Gilbert in Parliament Street?—Mr. Patch told me that Sir William Hayter wanted to see Mr. Gilbert, and as he was not there, I had better go up and see him, as I had previously known Sir William Hayter at the East Worcestershire election; Mr. Gilbert had been there.

1995. Did you after that see Sir William Hayter yourself?—I did.

1996. Where did you see him?—In Little Ryder Street; I think that was the name of the place.

1997. Little Ryder Street, St. James's?—Yes.

1998. Can you say what day that was?—No, I cannot.

1999. Did you go to seek Sir William Hayter there, or did you go there by appointment?—Patch told me to go there.

2000. When you saw Sir William Hayter there, what conversation took place between you? What did Sir William Hayter say to you, or you to him, in the first instance?—He asked me if Mr. Gilbert was in town. I told him, "No; that he was gone to "Wakefield."

2001. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You told that to Sir William?—I told that to Sir William, to the best of my knowledge.

2002. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "I said, 'No; he is gone "to Wakefield'?"—Yes.

2003. Go on.—He said he wanted some one to go to Gloucester on election business, and I am not certain whether he asked me whether I could go or not. I said I could not leave town, as I had some private business in hand at that time as an accountant.

2004. Your belief is, that he asked you if you could go?—I rather think he did; but I am not certain that he did.

2005. You rather think he did ask you if you could go?—I think he did, because I said I knew a person that was trustworthy that had been engaged by Mr. Gilbert, and I named his name to him at the time.

2006. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You said so?—Yes; an old acquaintance of Mr. Gilbert's.

2007. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you said that you could not go, as you had some private business of your own to attend to, you then went on to mention that you could recommend a trustworthy person?—Yes; a man who understood election business, and had been engaged in election business by Mr. Gilbert, and had been with Mr. Gilbert on other occasions; he was introduced to me as a very respectable gentleman who had retired from business; he had been engaged by the late Mr. Coppock.

2008. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you say that to Sir William Hayter?—No, I did not say that to Sir William Hayter; I did not say that he had been engaged by Mr. Coppock.

2009. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I am asking you as to the conversation between you and Sir William Hayter; what was it that you did say?—That Mr. Thompson had been engaged with Mr. Gilbert, and by him on several occasions; that he had been formerly a member of the Town Council of London, the Corporation

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of London, and that I considered him highly respectable.

2010. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you mention his name?—I did not know then that Thompson had been engaged for Mr. Coppock.

2011. Do you say he had been a member of the Town Council of the city of London?—Of the Corporation of London, and therefore I considered him a fit person, from what I knew of him, to recommend him to Sir William.

2012. Did you say that to Sir William?—To the best of my remembrance.

2013. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was the answer you gave this: "I said I could recommend a trustworthy per- "son who understood election business, and who had "been engaged with and by Mr. Gilbert in election "business?"—Yes.

2014. You said his name was Thompson, and that he was formerly a member of the Town Council of London?—Of the Corporation.

2015. Upon your saying that, did Sir William Hayter make any statement to you?—He desired me to wait a little, and in about five or ten minutes, I think, he brought out a letter, directed to (I did not know the name at the time) Mr. Moffatt, to give to Mr. Thompson.

2016. Had he told you before producing that letter that you were to engage Thompson?—No.

2017. Go on, if you please. You received the letter; were any instructions given to you at the time you received that letter, excepting that you were to give it to Thompson?—None whatever.

2018. Did any further communication then take place between yourself and Sir William Hayter?—None whatever.

2019. You left?—I left.

2020. Was anything said at that time as to the object for which a person was required to be sent to Gloucester?—Certainly not.

2021. What did you mean when you said you could recommend a trustworthy person who understood election business?—Keeping an account of the poll, and so on; making out returns, and looking after the votes, the canvass, and so on.

2022. Are you sure that nothing was said at that time by Sir William Hayter as to the object that he had in requiring either your services or the services of some one else to go to Gloucester?—Not to the best of my knowledge; not anything more than I have told you. I do not think I have seen Sir William Hayter since; I may have seen him in the street, but not to have any conversation with him.

2023. Have you not seen Sir William Hayter since that time?—Not to have any conversation with him.

2024. Have you received any communication from Sir William Hayter himself since then?—I have not.

2025. Have you received any communication from any other person which you have reason to believe came from Sir William Hayter?—No.

2026. You knew that Thompson came down to Gloucester?—He told me he was going to Gloucester; he told me that he was engaged, and was going to Gloucester.

2027. You did not engage Thompson yourself?—Most decidedly not.

2028. Do you know who did?—I do not.

2029. Did Thompson see Gilbert?—He did not; he could not; Gilbert was at Wakefield.

2030. Did not Gilbert return to London between the time that you had this conversation with Sir William Hayter and the time of the election at Gloucester?—Certainly not.

2031. When was it that Thompson told you that he was engaged, and was going down to Gloucester?—I think it was the next day; I am not certain.

2032. The next day after your interview with Sir William Hayter?—The next day after I gave him the letter.

2033. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you give him the letter on the same day on which you saw Sir William?—Within three minutes, within five minutes of the time.

2034. Was he with you?—He was waiting outside; I considered him a very trustworthy man; he understood his business; and I told him to come with me.

2035. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you gave the letter to Thompson, what did you say at the time you gave it to him?—I told him there was a person who understood how to canvass, and make up election accounts, wanted for Gloucester.

2036. When you gave the letter, which you received from Sir William Hayter, to Thompson, what did you say to Thompson?—I told him there was a person wanted at Gloucester, and that he was to take it to where it was addressed (I did not know the person), and make his own arrangements, for I had something else to do.

2037. Did he say anything to you upon that occasion?—No. He said he knew the gentleman to whom it was addressed very well. I did not.

2038. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you see the address?—I know I gave it to Thompson instantly, and he said, "This is for a gentleman I know very well, "Mr. Moffatt."

2039. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Thompson come to the office in Parliament Street after that?—He came once; two or three times, I think.

2040. When he came on those two or three occasions was it on the business of Gloucester; about the Gloucester election?—He came to ask if there were any letters for him, that is all.

2041. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Thompson did?—Yes.

2042. When was it that he came?—After he had received the letter.

2043. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was it that he told you he was going down to Gloucester?—I think he told me the next day, to the best of my remembrance.

2044. The next day after the receipt of the letter?—Yes.

2045. Was any arrangement come to between you and Thompson before he left for Gloucester as to communications which should be made to yourself in the event of its being necessary he should write to you?—He said, "In all probability I may want "further assistance; I may want more hands than I "take with me, and you had better stay in town at "the King's Arms. This is no concern of Mr. "Gilbert's, and therefore you had better stay at the "Kings's Arms, and I will communicate with you.

2046. "In all probability I shall require further "assistance; more hands?"—Yes.

2047. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he say, "This is no "affair of Mr. Gilbert's?"—Yes.

2048. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "You had better stay at "the King's Arms?"—Yes; Brompton was at too great a distance, and I could not sleep on the premises in Parliament Street.

2049. For what purpose were you to stay at the King's Arms?—To receive any communications.

2050. To receive any communications from him?—Yes.

2051. As to what?—As to sending up other persons; he was afraid he might not have here a sufficient number of hands who understood their business.

2052. As to sending down other persons to him?—Yes.

2053. To Gloucester?—To Gloucester; I did the same to Mr. Gilbert at Wakefield.

2054. Do you undertake to swear that in point of fact that was all the arrangement he made with you before he left London for Gloucester?—Yes.

2055. Do you undertake to swear he told you that in all probability he should require further assistance and more hands, and that you were to remain at the King's Arms to receive any communication from him?—Yes; I took down the names of several persons, on purpose to send if they were wanted.

2056. Who did?—I did at that time, such as messengers or canvassers.

2057. Give me the names?—I do not remember

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the names now; I destroyed it at the time; I do not remember any name.

2058. How many names did you take down?—Perhaps three or four.

2059. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Can you mention them?—I do not recollect them; they were strangers to me that were named; it was on a slip of paper, and I destroyed it.

2060. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you mention the name of one person?—One's name was Frederick Williams.

2061. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Can you give their addresses?—I knew where to find that person.

2062. He was not a stranger, then?—He was not a stranger; many persons called to know if there was anything to do at that time, knowing that Mr. Gilbert was an electioneering agent.

2063. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say that the people whose names were given to you were strangers to you?—Many of them; some I knew, and some I did not know. Many persons called there, knowing that Mr. Gilbert was out on election business, to ask if there was anything for them to do.

2064. You said that three or four persons' names were given to you by Thompson?—No, not by Thompson; he gave me no names. Persons called at the office to ask if we had anything for them to do in election business. Thompson gave me no name whatever.

2065. I thought you said you took down the names on a list of three or four persons, and that they were strangers to you?—Persons who had called in to ask Mr. Gilbert if he had anything for them to do. Thompson certainly gave me no name at all, certainly not, except the name of Mr. Clarke; he did mention him; he said he wanted to take Clarke with him, and when he left me he told me that he could not find Clarke.

2066. Thompson mentioned the name of Clarke?—Yes.

2067. Do you represent to the Commissioners that Thompson did not tell you that he had received five hundred pounds?—He told me he was to have five hundred pounds; he did not tell me he had received it.

2068. When did he tell you that?—He was to have five hundred pounds to pay the expenses at Gloucester.

2069. When did he tell you that?—The following day, after he had been up to Mr. Moffatt.

2070. Was it at the time that he had this conversation with you in Parliament Street before he went down to Gloucester?—Certainly.

2071. Why did you not state that just now, when I asked you if it was the whole of the communication that had taken place between you and Thompson upon that subject?—As to the arrangement I understood you.

2072. You limit yourself to that?—Certainly; he told me he was to have five hundred pounds to take with him to pay the expenses. It was a misapprehension on my part, certainly, if I did not state it correctly.

2073. To pay the expenses of what?—Of the election of the Liberal candidates.

2074. How soon after this conversation between yourself and Thompson was it that he went to Gloucester?—I think it was five or six days.

2075. Five or six days after the conversation?—Yes.

2076. Did you see him between that time and the time when he went to Gloucester?—Yes; he called at the office.

2077. Did he tell you he had received the money? Yes, he did.

2078. Did he tell you whether he had received the money in notes or in gold?—No, he did not.

2079. Did he tell you that he had received it for the purposes of the election only. Was that all that he said upon the subject?—He did not enter into any particulars, because it was no business of mine. I had recommended him to the parties, and I had done with it.

2080. Did he tell you how the money was to be employed?—Certainly not.

2081. And you had no notion from any communication by or conversation with Thompson that it was to be employed for illegal purposes?—Certainly not.

2082. You carried on, I suppose, the business of Mr. Gilbert, in his absence?—Yes; I attended to Mr. Gilbert's private business, and my own business.

2083. Did you attend to the business that was to be transacted at Mr. Gilbert's office in his absence?—Certainly.

2084. Do you remember receiving a telegram from Thompson with respect to your sending down Clarke to him?—Yes, I do.

2085. Thompson passed at Gloucester under the name of Thornton?—Yes, he did.

2086. You knew that?—I did; he told me so.

2087. Do you know why the name of Thornton was assumed here?—I do not.

2088. That was arranged between yourself and him before he left London, was it not?—Yes.

2089. Did it appear to you to be a suspicious circumstance?—No, not at all.

2090. You thought that it did not involve any secret transaction, or any improper use of the money which he had in his possession?—Certainly not; that never occurred to me.

2091. What motive did you assign in your own mind for the desire that that name should be adopted?—He mentioned to me that when he did go out he very frequently went by the name of Thornton; sometimes by the name of Thornton, and sometimes by the name of Thompson. I did not ask him why or wherefore.

2092. Had you known him assume the name of Thornton on other occasions?—Yes; at least he told me so. I had not known him more than four or five months.

2093. Did he tell you he should pass under the name of Thornton at Gloucester?—He did.

2094. In answer to the telegram which you received from Thompson respecting Clarke, did you send this telegram: "Left Tuesday Gloucester for "Frome. No one left that will do, unless you tell "me where before eight."—Yes.

2095. You sent that?—Yes, I did.

2096. What did you mean by saying, "No one left "that will do, unless you can tell me where?"—I think he sent for some persons; I forget what it was now. I believe he wrote a note or sent a message that he wanted some one to canvass, or keep the accounts, or something. I kept no memorandum of it.

2097. He sent a note or message; is that what you say?—Yes; some one to keep the check accounts, or something of that sort.

2098. Some one to keep the check book?—Yes.

2099. Or the accounts?—To keep a check account of the returns of the polling, as I understood. A man that would suit for that purpose I had sent to Huddersfield.

2100. Do you know that this was in answer to the telegram you sent?—I forget now, I am sure.

2101. You sent back this telegram: "No one left "that will do, unless you can tell me where before "eight." Did you think it would be a very difficult thing to get a person able to keep or check the accounts?—Yes; at that time it was very difficult; they were in all directions; there was not a man to be had.

2102. Had you not taken down a list of persons who had applied at the office for employment?—Yes, but they had gone elsewhere; there was a man named Mitchell, I recollect now; one had gone to Lyme Regis, another to Lewes, and so on.

2103. Do you undertake to swear that that telegram which you sent was in answer to a message or letter from Thompson, requiring that a person might

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be sent down to him to keep or check the accounts?—To the best of my remembrance; I do not recollect.

2104. Do you remember receiving on the same day that you sent back that telegram a telegram from Thornton, "I want a repetition of my medicine. If "got, send Clarke with it. He lives No. 1, North-"ford Street, Hoxton?"—I do, and I sent a person up to his residence for him.

2105. To whose residence?—To Clarke's residence.

2106. In this telegram there is not a single word said about sending any messengers or any clerks or persons to keep or check the returns?—No.

2107. You stated just now that the telegram you sent was in answer to a message from Thompson, requesting you to send down clerks to keep or check the accounts?—That is to the best of my memory.

2108. But you find now that your memory is altogether false upon the subject. Now that I have refreshed your memory, you find that your memory was in error upon the subject?—If that is an answer to the other, it must have been. I know that he sent to me for more.

2109. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) More what? — More assistance.

2110. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you remember receiving that telegram (*handing a telegram to the witness*)?—Yes.

2111. Now just look at that (*handing another telegram to the witness*); do you remember sending that telegram?—This is not in answer to that.

2112. Do you remember sending that telegram?—Yes.

2113. What is the date of it?—This is the 28th.

2114. This (*the first*) is also the 28th?—Yes.

2115. Knowing that the telegram you received from Thornton was dated the 28th, and that the one you sent was the 28th, can you now undertake to swear that the one you sent was not an answer to the one you received?—Upon my word I cannot tell; if you will let me look at it again I will tell you (*the two telegrams are again handed to the witness*). I do not know whether it was in answer to that or in answer to the other communication.

2116. To what other communication?—As I told you I had a message from him or some one. It looks like an answer to that telegram; I do not recollect now; I made no minute of it at the time.

2117. Will you swear it is not an answer? Do you not know it is an answer? You are come here to speak the truth. Do you not know that the one is an answer to the other?—It appears so to me now, on looking at it.

2118. What is the interpretation which you put upon that language, "I want a repetition of my medi-"cine?"—He had been very ill; Clarke had been attending to him; at least he so told me. He was very ill before he left for three or four days; it was some whim of his; I did not pay any attention to it.

2119. Do you mean to represent to the Commissioners that you do not know what was understood by that language, "a repetition of my medicine," except the explanation you have just now given?—I did take it in two ways. It might have meant that he was ill, that he had been ill, and that he wanted Clarke to bring it, or that he wanted more money; but I declined to interfere, and had nothing to do with it.

2120. As it was in your judgment susceptible of two interpretations, which interpretation do you now say was the real one?—I left it to him. The real truth was I did not choose to go anywhere. I could not tell. I left him to take his chance. It was an answer to either, whichever it was.

2121. Do you mean to swear that by the employment of that language you ever thought he wanted more physic to be sent to him?—I could not tell whether he did or not.

2122. I am asking you what your belief was at that time upon the subject, and what your belief is now?—My belief is now, that he wanted more money.

2123. Was not that your belief at that time?—I declare at that time both circumstances occurred to me.

2124. You have come here to speak the truth, and if you do not the consequences will be very serious to you?—I assure you that the impression on my mind at the first onset was, that he really was ill; he had been very ill. But if it meant the other, I was determined not to have anything to do with it.

2125. According to the answer which you gave me just now, you thought that when Clarke was to be sent down he was required to be sent down specially with a bottle of medicine for Thompson to take?—I did not know whether he meant medicine or money.

2126. Did you think Clarke was to be sent down to convey to Thompson medicine from a doctor?—He was very particular in some things, and I did not know whether it was a cover for anything else or not; I could not tell. I had no conversation with Mr. Moffatt, and had nothing to do with him, and would not have anything to do with it.

2127. Do you remember sending another telegram on the following day to Thornton, "George Webb, "King's Arms Hotel, to Edward Thornton, Glou-"cester Hotel, Gloucester," on the 29th of April?—Yes, I believe I did.

2128. You remember that you received a telegram in which he stated that he wanted a repetition of his medicine?—Yes.

2129. And you state your belief now that that meant a further sum of money to be sent down?—Yes.

2130. There is a telegram dated the 29th of April, in these words, "I have seen P. and submitted the "case; all the rest from home; cannot do more?"—Yes; I had not seen anyone; I did not choose to interfere with it, and I thought it would keep him quiet. I did not see anyone at all. I declined to interfere.

2131. Look at that (*handing a telegram to the witness*)?—Yes, that is true.

2132. You sent that?—Yes; I never moved out of the office. I sent that, and thought it would keep him quiet.

2133. You say, "I have seen P.;" who was P.?—It was a letter that came across my mind at the moment; I believe it was Patch; he was frequently in and out of the office.

2134. You think it was Patch?—Yes, I think so.

2135. He was a person employed in Mr. Gilbert's office?—Yes; he was very friendly with Mr. Gilbert.

2136. What was Patch?—An electioneering agent.

2137. Employed as one of the staff of Gilbert?—Yes.

2138. In the same office in which you were?—Yes, at that time. He was backwards and forwards; he had a drawer there, and a key and a lock.

2139. Do you mean to say that when you put in that initial "P." you meant that "P." to stand for "Patch?"—I have no recollection. The impression on my mind is, that it did mean Patch, because he was in and out. I did not go out of the office after I received the telegram more than to take it to the office. Patch was engaged in the Lambeth election.

2140. And you state now, as far as your impression goes, that "P." stood for "Patch?"—As far as my impression goes.

2141. Had Patch the command of any money?—No.

2142. You say you have "stated the case;" what did that mean?—Nothing at all; I merely wrote that; I would not have anything more to do with it; that is to say I would not interfere. Mr. Moffatt I did not know, and I did not go anywhere, and wrote that to keep Thompson quiet, as it were; to let him know I would not interfere any more in it.

2143. What did you mean when you said in that telegram "I have seen P. and submitted the case." What case did you submit?—I submitted no case; I did nothing. I merely sent it just because I did not want to be bothered again with anything relative to Gloucester.

2144. What did you understand by the words "All "the rest from home?"—It was something just to

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G. Webb.
28 Sept. 1859.

fill up the telegram; to satisfy him that I did not want to have anything more to say about it. Mr. Gilbert was from home.

2145. There was no occasion to write more than "I have seen P. and submitted the case?"—I declare to you I had no other meaning for it.

2146. If you did not wish to interfere further, why did you send a telegram at all?—Because he promised to pay me for my trouble, and I thought if I did not do anything he would pay me nothing.

2147. What did you mean by "Cannot do more?"—That I did not mean to interfere any more. I could not go up to Mr. Moffatt's, as I did not know him, and I did not know any one else in the matter.

2148. According to your evidence this telegram was a lie?—I had not seen any one, certainly.

2149. Was it, or was it not? It was either true or false?—It was false.

2150. Wholly false?—Wholly false, so far as regards any business.

2151. So far as you were concerned?—Yes; I did not want to have anything more to do with it.

2152. You had gone with Thompson to Little Ryder Street?—Yes, once.

2153. Did you never go there after you had received the telegram from Gloucester from Thornton?—No.

2154. That you swear?—Not to the best of my knowledge, I never did. I may have gone there about Wakefield. I may have gone there to make some inquiries; I think I did go there to ask for Sir William Hayter, and he was out of town; I am not certain whether I did or not.

2155. Notwithstanding your having sent the telegram which I have just read to you your interest in the Gloucester election was still very considerable, was it not?—No.

2156. Not considerable?—No.

2157. Did Thornton telegraph to you after that?—He telegraphed to me at the close of the election.

2158. Did he not telegraph to you before?—Not that I remember.

2159. Do you remember receiving a telegram from him to this effect: "Richard Thornton, Gloucester "Hotel, to George Webb, King's Arms Hotel, Palace "Yard, London,—nomination over; ours; one "o'clock; safe; 192 ready anywhere; answer?"—Yes.

2160. Do you remember receiving that?—I do.

2161. Were you able to put any construction upon the meaning of that telegram?—That they had won the election.

2162. "Nomination over; 192 ready anywhere;" did you place any construction upon that language?—I placed a construction that the election was over, and that they had won; that the Liberals had gained the election.

2163. You know the difference between a nomination day and a polling day, do you not?—Yes.

2164. Look at that (*handing the telegram to the witness*)?—Yes, I received that.

2165. What did you understand by "192 ready anywhere"?—I presumed by that that the election was over, that that was the majority, and that he was ready to go to any other place that he was wanted to go to, either the West Riding of Yorkshire or to Huddersfield, or wherever Mr. Gilbert might want him.

2166. That is the answer that you are prepared to give here to-day upon your oath?—That is what I understood; that the election was over.

2167. Is the answer you have just given the answer you are prepared upon your oath to give to the question what was the interpretation you put upon that telegram?—Yes.

2168. You were a great friend of Thompson's, were you not?—We had been very friendly for three or four months; very friendly.

2169. You wrote afterwards, "Thanks, very happy to meet at Brompton; suit his own time?"—Yes; that after the election was over I should be very glad to see him. I thought he would stay in Gloucester to pay his accounts and settle with his men.

2170. Did you see him afterwards?—I did.

2171. At Brompton?—Yes.

2172. When he came to Brompton to see you did he give you an account of what had taken place at Gloucester?—No, he did not; he told me that they had won.

2173. Was he so reserved in his communication that he only told you they had won, when you knew that before?—I forget what he did say; in fact I did not want to have anything to do with it. I think he said he had given the money to some gentleman, a surgeon. I did not recollect the name at the time, but I have since learned it was a Mr. Wilson or Wilton, or some such name. He said, "I have had "nothing to do with the bribery; I have handed the "money over to one person"—that is what he told me—"and it has gone for election purposes."

2174. Did he tell you whether he had received any further sum than that which he had taken down from London?—Certainly not. I never heard of any; he might have had a great deal more.

2175. Did he tell you after he came back from Gloucester how much money he had taken down to Gloucester?—I do not remember whether he did or not.

2176. Did he?—I do not know whether he did or not.

2177. Did he tell you he had obtained possession of a further sum of money in notes when he was in Gloucester?—I think he said he had had occasion to borrow some more money; that he had not enough, and that he had borrowed some money, but what he did not tell me.

2178. Did he not tell you how much he had borrowed?—No.

2179. Did he say from whom he had borrowed it?—No.

2180. Did he say where he had borrowed it?—No.

2181. Did he tell you he gave an acknowledgment for the money?—He said something about borrowing money, and that he had been obliged to be responsible for it, or words to that effect.

2182. What the amount was he did not tell you?—No.

2183. Did he tell you that he had gone from London direct down to Gloucester?—Yes, I believe so; I do not recollect whether he did or not.

2184. How many times have you seen Thompson since then?—I have seen him twice or three times, probably.

2185. Since then?—Yes.

2186. When did you last see him?—I saw him about a month ago, I think; three weeks or a month ago.

2187. Where was he?—Well, he was at Brompton.

2188. At your house?—Well, he had called at my house, but I was not at home, and I met him afterwards in the street.

2189. Do you know where he is now?—I do not; I have been to inquire for him; I have been in search of him; I thought it was much better for him to attend in obedience to your summons. I heard that a summons had been left at his house, and I went to advise him to come here.

2190. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You told him so?—Yes, I did, when I saw him at Brompton.

2191. When was that?—About a month ago, and I have since been at his house.

2192. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At 4, Bridge Row, Hammersmith?—I have, at least near to it, and I sent a person to make inquiries.

2193. You know he lives there?—I do.

2194. And you have been there to see him, and did see him in the neighbourhood of his own house?—I did see him at Brompton; not in the neighbourhood of his own house. I went myself to inquire for him, and I sent a person in to say I wanted to see him.

2195. Did he come to see you?—He did not.

2196. When was this?—A fortnight ago.

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2197. But you had seen him before that at Brompton ?—Yes.

2198. When was that ?—About a week or ten days before. I said, "You had better attend to the summons, and go yourself, and then I shall not be "wanted, because you know very well I had nothing "to do with it ; you will come to no harm."

2199. At the time you told him that you knew he had been summoned to attend here ?—I knew a summons had been left at his house; he told me so.

2200. Have you had any further conversation with him since the election with respect to the election itself, except what you have told us ?—Not to the best of my knowledge ; there might have been little anecdotes of a row here and a row there ; he told me he was very ill in bed most of the time he was here.

2201. Do you know John Clarke ?—Yes.

2202. He was examined here yesterday ?—Yes.

2203. Did Clarke see you after his return from Gloucester, about the nonpayment to himself of the stipulated price for his services ?—Yes. I had no notion that Clarke had been with him. Clarke told me his tale, and I thought it a great shame if the man had been employed that he had not been paid, and I spoke to Thompson upon the subject repeatedly ; but I told Clarke I had nothing to do with it ; that I did not touch a single penny of the money, and that I could not be looked to, nor could Mr. Gilbert, but that I would speak to Thompson about it.

2204. Did he apply to you for payment of the money that he mentioned to be due to himself ?—I do not know that he applied to me.

2205. Did you ask him how much was due to him ? —Yes ; he said 25*l*. I said, "Make me out an account "and I will take it to Thompson." He made out the account, and I took it to Thompson, and said, "You had better see this poor fellow paid ;" and I know no more about it.

2206. What did Thompson say ?—He said, "Oh, "yes, poor fellow, he ought to be paid, and I will see "to it."

2207. Did you make any application to any other person than Thompson with reference to the payment to Clarke of that sum of money ?—To no one.

2208. Did you mention it to Gilbert ?—I did not ; I did not see him.

2209. Have you had any communication with Gilbert, or any conversation with him, in reference to this Gloucester election, since the election was over ? —The petition, of course, he had seen. I had no conversation with Gilbert at all. I told him Thompson was engaged for Gloucester, and that we had nothing to do with it ; neither him nor me.

2210. Was a person of the name of Kingdom there ? —Yes, sometimes.

2211. He is a person in the office, is he not ?—He is there occasionally, the same as Thompson was.

2212. As an electioneering agent ; not employed as a regular clerk ?—Certainly not.

2213. But employed occasionally ?—Mr. Gilbert had no other person there except myself ; not as a constant clerk ; he had occasional clerks.

2214. Can you undertake to swear that the arrangement made between yourself and Thompson, that he, (Thompson) was to pass as Thornton at Gloucester, and that you were to receive telegrams from him at the King's Arms Inn, Palace Yard, was not an arrangement made in order the better to conceal any illegal practices that might be resorted to at the Gloucester election ?—I had no such thought; certainly not. The reason was that Mr. Gilbert had nothing to do with it. Thompson said, "If you like, "you can stop in town to answer any messages or any- "thing of that sort ;" but I had not the slightest notion of anything illegal taking place. I gave my own name at the King's Arms, and am well known to the waiters and everybody there.

2215. Why should not the telegrams have been sent to the office in Parliament Street as well as to the King's Arms ?—Because the office in Parliament Street would only be open five hours a day, and I should be at the King's Arms sleeping.

2216. Do you mean to say that during the progress of the election the office in Parliament Street was only open five hours a day ?—Never after five in the afternoon.

2217. From what time ?—Ten o'clock in the morning.

2218. And you swear that no one was there to receive a telegram for you after five ?—No one.

2219. You swear that that was the only reason why the telegrams were addressed to the King's Arms, Palace Yard, and not to Parliament Street ?—Decidedly.

2220. Do you still adhere to your statement, that when you said in your telegram, "I have seen P." by "P" you meant Patch ?—I might have meant Patch, but I meant merely to give some little explanation that I did not wish to have anything to say to or interfere more in the election. I did not mean anything else, I assure you.

2221. You are upon your oath, you know ?—Yes.

2222. You are standing in a serious position. Do you adhere to that statement, that "P." represented no other person than Patch ?—I do not know that it represented anybody. I know I did not see any one. I know I never left Parliament Street on the Gloucester business, I assure you.

2223. Were you in court yesterday ?—No.

2224. A gentleman of the name of Parkes was examined here yesterday, and he stated that a person did come to him in Little Ryder Street, with respect to the Gloucester election. Was that person yourself? —I went there with a note. I saw a gentleman ; I did not know who it was. I went there with a note from Thompson when I went to get the cheque.

2225. I do not mean on that occasion. I mean upon an occasion, either on the 28th or 29th of April ? —I said just now I was not certain whether I did or did not go there ; I am not certain.

2226. Will you swear that you did not ?—No, I cannot swear that I did not.

2227. Will you swear that you did ?—No.

2228. Do you mean to represent that your mind is so obscure upon the subject that you cannot say whether on the 28th or 29th you did go and see Mr. Parkes at Little Ryder Street ?—I do not know Mr. Parkes ; but on reflection I think I did go there.

2229. To Little Ryder Street ?—To Little Ryder Street, but what for I am sure I cannot tell at this time.

2230. Did you see any one there ?—I saw some gentleman there.

2231. Will you swear that you do not know who it was you saw in Little Ryder Street on that occasion ?—No, I do not. I inquired for Sir William Hayter ; he was not there.

2232. Was your visit to Little Ryder Street after the receipt of that telegram from Thornton in which he requested a repetition of his medicine ?—Upon my word I cannot tell. I do not recollect.

2233. You must recollect, you know. Was it after the receipt of that telegram that you went to Little Ryder Street ?—I cannot tell, I am sure.

2234. You must tell ?—The impression on my mind is that I did not go there at all.

2235. You have stated that you did go there ?— I do not know whether it was before or after. I cannot tell.

2236. Was it on the 28th or the 29th of April ?— That I do not know.

2237. Did you go to Little Ryder Street more than once between the time that you received that note and gave it to Thompson, and the time of the election at Gloucester ?—I think I went two or three times on other business ; I think so. I think Sir William Hayter wanted some persons for other places to watch; that was the term made use of ; some persons to watch on the other side. I think I did go there.

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2238. Who did you see there?—I do not know who it was I saw there.

2239. You swear that you do not know the name of the person you saw there?—I do.

2240. Have you seen that person any where since?—No.

2241. That you swear?—Yes.

2242. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you engaged in election business before you became a partner of Mr. Gilbert's?—I had had nothing to do with election business for twenty years nearly.

2243. Before that had you been engaged in election business?—Yes.

2244. You understand election business?—I understand the routine of canvass books, and making them up, and placing them in such a position as to facilitate the business of canvassing and keeping checks.

2245. Have you been engaged in bribery at elections?—Never.

2246. Do you not know that Mr. Thompson has been engaged in bribery at elections?—No.

2247. Will you swear you believe he was sent down to do only the legal business of the election at Gloucester?—Yes.

2248. You do?—Yes. I did not think it much money, five hundred pounds, for the legal expenses of an election in a large city like Gloucester.

2249. You say you did not intend to take any step on the instructions received from Mr. Thompson. Why did you remain at the King's Arms?—I did not remain there after the Thursday, I think. After I received the note to repeat the medicine, I thought to myself, "If he means money, I will not have any-"thing to do with it."

2250. Did you not receive one on the 30th?—That was sent over to me. I did not receive it till late; I had left the King's Arms two days.

2251. What remuneration were you to receive from Thompson?—Nothing was fixed. He said, "I "shall make you a present; I have got the job "through you, and I shall make you a present when "it is all over."

2252. Was that for getting the job for him?—He considered that I had recommended him to it; and so I had in fact.

2253. Was not a part of the remuneration to be given for waiting at the King's Arms?—Certainly, I should expect something for occupying my time there.

2254. What were you expected to do at the King's Arms?—To attend to any message, as I understood, if he should want any further assistance or any clerks to keep the accounts.

2255. On receiving the telegrams, which have been referred to, you did nothing; you say you did not leave the office, or did not leave the place?—Not to the best of my knowledge.

2256. Not in consequence of those messages?—No.

2257. You did nothing?—Yes; I got a person to go up to Clarke's house, to see if he was there. I had his name given me there by him.

2258. Did you see Clarke before he went down?—I did not know he was there.

2259. Who paid your bill at the King's Arms?—I paid it myself.

2260. Have you received it back again from any one?—Thompson gave me some money to pay my expenses there.

2261. How much have you received from Thompson?—Ten pounds altogether, and I spent very nearly that, I suppose.

2262. When did Thompson first tell you he had received any money to go to Gloucester?—I think about a week after.

2263. After what?—After the day I gave him the letter.

2264. Did he tell you from what source he had received it?—That was the occasion on which I went to Little Ryder Street. I took a note there; I waited for an answer, and that answer was directed to Thompson, and I gave it to him.

2265. Did you see what it contained?—I think I did.

2266. Do you know what it contained?—It was an order to go to some gentleman. I did not know the name at that time. Mr. Ralli.

2267. For what purpose?—To receive 500*l.*

2268. And after that he told you he had received it?—He did.

2269. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you had not the slightest notion that any thing illegal was going to be done with this money?—Not the slightest; I considered that 500*l.* would not more than pay the legal expenses in a large town like Gloucester.

2270. Are you as ignorant as members of Parliament seem to be of the Act of Parliament, which provides that the legal expenses shall be paid after the election is over?—I may say I have not seen the Act of Parliament relating to elections for fifteen or sixteen years.

2271. Were you aware that that was the law?—No.

2272. You never heard of such a man as an election auditor?—I have heard of an election auditor, but my business is that of an accountant.

2273. And you are a Parliamentary and election agent?—Certainly not; I am an accountant, auctioneer, and appraiser, and assistant to Mr. Gilbert when he requires it.

2274. If you had not the slightest notion that this money was to be spent in illegal practices, why did you not make your appearance in obedience to the summons to attend the committee of the House of Commons?—I did not make my appearance; I had a summons certainly, but I had occasion to go out of town; there was no date to the summons, and I did not know I should be wanted.

2275. You thought your "private affairs" more important than the speaker's warrant?—I did not know I should be wanted, because Thompson was to have been there.

2276. After the telegrams that you admit were sent by you, and that you received, do you mean to swear you did not think you would be wanted before the committee of the House of Commons?—I had no intention of refusing to attend; I went out of town, and left word where I was.

2277. Do you mean to represent that you could have been found and brought before the election committee?—Yes.

2278. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That you were in Parliament Street from day to day?—Sometimes I was in Parliament Street; not always.

2279. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Will you swear that you were in Parliament Street during the sitting of that committee?—I think I was; I am not certain.

2280. Why did you tell me just now you had gone out?—I think I had gone out before.

2281. When did you receive your summons to attend the election committee?—I am sure I cannot tell; I remember showing it to Mr. Patch. Mr. Patch said, "That is of no consequence; you need "not attend to that; you will have another signed "by the chairman."

2282. Do you recollect how long before the election petition was heard it was that you received your summons?—No, I cannot tell, I am sure.

2283. How long before the committee sat did you receive your summons?—I cannot recollect, I am sure; perhaps ten days before.

2284. When did you go out of town?—About a week after, I think.

2285. About three days before the sitting of the committee?—I cannot answer for that, whether it was three days or four.

2286. Where did you go to?—I went to different places; travelled about.

2287. Now tell me where you went to?—I went

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to Ramsgate and different places ; I travelled about ; I went to Gravesend on my business.

2288. What business ?—As an accountant.

2289. Are you prepared to say you were engaged on your business during the time you were absent from town ?—Probably not the whole of the time.

2290. Any part of it ?—Oh, yes.

2291. What business ?—Making up accounts.

2292. Whose accounts ?—Well, that would be a private affair.

2293. Never mind, we must have it ; whose accounts ?—I attended to the accounts of Mr. Thomas.

2294. Where does he live ?—At Liverpool.

2295. Were you at Liverpool then ?—No, I did not go to Liverpool.

2296. Where were you attending to his accounts ?—At Chelsea some portion of the time.

2297. Were you at Chelsea before or after the time you went to Ramsgate ?—Before.

2298. You went then from London to Chelsea ?—Yes.

2299. Were you there more than one day ?—I might have been there two or three days.

2300. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you or were you not ?—I forget now, really.

2301. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I suppose there was nothing secret in this business ; it was all open ?—Which business do you mean ?

2302. The business of this gentleman from Liverpool ?—They were private accounts.

2303. There was no reason why you should keep this journey secret ?—No.

2304. Did you keep it secret ?—Yes.

2305. Did you tell anybody where you had gone when you left town ?—I do not think I did ; my family was at Ramsgate, and I should have attended the committee if Mr. Patch had not told me I should have a summons from the chairman.

2306. Did you not know that a summons from the chairman was issued after the election committee was appointed ?—No.

2307. Could there be a chairman to an election committee before the committee itself was appointed ?—I do not know.

2308. Do you mean to say you do not know that ; are you so ignorant of Parliamentary matters as not to know that there cannot be a chairman of a committee before the committee is struck ?—Patch told me I should have a summons from the chairman.

2309. Was it not your duty to remain in town till the committee was appointed, when you would get your summons from the chairman ?—I told you before that I understood Mr. Thompson would attend, and that he would clear me, and say that I had nothing to do with it.

2310. You told us you went out of town three days before the election committee was struck ; I want to know whether you did not go out of town in order to avoid receiving a summons from the chairman of the committee ?—I had no intention of doing anything that was wrong.

2311. Did you, or did you not, go out of town to avoid receiving summons from the chairman ?—I went out of town, that is quite clear.

2312. Did you go out of town to avoid receiving a summons from the chairman ?—I had had nothing to do with it, and I did not want to be overhauled.

2313. Answer my question ; did you, or did you not, go out of town to avoid receiving a summons from the chairman ?—I did not want to have my name brought into question about things I had nothing to do with ; I did avoid it.

2314. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You went out of town to avoid being served with a summons to attend ?—Yes.

2315. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Give me the name of the gentleman at Liverpool whose business you were attending to ?—I do not know his surname, at least his address.

2316. What is his name ?—James Thomas, wine merchant, Liverpool.

2317. What business were you doing for him ?—I was looking through his accounts; making up his accounts.

2318. When did you receive a commission to do that ?—Some time before.

2319. How came it that the accounts of a Liverpool wine merchant were to be made up at Chelsea ?—I had known him a great many years, and he knew me as a private friend.

2320. Was that the reason why his accounts were made up at Chelsea ?—No ; I appointed to meet him there.

2321. He was there ?—Yes.

2322. And you made up the accounts ?—Yes.

2323. Where ? In Chelsea ?—I did not go to any particular place ; I went to an inn.

2324. What inn ?—The Cadogan Hotel.

2325. Were you at Ramsgate during that time ?—Not all the time.

2326. Were you there at all ?—Yes.

2327. Was your wife there at that time ?—Yes, and my daughter, for five or six weeks.

2328. Were you inquired for at all while you were there ?—No ; not that I heard of.

2329. Will you swear that the messenger from the House of Commons did not inquire for you at Ramsgate ?—I never heard of it if he did.

2330. You are prepared to swear that ?—Yes.

2331. Are you prepared to swear that you did not deny yourself to him ?—Certainly.

2332. Did any one deny you to the messenger by your orders ?—No.

2333. Was your wife aware that you were out of town to avoid the speaker's warrant, or a summons ?—No.

2334. Did you tell her to deny you when you were at Ramsgate with her ?—No.

2335. Then if she denied you to the speaker's messenger it was without your orders ?—Yes, certainly.

2336. Did you tell the servant to deny you ?—No; not if I was at home.

2337. Did your wife tell the servant to deny you ?—No, not that I am aware of.

2338. Would the servant have denied you if you had been at home ?—Certainly not.

2339. Then you are prepared to swear that you were not denied to the speaker's messenger ?—Not that I am aware of.

2340. Nor to any body who inquired for you ?—No, not that I am aware of.

2341. How long had you known Mr. Thompson ?—For three or four months.

2342. Then you were not aware of the character in which he was employed at elections ?—No.

2343. He is rather a remarkable looking man, is he not ?—Yes.

2344. And you are prepared to swear that you had no idea of the character in which he was generally employed at elections ?—Certainly not. I heard that he had been in the service of Mr. Coppock, I think, and other persons, and that he had conducted elections himself.

2345. You never heard from Mr. Gilbert the nature of Mr. Thompson's employment ?—No.

2346. That you are prepared to swear ?—Yes.

2347. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the address of Mr. Thomas, wine-merchant, of Liverpool ?—Wine-merchant, Liverpool, would find him.

2348. How long were you at the Cadogan Hotel ?—Perhaps an hour at a time, or half an hour, and sometimes not so much.

2349. For how many days ?—I would make up the account at home sometimes, after asking him some questions.

2350. Where ?—At my own home at Brompton.

2351. After being with Mr. Thomas at the Cadogan Hotel at Chelsea, you went home to your own house

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at Brompton ?—In the evening ; sometimes we would go about for a little time and spend a day out.

2352. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) About this telegram, "I "want a repetition of my medicine. If got, send "Clarke with it; he lives at No. 1, Northford Street, "Hoxton." You say you did not understand the meaning of the word "medicine," and that you only meant to keep him quiet by what you said in answer? —That I would not have anything to do with it if he meant money ; that he had made his arrangement with Mr. Moffatt, and I had nothing to do with it.

2353. Why did you send to Clarke then ?—My inference was that he wanted Clarke there to assist him in business.

2354. Then you did intend to act upon his telegram ?—I did act upon that part of it ; I did not know but what he might have left some message with Clarke.

2355. You telegraphed in reply to that telegram that Clarke was gone to Gloucester ?—Yes ; that was the message brought back.

2356. You ascertained that ?—Yes.

2357. Then you answered that part of the telegram ?—Yes.

2358. Why did you wait till the next day to answer the second part of the telegram ?—I cannot tell now, I am sure.

2359. You acted upon one part of the telegram by sending to Clarke ?—Yes.

2360. And telegraphed to him that you could not find him ?—Yes.

2361. Why did you wait till the second day before you answered the second part ?—I cannot form an opinion now. I told you just now that I believe that was in answer to some message sent to me.

2362. Do you mean to say you took no steps whatever in consequence of the meaning you attributed to the word "medicine ?"—I did not take any steps.

2363. Are you prepared to say that that second telegram had not reference to something which you did in consequence of the construction you put upon the word "medicine" in the first ?—I do not know whether it had or not ; I really forget now at this distance of time. I do not remember whether I went to Ryder Street or not.

2364. (*Mr. Welford.*) You say you believed that Thompson took down the money to be applied to legal purposes ?—Yes.

2365. Then why, when you thought he might ask you for more money under the term of "medicine," did you object to go and inquire for more money ?— I did not want to be brought into contact with money matters.

2366. What was your reason for not wishing to be brought into contact with money matters ?—I did not want to have anything more to do with it.

2367. But you knew he had taken down money ?— Yes.

2368. And you believed that that money was taken down for legal purposes ?—Yes.

2369. Then why did you object to ask for more money ?—Because I did not know where to go. I did not know Mr. Moffatt ; I did not like to go as a stranger to him, and did not think it likely that he would give me the money.

2370. You knew where the money had been got before ?—Yes.

2371. Why might you not have gone there ?—It is possible I might have gone there.

2372. You told us you did nothing, that you did not move out of the office, and that you sent a falsehood to Thornton, in order to keep him quiet ?—That was the second telegram.

2373. That is the one I am asking about, in which "medicine" is referred to ?—I really forget, I am sure, whether it was after or before.

2374. Did you not believe that the money was to be used for illegal purposes ?—No.

2375. You did not ?—I did not.

2376. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you not think there was something suspicious in Thompson assuming another name?—He told me he had gone by that name before.

2377. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he give you any reason for changing his name ?—No.

2378. When Thompson left town did he give you any instructions where to go in case he wanted more money ?—No.

2379. Do you know Mr. Joseph Parkes ?—No.

2380. Should you know him by sight ?—No.

2381. Should you know the gentleman who handed you the cheque in Ryder Street ?—I do not know whether that was Mr. Parkes or not.

2382. Should you know him ?—Yes, I think I should.

2383. Was he an elderly or young man ?—An elderly man.

2384. Did he wear glasses or not ?—He had no glasses on, to the best of my remembrance.

2385. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Thompson tell you when he came back to town how much money he gave to the gentleman with whom he communicated ?—No.

2386. He did not ?—No.

2387. Let us hear what he did say ?—He said that he had succeeded, and that he had borrowed money or got money.

2388. You knew that he had 500*l.* with him ?— Yes.

2389. Did he say to whom he had handed the money ?—He told me that he had given it to a Mr. Wilson, or Wilton.

2390. How did he express it ?—That he had given all the money to Mr. Wilton, and that he had nothing to do with it himself.

2391. Did he tell you that he had kept back 100*l.* for himself ?—No.

2392. How was Thompson to be paid himself ?— He made an arrangement between Mr. Moffatt and him.

2393. He made an arrangement with Mr. Moffatt ? —So he told me.

2394. When did he tell you that ?—Before he went to Gloucester.

2395. What was the nature of the arrangement that he told you of ?—He told me that he was to have 100*l.*

2396. He told you he had agreed with Mr. Moffatt that he was to have 100*l.* ?—Yes, for his fee.

2397. Did he say when that was to be paid ?—No.

2398. Go on and tell me what he did say ?—He did not say when it was to be paid.

2399. Tell us what he said about it ?—He said he was to have 100*l.* for his fee.

2400. That he had arranged with Mr. Moffatt that he was to have 100*l.* for his fee ?—Yes ; I think it was 100*l.*

2401. Did he tell you he was to pay himself ?— No.

2402. You are quite sure of that ?—Yes.

2403. Have you seen Thompson lately ? — About three weeks ago.

2404. You have not seen him since that ?—No.

2405. Are you prepared to swear you did not see him last Friday ?—Positively.

2406. You are quite certain of that ?—Quite certain.

2407. Had you any conversation with him when you did see him, as to coming down here ?—I advised him to come here, as I had had nothing to do with it, and I thought it would save the trouble of my coming.

2408. Do you know why he is not here ?—I do not.

2409. Have you any conception why he objects to come ?—None whatever.

2410. Have you no conception why he objects to come ?—No.

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2411. Do you think it a very extraordinary thing that he should object to come?—Yes, I should say so.

2412. Do you know why he was not before the committee of the House of Commons?—No, I do not.

2413. Do you know his reason for keeping out of the way?—No, indeed, I do not.

2414. Perhaps you are ignorant of the fact that he did keep out of the way?—I was not aware but what he was at the court.

2415. Then you were not aware that he was going to keep out of the way?—No.

2416. It was not agreed between you that neither of you should appear?—I do not recollect whether it was or not; but he said he should not appear, as he had had no summons; he said so the last time I saw him.

2417. Why should a man keep out of the way who has done nothing illegal?—I had not done anything illegal.

2418. And therefore you kept out of the way?—I did not want to be what is called brought before the public on a business I had nothing to do with.

2419. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you advised Thompson to come here, what did he say; did he say that he would come, or that he would not come?—He did not say one or the other.

2420. Did you understand that he would come or would not come?—I expected that he would have come.

2421. Why did you think it necessary to give him that advice?—As he had managed the business,—as it was his business,—I merely recommended him to come. I said I thought it was much better he should go.

2422. What reply did he make?—He said he should mind his own business; he should follow his own course, or words to that effect, to the best of my remembrance.

2423. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who is Mr. Patch?—He is a person coming backwards and forwards to the office; the same as Mr. Thompson is.

2424. Is he employed by you?—No.

2425. By Mr. Gilbert?—He has been employed in the East Worcestershire election.

2426. How came Mr. Patch in your office when the message came about Sir William Hayter?—I do not know that he was there; he might have been there.

2427. But you told us it was Mr. Patch who told you the message had come from Sir William Hayter?—Yes.

2428. How came he in your office?—Patch was backwards and forwards at the office.

2429. He happened to be there when the message came from Sir William Hayter, and then he told you afterwards?—Yes. I was not there; Patch was there, and received the message. About a week before he had had a quarrel with Mr. Gilbert, and did not come into the office when he was there, but he came to the office very often after that.

2430. After Mr. Gilbert went out of town, Mr. Patch came to the office?—Yes; when Mr. Gilbert was not there.

2431. By whose directions did he come?—He came by his own; he had a drawer and a lock to it, and a key.

2432. (*Mr. Welford.*) He came, notwithstauding the quarrel?—Yes.

2433. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Then he was on Mr. Gilbert's staff?—Yes; if Mr. Gilbert had anything for him to do he would have gone, as he did to East Worcester, for Mr. Gilbert.

2434. Do you know what Mr. Patch is doing now?—No.

2435. Or within the last three or four days?—No. I know he has served me with a summons for Wakefield.

2436. Has he served Mr. Thompson?—Not that I know of. I know nothing about it, if he has.

2437. So that the Wakefield Commissioners have been fortunate enough to get a gentleman out of Mr. Gilbert's office to act as their messenger?—I do not know.

2438. Do you know whether Mr. Patch applied to be appointed?—I do not know anything of it.

2439. Mr. Patch is one of those people to whom Sir William Hayter or any other gentleman who wished to communicate with Mr. Gilbert would apply in the absence of Mr. Gilbert?—Not now; they would prior to that time.

2440. Then Mr. Patch was in the confidence of Mr. Gilbert?—At that time he was.

2441. When did he lose his confidence; when the quarrel took place?—Yes; about the latter end of February or March.

2442. Was it not after that that Mr. Patch went into Worcestershire?—Some time in February, I think, he went into Worcestershire; it was an election in consequence of the death of some one.

2443. Were you at the office when Sir William Hayter called?—No.

2444. Are there more persons than you and Mr. Patch who have drawers there?—And Mr. Gilbert; no one else.

2445. Then Mr. Patch was in the office as Mr. Gilbert's representative when Sir William Hayter came?—I do not know whether he saw Sir William Hayter.

2446. You know nothing about it more than that Mr. Patch told you that Sir William Hayter had been there?—Patch told me that he had been there, and that I was to go up.

2447. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Thompson in Gilbert's office?—No.

JOSEPH PARKES called and further examined.

J. Parkes.

2448. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that the person (*pointing to the witness Webb*) to whom you delivered the envelope containing the cheque?—I believe him to be so.

2449. To the best of your belief he is the person?—I believe him to be so, but I did not see him for one half quarter of a minute. I should not have known him in the court, but seeing him now I believe him to be the person.

2450. Did you see that person again in Ryder Street between the time you delivered the envelope to him and the day of the election at Gloucester?—No; I have not the slightest recollection of it. I was there only in the morning before anybody was there, and in the afternoon, except on the Saturday, the day of the polling, when I was there some hours; but I have no recollection of any person calling upon me again, or of the gentleman in the box calling.

2451. As far as your recollection serves you, you have not seen that person, whose name is Webb, more than on one occasion?—I have not the slightest recollection of having seen him; I do not believe that I did, but I will not say that I did not.

2452. Can you recollect at all whether or not such a person as that did make an application to you for a further supply of money about the time of the election at Gloucester?—I do not believe that any such application was made to me.

2453. I put you the question yesterday, and you said you had no recollection of it; but now that the man is here, I ask you again, calling your attention to his presence, whether you have any recollection of that person coming to Ryder Street, and asking you for a further supply of money in connection with the election for the city of Gloucester?—Certainly not.

The witness *Webb*.—I assure you it never entered my mind, nor did I see any one on the subject; that you may depend upon.

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R. Kingdon.

28 Sept. 1859.

RICHARD KINGDON sworn and examined.

2454. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you employed in the office of Mr. Gilbert ?—Occasionally.

2455. Are you employed as a clerk there ?—No ; I go out electioneering at times.

2456. Employed in the general business ?—Yes.

2457. Do you know John Clarke ?—Yes.

2458. Have you known him for some time ?—Well, not till since the election; the last election.

2459. Your acquaintance with him began since the last election ?—Yes.

2460. Were you directed to convey to him a sum of money ?—I did take him a sum of money.

2461. How much ?—£25.

2462. When ?—I cannot recollect the date, though I did take a receipt of him at the time, but I cannot find it.

2463. Was it in the month of June ?—Yes, I should say it was some time in the month of June.

2464. Who gave that money to you to take to him? —I do not know; I never saw the party before in my life.

2465. You did take Clarke 25*l.* in June ?—Yes, I did.

2466. Where did you receive it ?—At my own house.

2467. Where ?—3, Granby Terrace, Bethnal Green Road, London.

2468. You say you never saw the person who brought you the money ?—No ; he was quite a stranger to me.

2469. Did he tell you for what purpose he brought you the money ?—To pay Clarke.

2470. Did he describe him to you ?—I had seen him, because I had seen him call at the office. I spoke to Thompson several times about it, and he said that he ought to be paid, and that he should be paid ; but there was some misunderstanding ; he said that Clarke had charged too much, and he said, "If the "money is sent to you will you see him paid ?" I said, "I will, and take his receipt," which I did, but who sent it I do not know.

2471. Is that all you know about it ?—That is all that I know about it.

2472. Had Thompson any conversation with you with regard to that circumstance ?—Nothing at all.

2473. Was the money brought to you in notes or in gold ?—As well as I recollect now it was four five pound notes and five sovereigns. I believe that was it, and tied up in a small parcel.

2474. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you never saw the person who brought you the money before in your life ?—Not to my knowledge.

2475. Do you know who it was now ?—No ; I do not know anything about him.

2476. Was he a remarkable looking man ?—No ; it was brought to me late at night, between ten and eleven o'clock.

2477. What sort of looking man was he ?—He was tall ; when I say tall, I mean five feet seven or eight; a gentlemanly looking man.

2478. A florid countenance ?—No.

2479. Wearing spectacles ?—No.

2480. Have you any reason to believe it was Thompson ?—No. I know Thompson very well ; I know it was not him; I had seen Thompson. One day Thompson said, "If you get the money sent you, will "you see him paid?" I said, "Yes, and take his re- "ceipt," which I did for 25*l.*, but what I have done with it I do not know.

2481. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you at the office of Gilbert in the month of April? Were you there during the time the elections were proceeding in the country? —No.

2482. You were not there at all ?—No.

2483. Where were you at that time ?—I was in the country.

2484. Where were you ?—I was in Bristol some part of the time ; I went down to see my friends.

2485. But were you not at Mr. Gilbert's during the week during which the elections were proceeding throughout the country ?—After I came home I was backwards and forwards there.

2486. I am speaking of the election week ?—No; I was not at the office.

2487. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you known Clarke for some time ?—Not till after this Gloucester election ; I never saw him before.

2488. Have you ever had any conversation with him on the subject of the election ?—No more than his being paid ; he said he was to be paid, and that he had had nothing ; that he had had only 5*l.*, and that out of that he had paid 3*l.* for his expenses.

2489. Did he say anything about Thompson not giving him what he ought ?—Yes ; he said he was to have had 50*l.*, I think. I cannot charge my memory. He said he was to have had a certain sum, but he said 25*l.* he might expect ; and I saw Thompson, and mentioned it to him.

2490. Did he ever tell you that Thompson had had his own payment ?—No.

2491. Did he ever tell you about Thompson having paid himself ?—No; the man was a perfect stranger to me.

2492. Clarke was ?—Clarke was a stranger to me almost. I had not seen him till the East Worcestershire election.

2493. Did not Clarke tell you anything about the amount of money Thompson had had ?—He said Thompson had had money to come down to Gloucester.

2494. Did he say how much ?—Yes; he said 500*l.*

2495. Did he say what he had done with it ?—Yes.

2496. What did he say ?—He said he had counted it out in packets, and that it was given to Dr. Wilton.

2497. Did he say how much he gave ?—£300, I think, and then 150*l.*, and that he had counted it out in packages of 25 sovereigns each.

2498. £300 at first ?—£300 or 350*l.*

2499. Did he say he had handed the whole of the money over ?—That is what he said.

2500. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you received the money you paid to Clarke did you receive any note with it ?—No.

2501. Was it rolled up in an envelope ?—No.

2502. What did the person say who brought it to you ?—"That is for Clarke ; you know what to do "with it."

2503. Did he come into your house ?—No ; it was at the door.

2504. And he went away ?—He went away, and I have never seen him since, to my knowledge.

S. Hall.

SARAH HALL sworn and examined.

2505. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the barmaid at the Gloucester Coffee-house ?—At the Gloucester Hotel.

2506. Near the railway ?—Yes.

2507. Do you remember in the month of April, the time of the election here, two persons, one of the name of Thornton and the other of the name of Clarke, stopping at the hotel ?—I do.

2508. Brettles was the name ?—Brettles.

2509. Two persons of the name of Thornton and Brettles ?—Yes.

2510. Do you remember Mr. Wilton coming to see them there ?—Yes.

2511. Were they visited by any one besides Mr. Wilton ?—I do not recollect any one.

2512. Did they occupy the coffee-room ?—They did.

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2513. Did they remain there until the Monday, do you know ?—That I cannot say.

2514. The Monday following the election ?—That I cannot recollect.

2515. Can you tell how long they did remain there ?—I should think about three or four days altogether.

2516. But you cannot say on what day they went ?—No, I cannot.

2517. From the time that Brettles came there until he went away with Thornton did he go away at all for a day ; did he go away for a day in the intermediate time, or was he there for the whole three or four days that Thornton was there ?—I cannot recollect his going away at all ; they both went together.

2518. Were they there together during the whole time ?—Yes.

2519. Were they stopping together ?—Yes ; I do not recollect Mr. Brettles going away at all without Mr. Thornton.

2520. There is a passage, is there not, that communicates between the coffee-room and the bar?—Yes.

2521. Is that a wide passage or a narrow one ?—It is not very wide.

2522. Is it long ?—Rather long ; there are folding doors in the middle of the passage.

2523. Between the coffee-room and the bar ?—Between the coffee-room and the front door.

2524. Can any person coming out of the coffee-room be seen by the person in the bar ?—It is according to where they stand in the passage.

2525. They might stand in the passage where they could not be seen ?—They could.

2526. Will you look at that writing, and tell me if that is in your handwriting (*handing a paper to the witness*) ?—It is.

2527. How came you to write it ?—Because Mr. Thornton asked me to write it ; he was so unwell that he could not possibly write.

2528. You do not, perhaps, remember the day on which you were asked to write this ?—No, I do not.

2529. Do you remember what it was that you wrote?—Something about a "repetition of medicine," I think ; I do not recollect the words.

2530. "I want a repetition of my medicine ; if "got, send Clarke with it ;" do you remember whether you were asked to write that by Thornton the same day that he came ?—Oh dear no.

2531. How soon afterwards ?—I should think two or three days after ; a couple of days.

2532. You think he had been two or three days in the house before he requested you to write it for him ?—I could not answer as to the time.

2533. But not the same day ?—No, not the same day that he came.

2534. Were there many persons stopping at your house at that time ?—No, not many.

2535. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is it necessary in going from the front door to the coffee-room to pass the bar ?—Certainly.

2536. Then no one could have gone in from the front door to the coffee-room without passing the bar ?—No.

2537. Are you constantly in the bar ?—Yes.

2538. Then if many people had come in to see either of these two persons in the coffee-room they must have been seen by you?—Well ; I am not always in the business.

2539. But during the greater part of the day ?—Yes.

2540. You tell us that these two people were inquired for by no one, except by Mr. Wilton ?—I never heard Mr. Wilton inquire for them ; I only merely saw him pass in.

2541. Did you see anybody else go into the coffee-room while these people were there ?—I saw a gentleman with Mr. Brettles ; the last time he called he wore a white hat ; he breakfasted with Mr. Brettles.

2542. What day was that ?—That was the second time of his coming.

2543. What day was it ?—The Thursday, I think.

2544. The day before the nomination day ?—No ; it is since the election.

2545. The election was on a Saturday ?—I do not know when the election was.

2546. I thought they went away on the Sunday ? Yes, they went away ; but Mr. Brettles has been to Gloucester since then.

2547. When has he been there ?—I do not know exactly how long it is ago ; bnt it was the day we had a great thunderstorm here ; that is all I recollect about the day.

2548. Was it soon after the election ?—No ; some time after the election ; it was not long before the inquiry was in London, I think.

2549. He came down to Gloucester ?—Yes.

2550. How long did he stay here ?—He slept here one night, and went away next day.

2551. I was asking you about what took place when he was down there with Thornton ?—I cannot tell you.

2552. I was asking you whether any people came to see him ?—I did not see any one.

2553. Did people come to see Thornton ?—I did not hear any one ask for him.

2554. What servants in the inn would inquiry have been made of ?—We were out of waiters at the time Mr. Thornton was with us, and we had a cook who waited on them, and who is dead.

2555. But would people coming to inquire for Brettles or Thornton have gone to you or to the waiters ?—They would have inquired of whoever was present ; if I had been in the bar they would have inquired of me ; if anybody else was there they would inquire of them.

2556. You are not aware of many people having inquired for Mr. Thornton or Mr. Brettles ?—No ; I never heard them inquired for at all.

2557. Do you know who the gentleman was with the white hat you mention ?—No, I do not.

2558. Should you know him if you saw him again?—Yes, I think I should.

2559. Do you see him in court here ?—No, I do not.

2560. Do you know whether he was a Gloucester person ?—No. I saw him again, late at night, come into the hotel, but I understood they were both going by train that day.

2561. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know whether he was a person living in Gloucester ?—No, I do not.

2562. Had you ever seen him before ?—Never.

2563. Was he young or old ?—Not very old ; a middle-aged man, I should say.

2564. Had you the opportunity of seeing his face ?—Yes, I saw his face.

2565. Very well ?—Very well. I think I should know him if I were to see him again.

2566. Should you know his picture ?—Yes, I think I should.

2567. Look at that (*showing the witness a photograph portrait*) ?—Oh dear, no, no, that is not him.

2568. Have you never seen him since ?—No.

2569. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Wilton was frequently there, you say ?—Frequently.

2570. Did anybody else come with him, or was he always alone ?—Always alone.

2571. Was he always alone in the coffee-room ?—That I cannot say ; I do not know who was in the coffee-room.

2572. I believe Mr. Thornton gave you a good deal of trouble ?—Well, he did rather.

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J. P. Wilton.

28 Sept. 1859.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

2573. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been sworn already ?—Yes. Before you commence my further examination, perhaps you will allow me to make a couple of statements ; first, as the Reform Club has been considerably mixed up with this transaction, I wish to hand in, if you please, a copy of the rules of the Conservative Association, which are of a precisely similar character, and which association has been established for many years. The date of these rules is 1853 ; the secretary is Mr. J. A. Griffiths, a clerk of Mr. Lovegrove's, the agent of Sir Robert Carden. In the second rule there is a precisely similar stipulation to that which is contained in the rules of the Reform Club, that there shall be a profession of political principles.

2574. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) It is a benefit society ?—Yes, but it is exactly the same thing as the other.

2575. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The first rule is, "That "this society shall be called the Gloucester Conser- "vative Association, and that every person shall be "of sound conservative principles, and good character "and morals ;" that is the statement you have to make ?—Yes. I wish to show there is a precisely similar club of the opposite politics, which has been established for very many years, and from which a great many of the rules of the Reform Club were taken in the formation of that society.

2576. That association was also approved of by Mr. Tidd Pratt as a friendly society ?—It is a certified benefit society. Then another statement I have to make is, an addition to some of the facts I disclosed on the occasion of my last examination, when I mentioned various sums I had received, and the mode in which those sums had been expended. Since that time I have remembered some additional sums, an additional sum of fifty pounds which I received on the day of the polling, and two additional sums I have expended, as well as one of those I mentioned, which was a false statement, made unintentionally.

2577. £50 on the day of polling ?—Yes.

2578. From whom ?—That is a sum I borrowed from Mr. Powell Chandler ; Richard Powell Chandler, of Constitution House.

2579. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is he ?—A currier ; he has been in court in the course of this morning.

2580. That was on the nomination day ?—The polling day, early in the morning. I wish to mention, that instead of the sum of twelve pounds ten I mentioned before as having been given to William Hall, he received from me thirteen pounds ten. I also paid to a person of the name of Gardiner, on the night of the nomination, I believe it was, a sum of twelve pounds.

2581. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Gardiner ?—I really do not know what he is ; a maltster, I am told ; he resides, I believe, in the neighbourhood of Painswick ; it was to be expended amongst some of the out-voters.

2582. In bribery ?—Well, Sir, I think partly ; I am not sure of that. I only know that he received that sum.

2583. Did he make to you any statement at the time you gave him that money of the purpose for which he required it?—No, I think not ; the transaction took place in my room the evening before the election, that is the night of the nomination, and I was told then that it would be necessary for Mr. Gardiner to have twelve pounds, understanding it was for these purposes. I believe it was partially for bribery, and partially for the expense of bringing in voters ; that was my impression. There was likewise an additional sum of thirty-three pounds, which, whether I paid it myself, or whether it went from me, I do not know, to a man named Orpin ; he was on the list of voters, I believe, for a qualification in Quay Lane.

2584. Where does he reside ?—In Alvin Street ; he is a publican ; he keeps either the Black or the White Lion ; the White Lion, I am told.

2585. For what purpose did you pay that money to him ?—Bribery and treating.

2586. Is that all the additional statement that you wish to make ?—Yes. I have no doubt I shall be examined by you with reference to the corroboration or otherwise of the evidence given by Clarke yesterday ; otherwise, if you would allow me, I should wish to make a statement.

2587. I understood you, when you were examined the day before yesterday, to say that you mentioned inducements to Mr. Monk to come forward as a candidate, and that among those inducements were the facts that a considerable change of opinion had taken place in Gloucester, and that a number of persons in favour of the Liberal interest had been put upon the register since the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

2588. And also that a great amount of bribery had existed at the election in 1857 on the part of those who supported Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

2589. I think I understood you to say, that those were among the inducements which you held out to Mr. Monk to lead him to believe that if he came forward as a candidate for Gloucester his return would follow ?—I told him so.

2590. Is it within your own knowledge that extensive bribery did exist in the election for 1857 on the part of Sir Robert Carden's friends ?—Within my own knowledge ? No.

2591. Have you received information as to the bribery that then existed from other parties, whose names you can disclose to us ?—No ; not with reference to bribery.

2592. With reference to bribery that was practised in 1857 in support of Sir Robert Carden ?—I received information immediately after the petition had been presented, and had failed, in consequence of some evidence that was given before that committee. After the petition had been presented and tried before the committee of the House of Commons, I received certain information from persons residing in Gloucester which induced me to believe that that petition had been upset by foul means.

2593. Have you, since that time, made inquiry into the sources of the information which was conveyed to you by those parties upon that subject ?—I have.

2594. And from those inquiries which you subsequently made, did you come to the conclusion that great bribery was practised at that election ?—Well, Sir, not necessarily that great bribery had been practised at the election, but that the evidence of certain facts which had been sworn to by persons who asserted that they had been bribed, or were cognizant of bribery, was upset by the evidence of persons who were alleged to have committed that bribery ; that that evidence was contradicted before the House of Commons ; and I have every reason to believe that that contradiction was false, that is to say, so far as this, that in one case where I had suspicions that such was the case I collected evidence from persons who gave me what I might term their depositions, though they were not taken on oath, but which they signed, and expressed their willingness to swear to before any tribunal ; I collected sufficient evidence, as I thought, on the point at issue. I submitted this to two counsel ; I received those two counsels' opinions that there was sufficient to convict one of those gentlemen who had made these statements before the House of Commons of perjury. I was then the means of sending this evidence to Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley, whose reply was, that he should prefer the matter to be left alone. I think it due to myself, after making this statement, to explain to you, and through you to the public, the reasons that induced me to interfere at all in this matter ; and these are the grounds upon which I have been induced to take any part in politics, and in matters which I will not say are foreign to my

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inclination, but which interfere very materially with my professional prospects, and I may even say with my success in life. At the termination of that petition to the House of Commons (I should mention that that petition in favor of Sir Maurice Berkeley, and against Sir Robert Carden, was conducted by a gentleman who is a near relative of my own), immediately that the petition was over, that this petition had failed, I heard him being reproached on all sides, equally by his own friends and by the Conservatives, with the fact that he had gone to the House of Commons with a frivolous and vexatious petition, because this petition had failed through means which I considered unjustifiable. I endeavoured to investigate those means, to vindicate my uncle's character. I submitted the evidence to him; he declined to take any steps. I then submitted it to Mr. Powell Chandler, one of the sureties in the petition, who sent the evidence I had so collected to Sir Maurice Berkeley, who, as I have told you, refused to let any prosecutions take place. It was in the course of those investigations that I began to be mixed up with politics; I believe I can conscientiously say that before that time—I cannot say I never canvassed a vote—but I never before took a prominent or active part.

2595. I understand you to say that there were allegations of bribery, which failed, against the friends of Sir Robert Carden, before the committee of the House of Commons appointed to try the return of 1857?—Yes.

2596. And I understand you to say that it is your opinion that those allegations were disproved mainly by false statements that were made by certain persons who came to state that the allegations were not true?—Certain persons were accused of bribery, and came into the witness-box, and denied that they had committed bribery; that is the long and short of it.

2597. And you collected evidence to prove that the evidence given to disprove the allegations in the petition were false?—In one case only, because if one case was declined to be interfered with——

2598. Should you be prepared to lay that evidence before the Commissioners?—I have not got it in my pocket; but if you require it I shall be prepared to submit it to you, either now or when you are trying the petition of 1857.

2599. We will not take the evidence now, but it is clear we shall have to go into the election of 1857, and that will be a convenient time to inquire into those allegations, and the evidence that was given to prove and disprove them?—Then you shall have the evidence I possess.

2600. Will you object to state to us at once the names of the persons against whom you allege the charge of having made false statements before the committee?—The gentleman to whom I allude is Alderman Whithorn.

2601. Have you since inquired further into the other portion of the evidence that was given by other parties to disprove the charge of bribery?—No; I thought it perfectly useless for me to do so when I found that no body interested in the matter would take it up at all.

2602. Could you put the Commissioners in possession of such evidence?—I do not know; I think it very possible I might.

2603. If you should be able to do so when we proceed with the inquiry of 1857, that would be the time to take such evidence?—I shall be very happy to furnish evidence on that subject.

2604. Were the inducements you held out to Mr. Monk when you saw him, to a portion of which I have already directed your attention, in your judgment justified by the state of facts within your knowledge of the existing constituency of Gloucester?—Yes; if you please I can show you. I happened to find last night the identical paper from which I drew my conclusions before I went to London to submit them to any candidate we might select.

2605. It was a calculation?—A calculation.

2606. A calculation into which you had entered with respect to the probabilities of the success of a second Liberal candidate?—Yes. The position of parties was this: at the previous election 1857 Sir Robert Carden was returned by a majority of 33. After the last register, in 1858, I made inquiries as to what had been the Liberal gains and losses on the register. I then found there had been a gain to the Liberals and to the Conservatives on the freemen's list of exactly a similar number; in fact it had been no gain; there had been an equal loss, I should rather say.

2607. I do not want to go into the particulars, but give us what was the balance?—The balance was of positive gains a balance of 67, and a doubtful number of between 30 and 40; I believe 38 was the number.

2608. A positive gain of 67?—Yes.

2609. And a doubtful gain of how many?—A number of votes which were doubtful, as to which I had no means of gaining information how they would vote, out of whom I might reasonably expect some would vote for us; and I also stated that there had been a requisition presented to Admiral Berkeley, which had been signed by about 500 voters. Out of those there were a considerable number, who had so signed this requisition to Admiral Berkeley, who had expressed a willingness to vote either for him or for any other second Liberal candidate that might be brought forward. A considerable number of those were persons who had either voted alone for Sir Robert Carden, or alone for Mr. Price, on the previous occasion. This would have given a sufficient number to have turned the majority of 33 into a positive minority. I do not mean to say that every one of those persons had pledged himself, but there were a very great many who had pledged themselves to vote for two Liberal candidates, whoever they might be.

2610. In that state of the case, when you saw Mr. Monk, you were under the impression that you would be enabled, or at least your friends would be enabled, to return Mr. Monk and Mr. Price without resorting to any bribery or corruption at all?—To any bribery beyond the payment of messengers; that was merely matter of opinion.

2611. When was it, after the canvass had been commenced, or after Mr. Price and Mr. Monk had regularly taken the field as candidates, that your opinion with regard to the probabilities of success without resorting to bribery was changed?—My opinion was changed a fortnight before.

2612. A fortnight before the election?—Yes.

2613. What was the cause of your change of opinion?—Because I found, from answers to my own personal inquiries, and from what I found from others who were canvassing also, that promises of—not actual—gifts were being made by the other side.

2614. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) Promises of what?—Promises of money, promises of employment, promises of being able to get furloughs for their sons, and, in fact, every conceivable means of corruption, if not of actual bribery.

2615. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Promises of employment?—Yes. I can hardly conceive any system of corruption that I did not believe was being practised. Of course, I did not put people on their oaths to inquire whether these things were true, but I had every reason to believe they were true, and I do now firmly believe they were true.

2616. Did you find that promises had been made to persons on whose support you had reason to count?—I found one instance to my own knowledge in which that was the case.

2617. Had you received information of the same character from persons of a credible nature?—My impression was (but I cannot give the name of anybody who told me so) that it was so. It began to be talked about commonly, that the old tactics of the Tories were being resorted to.

2618. You say that there was one case that came under your own knowledge where a promise had been

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J. P. Wilton.
28 Sept. 1859.

made to a voter by the other side, upon whose support you had calculated ?—Yes.

2619. Was that a person who had previously supported the Liberal interest at former elections, or was it a person who, not having supported the Liberal interest, had promised to support you at the last election?—It was a person who had previously voted, I know, in 1857, and I believe on previous occasions, in the Liberal interest.

2620. What was his name ?—When the case on the other side commences I will, if you will allow me, furnish you with the case ; but I think the ends of justice would be very likely to be frustrated if I gave you the name now. I will give you the case, but I think it would not be fair to do it now.

2621. Do you remember the names of any other persons that were mentioned to you by parties who have come to similar conclusions to those at which you arrived?—I do not recollect quite so early as that, but I can give you another case that occurred very shortly after.

2622. But during the election ?—Certainly.

2623. Had you, during the progress of the electioneering proceedings, frequent conversations with members of the central committee and the district with reference to what you conceived were the committees' practices resorted to by the other side?—During the election ?

2624. Yes.—Yes; I have frequently heard reports of such practices. In what has been called the central committee-room any Liberal electors or any persons in the Liberal interest used to go, and I heard constantly reports there of what was going on. I have heard also such reports in the only two district committee-rooms I ever attended. I cannot give you the specific reports now, but I have no doubt that the cases will be brought under your notice in the course of the inquiry.

2625. What were those reports that you heard at the committee-rooms with reference to the practices of the friends of Sir Robert Carden ?—The practices were that there were persons out canvassing, and that where there was any difficulty offers were being made.

2626. Offers of money and employment ?—Yes.

2627. For the purpose of inducing the parties to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

2628. Were those reports furnished from time to time by the persons engaged to canvass on the Liberal side ?—Yes.

2629. And shall you be able to produce those persons before us ?—I think in all probability that some of those cases will come out before you. I know that in some of those cases the promises were not fulfilled ; and I think there will be produced before you sufficient evidence to convince you of the truth of the assertions I have made.

2630. It perhaps may be desirable that the names of any of those parties should be handed in to our secretary. In the first instance it may not be desirable that you should give them to us, because if they were given to us they would be published ?—That was exactly the reason why I declined to furnish you with the names.

2631. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You will hand them in, if you please, to the secretary, after your examination. —I think in all probability the secretary has them ; but I will hand them in. I do not mean to say these cases are very numerous that I have heard of on which I can give information myself ; it was more in the nature of rumour which I believed.

2632. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In answer to a question I put to you the day before yesterday, you stated that the sole qualification you looked for in a candidate was that he should be a supporter of the ballot ?—There was another ; in looking for a candidate there was another qualification that we were anxious to have obtained, and that the candidate should be a person who had been already in Parliament ; and I will tell you candidly who was one of the candidates we were anxious to have secured, if we possibly could ; it was Mr. Bernal Osborne. The only political qualification we had to ask for was that he should be a supporter of the ballot. The only other qualification was that he should be, if possible, a man of eminence.

2633. Were there any special circumstances existing in Gloucester which in your judgment rendered the support of the ballot an essential qualification ?—The late Mr. Coppock gave his evidence before the St. Alban's Commission, and his experience, which was very much greater than mine, induced him to come to the same conclusion that I did, that the ballot was the only cure for the system of bribery which has been carried on no doubt for very many years in Gloucester. I think I might even say ever since the passing of the Reform Bill that was the great inducement, and it has been one of the things in which the members of the Reform Club, who I considered we especially represented on that occasion, in asking Mr. Monk to come forward, of all others insisted upon.

2634. And was the special circumstance which rendered in your judgment the possession of that qualification essential the fact of the existence of bribery in Gloucester at previous elections ?—That was one of the circumstances.

2635. And do I understand you to say that it was a matter of notoriety in Gloucester, and certainly among the members of your club, that bribery did prevail at all the elections for members of this city ? —I believe it has prevailed at every election, with one solitary exception, and that was when Mr. Price was returned without any opposition.

2636. In what year was that ?—It was when he had taken some contract, or when it was considered necessary that he should vacate his seat. I believe that since the passing of the Reform Bill there has been with that exception no pure election in Gloucester. I had taken no active part in politics myself previous to the last election, but all I can say is, that that is the widely spread and general belief.

2637. And does that expression of opinion apply to both parties in the city ?—It applies to both parties, with a limitation, and I will tell you why I say with a limitation : my own opinion is this, that there is a considerable majority of conscientious Liberal electors; I believe a majority of 150 ; at the same time I believe there is a very much larger number than that of venal voters, of corrupt voters, whose assistance it is necessary, in a small proportion, to secure, even for the Liberals to defeat the Conservatives. Of course, if the Conservatives buy all there is more than enough to turn the majority of the conscientious voters. I have formed that opinion after a very careful consideration. I considered it my duty, before I should attempt to stir up any political contest by calling a second Liberal candidate into the field to oppose Sir Robert Carden, to see that I had some justification for doing so, and the justification I found was this : after analysing, if I may so term it, the register, I came to the conclusion that, setting apart altogether the venal portion of the constituency, there was a majority of about 150 Liberals over the Conservatives. Of course this is merely a matter of opinion, but it is my firm and decided opinion.

2638. Amongst what class of the electors is that venal portion principally found ?—Do you mean is it principally among freemen or householders ?

2639. There are two classes, freemen and householders ; is the venal portion to be found among each class, or only in one class ?—Among both classes, undoubtedly.

2640. In equal proportions ?—I really do not recollect the proportions; I did come to a conclusion as to that point, but I really forget exactly what it was.

2641. Did you take into your calculation, in forming your estimate, the character of those persons who live out of the parliamentary borough, but vote in respect of their being freemen ?—Yes, because I considered that a very large proportion of those are venal. There is one family, of which you will hear something more before this Commission is over, who,

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I believe, have within the last fortnight (at least one of them has) boasted that they never did and never will vote unless they are paid.

2642. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Freemen?—Those are freemen.

2643. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Living out of the parliamentary borough, but within seven miles of it?—Yes, within the seven miles.

2644. Were the returns of the persons who canvassed for the Liberal candidates made to you from time to time, or did you see them?—No, I did not; I will not say I never saw them, because once or twice I assisted in making up the books.

2645. Were not communications made to you from time to time by the canvassers, which evidenced to your mind a considerable defection of those on whom you had counted?—I can hardly say that.

2646. Are we to understand that it was mainly upon the knowledge which you derived from persons not canvassers that you thought it necessary to commence the system of bribery which prevailed in the Liberal interest at the last election?—No, I cannot say that either.

2647. What was the immediate cause that induced you to think that it would be necessary to resort to extensive bribery?—What indueed me to think it would be necessary to resort to bribery was this: that I found that if we did not on the one side commence this system as it was commenced on the other, we should find the material taken away from us. By material I mean the votes.

2648. Was not that rather a suspicion than any actual statement of facts upon which reliance could be placed?—I placed reliance upon it.

2649. But was it not rather suspicion on your part? Had you any evidence at all, excepting that case to which you have referred, within your own knowledge, that bribery or promises of any sort were being resorted to by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—I have three cases which I may say were within my own knowledge. Of one case I was cognisant either the Wednesday week or Wednesday fortnight before the nomination, that is, either ten days or seventeen days before the nomination took place; that was one case; another, I was cognisant of, I should say, a week before; and the third was one that I was aware of some days before.

2650. When was it that you got down the first remittance of money?—Previous to the election there was only one remittance that I received.

2651. Do you know that Mr. Moffatt informed us there was a sum of 200*l.*?—That did not come to me.

2652. It was sent down to Mr. Robert Wilton?—Yes.

2653. Is he your uncle?—Yes.

2654. Did your uncle communicate to you that he had received that money?—Not till nearly a month after the election. I was perfectly ignorant of the fact. I received 50*l.* from him during the course of the election, but I had no idea that he had received 200*l.* either from Mr. Moffatt or anybody else.

2655. The 50*l.* you stated before you had borrowed from him?—Yes.

2656. As from his private funds?—Yes; not knowing that he had received anything at all. In fact, that extract in one of Mr. Moffatt's letters to Mr. Ralli, that was read yesterday in court, refers to the discovery I had just then made that my uncle had received this 200*l.*

2657. That was an extract from your letter?—Yes, from my letter. I wrote to him, I think it was on one of the last days of May, perhaps it was the 25th; and it was about that time that I discovered my uncle had received some money.

2658. Have you had any conversation with your uncle since, as to the reason why he did not disclose to you that he had got that 200*l.*?—I have not had three minutes' conversation with him on the subject. He told me he had received it. I said, "Will you let "me have it in repayment of some of these sums that "have been advanced?" He said, "I shall not trust it "out of my hands; I have to give an account of it, and "I shall do so." That is, as nearly as possible, all that passed upon the subject between my uncle and myself.

2659. As I understand from you the first money you received in respect of this election was the money that was handed to you by Thompson?—Yes. I beg pardon; that is incorrect, because about a fortnight before that, for the payment of some of the messengers on the Saturday, I had received this 50*l.* from my uncle. That was the first payment I received.

2660. The 50*l.* you received from your uncle was about a fortnight before, for the payment of the messengers?—Yes; I think I had received this 50*l.* from my uncle exactly a fortnight before.

2661. Did you not communicate to Mr. Monk or Mr. Monk's agent that you were very much in want of funds?—Certainly not. I did not communicate to Mr. Monk. At that time he had no agent.

2662. Did you communicate to Mr. Price that you were in great difficulty from want of funds?—I did, later in the contest.

2663. Can you say when that was?—I think it was about a week before. The nomination was on the Friday. I think it was, as near as might be, on the previous Thursday or Friday. I should think that would be about the day.

2664. Did Mr Price suggest any course to you, or state what course he should adopt?—Mr. Price told me simply that I should receive the money.

2665. Did he tell you what money you should receive?—I am not sure whether he did. He led me to believe it would be some considerable sum; but whether he mentioned the exact amount or not I do not know.

2666. Did he say what time it would take to procure it?—No. He told me that I should receive it. My reply was, "I hope it will be soon, then, for I "want it now." "I want some of it" (I should rather say) "now."

2667. Did you tell him for what special purpose you should require it?—I believe I told him then that I should want some on the Saturday, either the next day, or the next day but one, for payment of messengers. They were always paid on a Saturday.

2668. That was the Saturday before the election?—Yes; it was certainly one day before that Saturday; it was either Thursday or Friday, because I particularly remember mentioning why I should want some on the Saturday, for the payment of messengers.

2669. Was the communication you made to Mr. Price this: that you would require money for the purpose of paying the messengers?—Yes; that was the communication I made to Mr. Price.

2670. You did not go into particulars as to how the money was to be disposed of?—No; I did not consider it my duty to tell Mr. Price that all this money would not be spent for messengers.

2671. That was the nature of the statement you made to him?—That was the nature of the statement I made to Mr. Price.

2672. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were aware at that time that all this money would not be wanted for the payment of messengers?—Well, very nearly all of it would have been required for the payment of messengers. I think you will find, when the accounts are put together, that the payment to messengers and clerks exceeds considerably 400*l.*

2673. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I see the item is very large altogether. When Thompson came down, and you saw him, there was a conversation, I believe, between you and him as to the prospects of the election?—Yes.

2674. Did Thompson lead you to believe that considerable bribery was about to be practised by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—I mentioned that in my evidence the day before yesterday. He did. He told me then that he was acquainted with the fact that there was an intention to send down 2,000*l.*, as I understood him, from a fund being raised, and to which allusion was made, if you remember, by Sir James Graham, to which all the leading Con-

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servatives subscribed largely; that a sum of 2,000*l.* was coming down from Messrs. Baxter and Rose's office, they being the agents for the disbursement of the money. He told me this either the first time I saw him or the same evening; and then, as a sequence to that, he said to me the next day, as soon as I saw Clarke, "Who do you think is here? Clarke "has just seen Frail?" "Then, of course, he is "come with the 2,000*l.*," was my reply.

2675. Upon what day was it that Thompson told you that Clarke had just seen Frail?—It was immediately Clarke was introduced to me. I forget whether it was Wednesday or Thursday; but I made a memorandum last night, if you will allow me to refer to it (*refers to a paper*). It was on the Wednesday he would arrive.

2676. That is according to Clarke's statement? Clarke stated that he saw you on the Wednesday for the first time?—Yes. I do not contradict that statement. That is pretty nearly all that is true of his statement.

2677. Then it was on that day that Clarke told you Frail was there?—He told me he had arrived the night before. I do not see whether he is in court; but I should like him to hear my statement in reply. He told me that he had arrived in Gloucester by the mail train the night before; that by mistake he went to the Wellington instead of the Gloucester Coffee-house. The message which had been left for him in London at the Guildhall Coffee-house had directed him to come to the railway hotel. Now he concluded that the Wellington was the railway hotel, and had gone there instead of to the Gloucester Coffee-house, where Thompson was staying. He waited all day long at the Wellington, expecting that Thompson would find him there, and would look for him. During the course of the afternoon he was lying on the sofa, reading the newspaper, when the door of the other coffee-room opened (this was his account to me), and in walked a gentleman; he walked towards the looking-glass over the mantel-piece, and he immediately saw the reflection of this gentleman's face, and recognised him as Mr. Frail. He then came out, and made the same statement to Mr. Innell in the street. Then he comes to my room afterwards for Thompson. They were sitting together when I came in and found them, and I was then introduced to Clarke.

2678. Did Clarke say it was at the Wellington that he had seen Frail?—In the coffee-room at the Wellington.

2679. Was that statement made to you by Thompson and Clarke?—It was made to me by Thompson, and immediately corroborated by Clarke, in my room. He said, "Is that so, or is it not so?" and Clarke said, "It is."

2680. When Thompson told you there was 2,000*l.* coming down to Gloucester, did he say how he had become acquainted with the fact?—He told me what I must confess at the time appeared to me to be very improbable, but which, since the revelations I have heard in this court, appears to me very possible. From the way in which it appears these gentlemen serve first one party and then the other, the statement that he made to me that he had been in Messrs. Baxter and Rose's office appears to me to be perfectly possible to be true. He told me distinctly and unequivocally that he had himself seen in Baxter and Rose's office a list of places to which this fund was to be distributed. He said he had noticed 2,000*l.* for Gloucester, 4,000*l.* for Bristol, and he went on further and mentioned Frome, "where" (to use his own words) "all the Government influence is to be used "against poor Donald Nicol." It struck me particularly at the time why he should sympathise with him; and also some to Kidderminster. Those are the only places I recollect; but he said he had seen positively the 2,000*l.* allotted for Gloucester.

2681. Did he tell you when it was that he had seen that list?—He told me he had seen it within three or four days before he left London.

2682. Did he tell you how he came to see it, or who showed it to him?—No. I asked him what took him there. "Never mind," he said. That was the way in which he generally stopped me in any inquiries I made about his business.

2683. With regard to the money of which you gave an account the other day, there was a sum of 147*l.* or 149*l.*, the disbursement of which you said you could not account for. Have you endeavoured to refresh your memory so as to be able to tell us who were the recipients of it?—There was a considerable sum went at different times in payment for drink.

2684. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it 147*l.* or 149*l.*?—£149 13*s.* 6*d.* is the sum I have mentioned.

2685. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say considerable sums went in drink?—In this way: it was an understood thing that there would be a meeting held at some one of the different public houses, of which there were a great number about the town, of the Liberal electors. Then some of the speech-makers of the party (among whom I suppose I must include myself), attended these meetings, and there was enthusiasm worked up in every way that it could be. Everything was said in advancement of our own cause, and of course in depreciation of our opponents, that is, of their principles.

2686. You account, in fact, for the disbursement of that sum of 149*l.* by saying it was expended in drink and refreshments and suppers?—Yes; and during the canvassing it would be frequently this, that if there was a large party out passing by a public house some of them would drop in there, and have some refreshment, while the rest were going about the neighbourhood and so on; with a large party, as the canvass was going on for some days, that would account for the disposal of a very considerable portion of this money.

2687. Was there a system of suppering or giving suppers going on at this place during the election?—No, certainly not. I do not mean to say there was not a single supper, because I think it very likely there were one or two; but there was no regular system of it.

2688. Did you hear the evidence of Clarke as to a person coming in while he was at your house, and saying they must have a supper, and that he wanted money?—I cannot say; I do not recollect anything about it; but I can recollect that what Clarke said is a very untrue version of the case. I know there was a supper that night, though I do not recollect where it was, but that I did not pay for it at that time I know.

2689. Is it untrue that you gave the man 6*l.* or 7*l*?—Yes, it is untrue entirely.

2690. Although it is untrue that you gave the money to that person, did you give an order for the supper? Did you request him to obtain the supper for the persons he wanted it for?—I think I did.

2691. Of course suppers on those occasions were only given to electors?—I do not know. There might have been others present, I think, on that occasion; there were others besides electors present, if I am alluding to the occasion to which this person alludes. There is only one supper of which I have any cognisance.

2692. Which is that?—There was only a supper held one night during the course of the election at a house in Queen Street kept by a man of the name of Davis.

2693. What is the sign of the house?—I do not think it has a sign; and as a proof that I did not give 6*l.* or 7*l.* to pay for it, that supper has not yet been paid for.

2694. You directed that the supper should be obtained?—I am not certain that I directed it; I was cognisant of the fact.

2695. Is that the only supper of which you have any knowledge?—I think I can positively say it is.

2696. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You did not preside at a supper at the Berkeley Arms?—Certainly not; and I never heard that there was one.

2697. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give any instruc-

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tions for the opening of public houses?—No; not more than for the payment. If there was a meeting there there was perhaps 1*l.* or 2*l.* of drink and tobacco sent in. If you call that opening houses I did.

2698. Can you say what public houses were open in the Liberal interest?—I do not understand thoroughly what you mean by "open"; if you mean that any Liberal could go in at any time and have anything to drink, if that is what you call an open house, I am not aware that there were any.

2699. I mean public houses, inns, or places of entertainment where any person who was an elector would be able to go in, if he was in the Liberal interest, and have entertainment for which afterwards payment was to be made to the inn-keeper or publican by a friend of Mr. Price or Mr. Monk?—I never authorised any thing of the kind. I believe there was one house where I authorised a certain amount to be spent among persons who it was known would be at that house.

2700. I suppose you know that there were a great many public houses at which persons who were supposed to be Liberal electors could go and receive gratuitous entertainment?—I do not know it; and further, not only do I not know it, but I do not believe it.

2701. Was the house at which the supper was provided which you authorized a house kept by Davis?—Yes.

2702. You paid 91*l.* 11*s.* to Brewer Monk for messengers, and you paid 200*l.* to him subsequently for the same purpose?—Yes.

2703. Are those two sums you so paid in excess of the sums charged in the election agent's accounts for the city?—Yes, I believe so.

2704. Do you know whether it was a principle which was generally acted upon, that the messengers to be employed should be voters?—I think most likely it was so.

2705. You think as a rule it was so?—Yes, either a voter or a voter's son, or the relative of a voter, or to oblige a voter; whether the messenger so put on was a voter or not I do not think was always considered.

2706. I suppose you know that the duties required to be performed by the messengers were very trifling?—Well, there was a good deal for them to do altogether; there were constant notes being sent out, —circulars being sent out, and so on.

2707. Do you know how many messengers were employed?—No, I do not.

2708. Do you know what number of clerks were employed?—I do not. I saw about the time of the petition a list.

2709. Did the same rule prevail with regard to the appointment of clerks as prevailed with regard to the appointment of messengers?—Not exactly, because some were taken because they were thoroughly serviceable people; so I believe.

2710. And the others were taken because they were serviceable, but were voters?—No, not necessarily so.

2711. And I suppose the messengers were generally speaking employed because it was a mode of putting something into the pockets of those persons in a way which was not exactly bribery, but which, nevertheless, came very close to it?—That is exactly what I mean. When I say the use of messengers I consider altogether corruption, I believe that a great many more have been employed in all elections I have ever seen here than have been absolutely necessary.

2712. I suppose we can have a list furnished to us of all the messengers and all the clerks that were employed?—You will have a list, which I believe is in readiness, whenever you examine Thomas Brewer Monk, the person who had principally the control of such matters.

2713. There was a sum of 100*l.* furnished to Jefferson Bryon, of which 22*l.* was for refreshments, and I think you stated that the remainder was for bribing voters?—Not altogether. There was a sum of 25*l.*, I think, that he gave on one occasion to Mr. Henley for the purchase of votes, and 15*l.* he gave the next day to Mr. Henley for the purchase of votes also. Then there is a sum of 7*l.* odd which was paid to a man named Barnfield, who keeps a public house called, I think, the Sailors' Home, a lodging house. That is a place where some of the out-voters came, and they had refreshments on the day of the polling; and for that there was paid 7*l.* odd. There was likewise a sum, the amount of which I do not remember, paid to a man of the name of Roberts, at whose house some of the voters remained; and in addition to that there were two sums paid to voters, one of whom, a man named Reece, a pilot, received 10*l.*, and he, I am informed, had been offered the same amount by Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Lovegrove's clerk; and a sum of 5*l.* was paid to a man in the employ of the landlord of the Berkeley Arms. He had been offered a similar sum by a person named Hawkins, a draper.

2714. What is his name?—Miles, I think is the name.

2715. There were sums which were paid by yourself to Mr. Henley?—Yes.

2716. These sums which were paid by Jefferson Bryon to Mr. Henley were different sums?—Certainly; they were paid by my direction, but were different sums.

2717. When parties came to you for money, did they supply you with a list of persons for the purchase of whose votes the money was required?—No, they did not.

2718. You gave the money to them, and they were to exercise their own discretion?—I was told in this way, that for a certain number of votes a certain sum was required.

2719. I think you stated the other day that of your own knowledge you were not aware that there were more than two district committee-rooms opened?—I was aware that there were district committee-rooms, but I was not aware where they were.

2720. What was the number of district committee-rooms that you were aware of?—There were four district committees; the only two with which I had anything to do, or ever was in, was that in the north ward, kept by a man named Hutton, and one in the east ward, which I believe had no fixed place; the twice I was present at their meetings they met in the large room of the Crown and Thistle, a house which was rather notorious some years ago in electioneering proceedings.

2721. Who would be able to give us the names of those persons who met at those committee-rooms?—I should very much doubt if you will be able to obtain those names at all, and I will tell you why: the night I was at the Crown and Thistle (there is a large room there) the room was pretty nearly full, and any persons who it was thought could give any information concerning any of the voters in the neighbourhood were asked to bring their friends in. There was no fixed committee; in fact there was no number on the committee. I do not think you will be able to learn who the members were. It was not a committee fixed consisting of any body in particular; they were, in fact, if I may so phrase it, mere district meetings of the supporters of the Liberal interest.

2722. Do you know the committee-room or rooms at Mr. Hutton's, the hair-dresser?—Yes.

2723. Did you ever see Mr. Innell there?—Never. I have seen Mr. Innell frequently in the central committee-room; I have seen him frequently canvassing; he was almost daily with Mr. Monk, walking arm in arm with him; but it was considered (and I believe I was the one who advised Mr. Monk to adopt such a course) inexpedient for him, taking the prominent position he did, to go to any committee-rooms at all. How far he acted upon that I do not know, but I never saw him at any except the central committee-room, and I suppose every Liberal elector in Gloucestershire did go into that room in the course of the contest.

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2724. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In this list which you have given to the Commissioners I see that the sum total is 889*l.* that you have received, either money given you or borrowed money. There is 399*l.* from Thompson, 200*l.* afterwards from Mr. Moffatt, 200*l.* borrowed from Mr. Bretherton. 40*l.* from Mr. Cooksey, and 50*l.* from Mr. Robert Wilton?—Yes; and 50*l.* from Mr. Powell Chandler.

2725. And the total money you expended, as you told us yesterday, was 769*l.* 1*s.*; there is something to be added to that this morning; this morning you added 1*l.* to Hall, 12*l.* to Gardiner, and 33*l.* to somebody else?—Yes; to Orpin.

2726. The total of that is 815*l.* You see that does not tally?—All I can tell you is this; that I kept no memoranda, with the exception of very slight ones, and I have endeavoured to account for this money as best I can; if there are discrepancies in this I am only sorry for it, and cannot help it.

2727. Then the discrepancy of 124*l.*, or, rather, 123*l.* 19*s.*, must be added, I suppose, to the 149*l.*?—I beg pardon. I was stopped the other day when I was going to explain that I divided this sum of 939*l* into two portions; the first was what I had received previous to and during the election, and which I had then expended, leaving 200*l.* which I had received from Mr. Moffatt, and which I had afterwards to account for. You have only received an account of 100*l.*, which I have paid for messengers; you have not got an account there that I paid to a man named Probert, 5*l.*, and so on; that is what I intended to explain to you the other day when my evidence was closed. 100*l.* went for messengers; that was still unpaid, in the first place.

2728. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To whom did that go?—That was paid to Thomas Brewer Monk; that was the 100*l.* that the Chief Commissioner repeated to me just now as a payment that was made in June.

2729. (*Mr. Welford.*) Give us the receipts according to their dates?—I cannot give you the dates; the receipts amount to 939*l.*

2730. Now exhaust that?—In the first place there is 177*l.* to Jacobs, there is 25*l.* to Henley, there is 100*l.* to Bryon, there is 21*l.* to Hutton, there is 81*l.* to Monk; perhaps you will put "votes" opposite that; and there is 93*l.* 11*s.* for messengers to Monk also, and subsequently 100*l.* to Monk for messengers; then the next item will be 13*l* 10*s.* to Mr. Hall; next 12*l.* to Mr. Gardiner, 33*l.* for Orpin, and there is 60*l.* which I have paid since to Mr. Innell.

2731. That we have not got?—This was ready for you to receive when my examination was stopped the other day.

2732. £60?—Yes; for money advanced during the contest; 25*l.* I have paid myself for money that I advanced, and eight pounds has gone to a person of the name of Moss, and 5*l.* to Probert. I think if you make up the whole of that you will find it amounts to 914*l.*

2733. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What do you make the total?—914*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; there is 149*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* also.

2734. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have not given us that?—I should have done so.

2735. That makes 914*l.*?—Yes.

2736. It leaves 24*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* unaccounted for?—Yes; but Mr. Lovegrove leaves a great deal more than that unaccounted for, because you have no account of his current expenses.

2737. You have no account of the 149*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* at all?—I have an account of some portions of that sum.

2738. But you have not kept an account?—No; it was merely a question of memory.

2739. Was any part of that money spent in direct bribery?—I do not know that it was.

2740. But that is a very important question; you must recollect whether any part of that 149*l.* was spent in direct bribery to any of the electors of Gloucester?—I do not think it was; not in direct bribery. I mean by that, that there was no hard cash paid for a vote. I will endeavour before to-morrow morning to make you up some statements as well as I can of what I did.

2741. Was the principal part of it spent in treating?—That is the way in which it was principally spent.

2742. Will you furnish the Commissioners with any cases you recollect in which you have given a direct sum of money?—In which I have?

2743. Yes?—I believe I can take my oath, in fact I know I can, that I never gave a direct sum of money to any man in my life for his vote.

2744. Then if any part of it went in direct bribery it was indirectly from you?—It was indirectly from me.

2745. Given through the hands of somebody else?—Yes; and if I can furnish the Commissioners with any items at any time during their sitting I will gladly do so. My object in this matter is not by any means to shirk an exposure of all that I know.

2746. Can you give us also a list of those people you treated?—No, that I am sure I cannot. You see it would be in this way, that treating took place, as I endeavoured to explain just now; there was a meeting held, for instance, at a public house, and if it was a large meeting there would be, perhaps, three or four or five poundsworth of beer and tobacco had; it would be impossible, of course, to tell to whom that was given.

2747. But at times you must have known who was treated out of that money?—I assure you I do not know anybody who was treated out of that money; they were voters, and some non-voters.

2748. Will you, so far as you can, furnish us with a list of those who benefited by the expenditure of this 149*l.*?—Of course as far as I can I will do so.

2749. Suppose I were to take the poll book in my hand, and go through the whole list of the electors of Gloucester, could you give me the names of those who benefited by the expenditure of the 149*l.*?—I think it would be hardly fair in me to attempt to do that, and I will tell you why.

2750. But the Commissioners are bound to ascertain the parties who have been bribed and treated; if we cannot get the whole we must get as many as we can?—I will tell you why I do not think so, because it would be such an infinitely small proportion of the number of voters who I should recollect were treated; and even some of those I might mention might have paid for their own refreshment while they were there; that was frequently the case. The fact is that the lower classes of electors, and many of the upper classes, attended these meetings, and whether they paid for their refreshments or not I am sure I cannot tell.

2751. If the electors of Gloucester were so foolish as to go and attend meetings where money was spent illegally, I am afraid they must be compelled to come here and state whether they paid for their refreshments or not, therefore I am afraid I must ask you to give us the names of the people who were treated out of this money.—Will you allow me to endeavour to make up a list? I do not mean to do it now.

2752. That is what I wish you to do. I am acting on the precedent of a former commission at Saint Alban's, where probably the corruption was much greater than it has been here; it was proposed there to go through the list in the manner I have suggested, but afterwards the witness furnished the Commissioners with a list, to save them the trouble of going through the whole of the poll book. I am prepared to ask you to furnish us with such a list?—I think there is this great difference (if you will excuse me, and not think me impertinent in arguing the point,) between Saint Alban's and Gloucester; that whereas in Saint Alban's it was almost all managed by one individual, you will find that here the bribery has been carried on by a very great many.

2753. That makes the inquiry more difficult, but renders it necessary that the Commissioners, in the discharge of their duty, should proceed by every means, and to the extent of their ability, to ascertain

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the extent of corruption in Gloucester?—I do not wish to shirk it, but at the same time I wish it to be distinctly understood that any such list as I may furnish will be necessarily very imperfect.

2754. I shall ask the same question of the witnesses on both sides, and I shall endeavour to ascertain the names of any individual voter who has either received a bribe or been treated. I do not wish to place you in a more invidious position than anybody else, and therefore I shall ask the same question of any other witnesses who may admit themselves in the gross to have given bribes?—By the direction of the Commissioners I will furnish such a list as well as I can, but how I am to prepare it I must confess I do not know. I shall find it very difficult.

2755. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In the course of three or four days you will be able to do it, I dare say?—The Commissioners shall have it.

2756. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In the amount of money you have expended, you make yourself personally responsible to some extent for the expenditure of this 149*l.*, and therefore it is I ask you for the particulars of that. I shall not ask you as to the expenditure of the money you paid to the others, I intend to ask them that question. Will you tell me now at what time you gave the money to the others; Harry Jacobs, for instance?—It was in different sums. I only recollect one particular amount. I gave Harry Jacobs that sum the night before the nomination, the night of the nomination, and the morning of the polling. There is only one item I can recollect, I believe the night of the nomination, when I gave him a hundred pounds. In what proportions the other sums were given to him I do not recollect.

2757. I observe you make a distinction between the purchase of votes and treating. Part of it was given for the purchase of votes?—When I say treating, I have no doubt that Mr. Jacobs, when he comes before you, will inform you (and if he does not, I shall be able to give you information which will induce you to ask him), that on the night of the nomination he was present at a supper which, singularly enough, I believe consisted of a ham; several of the voters were present, and that was a portion of the treating. Many of these voters who he induced to poll lived in the country, and there were his expenses for cabs on the day of the polling, and carriages for taking these people backwards and forwards, which is all included in that sum.

2758. I want to know whether you have any knowledge of the votes which were directly purchased by Harry Jacobs?—I have not.

2759. You did not give him the money for the purpose of bribing individual voters?—Certainly not; I did not know who he was going to pay.

2760. "Hutton, 31*l.*;" that was for the purchase of votes, was it not?—Yes.

2761. Did you know who that was to be given to?—I did not; I have since heard, but I did not know at the time.

2762. Is it the same with regard to the case of Jefferson Bryon?—Yes.

2763. For what purpose was the money given to Hall; was it for the purchase of votes?—For the purchase of votes.

2764. Do you know whether any of these people you have mentioned received money from anybody else but yourself?—I do not know of it.

2765. Do you know whether Henley did?—I know that Henley did, because he received some from Bryon.

2766. But the money he received from Bryon was part of the money you had given to Bryon?—Yes.

2767. He had received it indirectly from you?—Yes.

2768. Did Henley receive any other money besides that that came indirectly from you?—I am not aware of it.

2769. Have you ever heard that he did?—I have heard it as I have heard in this court that the whole expenses of this election cost the Liberals 5,000*l.*, but I have no more foundation for knowing the one than the other. I have no means of knowing that Mr. Henley received any further sums than this.

2770. Can you mention anybody from whom you heard that he had received any other money?—I cannot; on my oath I cannot.

2771. Is it your belief that the money you have mentioned is the whole of the money that was spent on the Liberal side in illegal practices at Gloucester?—I think that is a question that I cannot answer. I do not believe it is quite the full amount; I dare say in the course of the inquiry there will appear to have been some small sums besides. I am only content to mention those matters in which I have confidence, and as to which I feel in a position to give evidence. I think the Commissioners will see that I am endeavouring to make a clean breast of it myself, and I do not think the Commissioners can ask me as to my suspicions.

2772. The Commissioners ask you what you have heard in reference to the matter?—I assure you this, that I cannot tell anything but what is of the very vaguest character. For instance, I heard on the Monday after the election, when I happened to be at a dinner-party, that the election had cost 5,000*l.* I have heard since that it cost 10,000*l.* Really, I know nothing more than public rumour beyond what I have mentioned.

2773. Were those rumours from people of the opposite or the same politics as yourself?—Opposite politics.

2774. Perhaps you have no objection to give their names, if you recollect them?—Ladies and gentlemen at dinner, I am speaking of; mere rumours of that sort.

2775. We have heard in Clarke's evidence that Thompson stated to him he had obtained somewhere another 500*l.*?—I know nothing of it, and I do not believe it is true. I believe that the long and the short of that transaction is this: that Thornton came down here with 500*l.*; that he gave me 400*l.*; and has pocketed the other 100*l.*; and that the reason why Clarke has turned round upon us in this way is that they have quarrelled about the spoil. Clarke has asked for his half, and has not got it; and as he cannot get it out of Thompson, he thinks it most likely that he can get it out of Sir Robert Carden; that is my impression.

2776. To the best of your belief, you have stated the whole sum that was spent on the Liberal side?—Yes; all that I know of. As I mentioned to the secretary last night, there is this sum of 12*l.* that I paid to Mr. Gardiner. I did not recollect it till I saw him in court, and so as to the 50*l.* I received from Mr. Chandler. If, in the course of the inquiry, anything should occur to me that I do not now recollect, I pledge myself to mention it.

2777. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I do not think there is any reflection on you with regard to your explanation as to the distribution of this money; I believe you have given a most honest and fair account of the mode in which you distributed it; but if there should be any sums that you have not disclosed, which occur to you within the next few days, probably, on refreshing your recollection, you will be able to mention them to us?—If anything occurs to me that I can recollect, either in the shape of this list to be made out, or anything else, I will mention it to the Commissioners.

2778. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I have not the slightest doubt that you have given us a perfectly fair account of the matter, as far as your recollection goes. What I wanted was, the names of the parties, or some indication as to where the Commissioners might look for them?—I disclaim any knowledge of anything further than I have stated, except from common report.

2779. (*Mr. Welford.*) You made a careful calculation, I suppose, before you invited the second Liberal candidate?—Yes.

2780. And the result of that calculation was, that to secure the return of two Liberals a certain proportion of the venal part of the constituency would have to be purchased?—Provided the purchase was com-

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J. P. Wilton.
28 Sept. 1859.

menced on the other side. To tell you the truth of the matter, I believe firmly that the majority Mr. Monk obtained at the last election over Sir Robert Carden is not an exaggeration by more than from 25 to 30 votes of the actual state of parties in Gloucester. I believe that with the majority which he obtained of 185 there may have been perhaps 30 votes more purchased on the side of the Liberals than there were on the side of the Tories.

2781. But in calculating the chances of success in an election at Gloucester it must be taken into consideration that there is this venal body of voters whose votes may be purchased on the one side, and therefore you must be prepared to purchase some of them on the other?—Some of them must be made safe for the other side; that is my impression. You will have, no doubt, before you, gentlemen whose opinions are formed as carefully as mine, coming to give evidence upon the opposite side. I only hope that when they do come they will give me credit for making my statement according to the best of my belief, as I shall give them credit for making theirs. I should have considered I should be disturbing the peace of this city most unjustifiably if I asked a second candidate to come forward unless I could show him that he had a reasonable and just chance of success, and with that impression firmly on my mind I felt that we were entitled to ask that the real majority of the constituency should have the return in their hands.

2782. In estimating the sum to be expended it was part of your calculation that possibly some portion of the venal part of the constituency would have to be purchased?—I thought it likely.

2783. And the twelve or fifteen hundred pounds mentioned had reference to that contingency?—Yes.

2784. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you communicate that view to Mr. Moffatt?—Certainly not, either directly or indirectly; and of course I did not communicate it to Mr. Monk.

2785. I suppose Mr. Price, having been member for the borough for so long a time, was not unacquainted with it?—No. I believe Mr. Price has assured me that he always left such matters to his agent. I do not know what his agent, Mr. Ellis, knows about it.

2786. Can you give me the number of voters on the Liberal side who you suppose are accustomed to take bribes?—You see up to the present election my belief is that bribery on the Liberal side has been very small. I do not mean that there has been no bribery at previous elections.

2787. In the Saint Alban's inquiry the agents on both sides handed in lists, not mentioning the names but the numbers of those voters who usually took bribes. Can you hand me in such a list?—I cannot.

2788. Yours would be only a list derived from your knowledge at the last election?—Yes; and from inquiries made before the last election.

2789. (*Mr. Welford.*) You will give us a certain number as the probable number of venal voters? If you could assist us by giving us the names of those who go to make up that list you will enable us to perform our duty more satisfactorily in making our report?—In some of these cases I may have been mistaken, and, without wishing to treat the Commissioners with the least disrespect, I must decline to do that. I will furnish the numbers as well as I can. I think the Commissioners will see that I am justified in declining to furnish the names; I cannot do it. I do not consider that I or any person, without positive proof, has a right to brand a man, even though before the eyes of only three Commissioners, with the fact that he is considered venal. I will give you the numbers, if you insist on it, as well as I can arrive at it, but as to giving their names I must respectfully decline to do so.

2790. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) We should not require names where there is only a suspicion?—I will make out a list, giving the figures, if you please; more than that I cannot do.

2791. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you ever borrow any money of any gentleman except those gentlemen whose names you have given to us?—No.

2792. You have never borrowed any money from Mr. Innell?—Nothing beyond the 60*l.* that I have mentioned.

C. F. Innell.

CHARLES FREDERICK INNELL sworn and examined.

2793. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live in Gloucester?—I do.

2794. And are an elector here?—I am.

2795. What are you by profession?—An agent.

2796. Agent for what?—I am connected with the oil trade; that is the fact.

2797. Have you been resident in Gloucester for some years?—I think since 1841; I am a native of this county.

2798. Have you taken an active part in the elections for this city since you have been a resident?—Yes; not in all.

2799. When did you first begin to take an interest in those elections?—I think the first election that I ever took the slightest part in was the election between Admiral Berkeley, Mr. Price, and Mr. Hope; I cannot tell you the year, and then I took very little part in the matter; merely recorded my vote.

2800. That was the first election you took part in?—That was the first election I voted at.

2801. When did you first begin to take a more active part in support of any gentleman whose principles agreed with your own?—I may very likely at that time have canvassed, but not more.

2802. Did you take any part in the management of any election until the last election?—Never.

2803. You, I believe, are the president of the Reform Club?—I am.

2804. Were you here on Monday when Mr. Wilton was under examination?—Yes, I was.

2805. And you have heard his examination to day?—I have.

2806. Do you agree with the statement made by Mr. Wilton as to the circumstances under which you and he went as a deputation to London?—Yes. One reason why we went to London as a deputation was, that after Admiral Berkeley had declined to stand for the city I telegraphed to Mr. Price, informing him of the fact, and asked him if he could name a gentleman likely to suit us, which he declined to do. I think I telegraphed to him twice, and received one message back.

2807. Was that before Mr. Monk's name had been communicated to the Reform Club?—It was; in fact Mr. Monk's name was not mentioned to the Reform Club till after we came back from London.

2808. But it was mentioned to the committee of the Reform Club?—The first mention of Mr. Monk's name I saw in one of the Gloucester papers; that his name would be well received among the Gloucester people.

2809. We have heard from Mr. Wilton that you, Mr. Herbert, and himself were appointed as a deputation to go to London to see Mr. Monk for the purpose of soliciting him to be a candidate?—No; we did not go to see Mr. Monk, but we went to London to see if we could get a candidate.

2810. You did not go for the purpose of seeing Mr. Monk then?—No, not entirely.

2811. How came you then to see Mr. Monk after you went to London?—We went to the Reform Club, wishing to see and ask Mr. Price if he could give us any assistance or the name of any gentleman, which he positively refused to do; that was in the morning; afterwards, in the afternoon, we were at the Reform Club talking to Mr. Price and several gentlemen, and Mr. Monk came in, and it was mentioned that we were a deputation from Gloucester in search of a candidate;

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he said we could not find any one more eligible than Mr. Monk, and therefore we communicated with Mr. Monk.

2812. Then your acquaintance with Mr. Monk, so to speak, was of a casual nature in the first instance ?—I had never spoken to Mr. Monk, though I had known him for some years as a resident in Gloucester.

2813. Had Mr. Monk taken any part in the politics of the city during the time that he resided here ?—Not that I am aware of; I never heard so.

2814. Were you of opinion that Mr. Monk would be a popular candidate for the city ?—I was.

2815. From what circumstance did you form that opinion ?—From his residing in Gloucester, and from his political principles.

2816. You knew what his political principles were, though you did not know Mr. Monk himself ?—Yes.

2817. Do you know whether Mr. Monk ever stood for any other place on other principles ?—No, nor do I believe it; he assured me that those statements were false. I knew a great number of statements derogatory to the character of Mr. Monk had been circulated, which I believed to be false.

2818. At all events, you thought he would be a popular candidate?—The only question we asked him was whether he was an advocate for the ballot.

2819. Why did you consider that the advocacy of the ballot was an essential qualification in a candidate ?—Because it was the feeling of a majority of the electors; at all events of the committee who instructed us; it was our instruction.

2820. Do you agree with the statement made by Mr. Wilton, as to what took place at the meeting at the Reform Club, when you were present, between yourself, Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Price, and Mr. Monk ?—Yes; as far as I recollect it is quite correct, but I was very ill at the time, and took very little part; there is one little statement I should wish to make, to make it more clear,—that when we saw Mr. Price in the afternoon, when Mr. Monk requested an interview in the evening to enable him to consult a friend, I was not cognisant that we were going to meet Mr. Moffatt in the evening. Mr. Price was going out to dinner that day.

2821. When you saw Mr. Price in the afternoon, he was not cognisant you were going to see Mr. Moffatt in the evening ?—I believe not; his coming in at our interview was purely accidental, returning from his friend's dinner; in fact, he was not aware we were there till he came into the club.

2822. Was it at the afternoon meeting with Mr. Price that Mr. Monk came in as you have stated ?—Yes; there were, perhaps, five or six of us standing in the hall of the Reform Club.

2823. With the exception of that alteration, or correction, do you agree with the statement made by Mr. Wilton as to the circumstances attending the interview with Mr. Monk ?—Yes.

2824. You heard the statement that was made, also, as to what steps were taken upon the return of the deputation to London ?—Yes. When we saw Mr. Monk in the morning he consented to stand if we could assure him he would have the united support of the Liberal parties in Gloucester, and not without.

2825. And you informed him that he would ?—We were to inform him that evening, after our return. We told him that in our opinion he would.

2826. After your return to Gloucester you were to inform him ?—Yes.

2827. And on your return you ascertained that he would have that support ?—Yes, that evening.

2828. And you informed him to that effect ?—No. I left town the following morning, and asked Mr. Wilton, in consequence of my leaving home, to communicate with Mr. Monk, which I believe he did.

2829. You have heard the statement of Mr. Wilton as to the amount of money that would be required for the purpose of securing the return of the Liberal candidates ?—Yes.

2830. Did you consider yourself that any portion of that money would be required for purposes of bribery ?—Not unless it was paying messengers. I certainly considered it would take, perhaps, a larger sum than an ordinary election, in consequence of the length of time that was likely to elapse before the election.

2831. Did you consider that the venal portion of the constituency could be secured by their employment as messengers ?—I have no knowledge of that; that is a thing I have never gone into.

2832. Did you make any calculation yourself as to the probabilities of success ?—I did not; all my documents were furnished me by Mr. Wilton, and I inquired also of Brewer Monk as to the relative position of political parties in Gloucester; I did that before I went to Admiral Berkeley.

2833. Your knowledge upon the subject was derived, not from your own calculations, but from calculations made by Mr. Wilton and Mr. Brewer Monk ?—Decidedly. I never made a calculation.

2834. Did you take any part in the canvass at the last election ?—I did; in fact, I was most of the time canvassing with Mr. Monk, from morning to night, during his canvass.

2835. I understood you to say, you did not take any active part in the previous election ?—Except canvassing with them; I have been round canvassing with them.

2836. Did you canvass the same district in 1857 that you canvassed in 1859 ?—No. I canvassed nearly all Gloucester in 1859. I was not in Gloucester the first two days of the canvass. I will not be positive whether I was absent two or three days. I know I came down on the Friday evening by the same train as Mr. Price. Mr. Price came from London, and I came from Oxford.

2837. Did you canvass on behalf of both candidates ?—Yes, I did; I canvassed principally with Mr. Monk, and I had some of Mr. Price's cards, and solicited also for Mr. Price.

2838. The friends of both parties agreed to support both candidates ?—Decidedly.

2839. You say you canvassed in 1859 nearly all Gloucester ?—A great portion, I should say; perhaps four fifths of it.

2840. You canvassed only a particular district in 1857 ?—No.

2841. Did you know in what way a number of the electors you canvassed had voted on the previous occasion ?—I did not. In fact, in 1857, I was absent from home the greater portion of the election; I think I was not in Gloucester more than two or three days of the election.

2842. Had you not a copy of the poll book of 1857 with you ?—I had not, nor have not had one till I purchased one some little time ago, with the poll book of this election. I think Mr. Monk had one.

2843. You did not make any comparison yourself ?—I did not.

2844. Not between the result of your canvass in 1859 and the canvass in 1857, or the voting ?—I never had any particulars of the canvass of 1857 or 1859.

2845. How long was it before the election took place that you commenced your canvass ?—I came home on the Friday evening, and commenced canvassing on the following morning.

2846. How long was that before the election ?—I think three weeks.

2847. Did you find on your canvass that a large number of the electors declined to promise ?—There were a great number.

2848. Were there a great number of those who you regarded as Conservatives, and a great number who you regarded as Liberals ?—Yes.

2849. On both sides a great number held back ?—Yes; but from the little knowledge I had of canvassing I thought our canvassing was exceedingly successful.

2850. Throughout ?—Yes.

2851. Did you after you had canvassed for some little time find there was any difference in the state of

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C. F. Innell.
28 Sept. 1859.

feeling among the electors?—I do not know how I can answer that question further than a general rumour that was brought to our rooms.

2852. I am asking you as to your canvass. You say the canvass was very favourable to your party, as you thought. Did you find at any time in your canvass that there was an alteration in the political feeling of some of the electors?—No, I do not know that we found that there was any alteration, but still we found a considerable difficulty in getting promises.

2853. Did you feel after the first week or ten days that there was any cause for disappointment?—I never cast up the books or took notice of the returns.

2854. Are you aware of any circumstances which to ensure the return of the Liberal candidates rendered it necessary that the friends of the Liberal candidates should resort to bribery?—Merely by report.

2855. Reports from whom?—I really could not tell you; general report. Our room was open to everybody supposed to belong to the Liberal party. In fact, I do not know that it was a committee.

2856. Were the reports to which you refer reports that prevailed at the Reform Club and the rooms where your friends used to assemble?—No; for I do not think during the whole election there were more than two meetings of the Reform Club.

2857. You are unable to say from what persons the reports emanated with regard to bribery?—I think it was a very common report; reports are frequently spread abroad which are not correct; but I had no means of ascertaining whether it was the fact or not.

2858. In consequence of those reports did the friends of the Liberal candidates determine themselves to resort to bribery?—That I cannot answer.

2859. With regard to the part that Mr. Wilton took in obtaining money you yourself are ignorant of the grounds which induced him to take that part?—Quite so. My whole time, or the greater portion of it, was occupied in canvassing with Mr. Monk, from early in the morning till late in the evening. I had nothing to do with money affairs. During the canvass I did advance a little money on behalf of Mr. Wilton.

2860. You advanced 60*l.*—Yes. I do not say exactly 60*l.*; I believe it was more, but 60*l.* is the amount I charged. I kept no account; I could not say to three or four pounds.

2861. For what purpose did you advance that money?—A great portion of it was given to Brewer Monk to pay the messengers. On the Thursday previous to the Good Friday some of the clerks wanted money on account of their weekly pay, and then I think I advanced four guineas, which I told Brewer Monk afterwards to deduct, and I gave William Probert 2*l.*, I think, during the election.

2862. You received the money from Mr. Wilton?—Yes.

2863. You say you gave four guineas to Brewer Monk?—No; I believe I gave four guineas to pay the clerks, who had seven shillings each on account of their weekly wages.

2864. Did you not give it to Brewer Monk?—No.

2865. To whom did you give it?—I believe to Mr. Jordan.

2866. You gave 2*l.* to Probert?—Yes; at three different times. I think he was one of the parties out canvassing, and had no money.

2867. What did you give that money to him for?—His own personal expenses.

2868. What did you do with the remainder of the money?—The greater portion I gave to Brewer Monk.

2869. How much?—I cannot say exactly, but I should say upwards of 40*l.*

2870. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Besides the 60*l.*?—No. I am accounting for how I spent the 60*l.*

2871. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you give to Brewer Monk upwards of 40*l.* for?—For paying the messengers.

2872. Did he tell you he wanted that money to pay messengers?—He did, the greater portion of it; and I gave, I think, a sum of 15*l.* to Mr. Wilton during the election. I dare say Brewer Monk will tell you the amount he had from me. I cannot tell you the dates.

2873. Did you yourself give any money to any person as a bribe for a vote?—Never in my life.

2874. Did you promise any money to any one?—No.

2875. Did you expend any money in treating any person?—I did not. I think my own personal expenses in canvassing for the election were three or four shillings. I think in the course of the canvass we went into a pastrycook's, and had a bun each, and I might have paid for a glass of ale during our canvass, but nothing more.

2876. Did you frequent a room in the house of a person named Hutton?—I never was in that room during or before the election; in fact I did not know at that time where Mr. Hutton lived, and I hope every person who comes before you who can be proved to have been on that committee will be asked whether he ever saw me there or not.

2877. You know the evidence given by a man named Samuel Jeffs?—Yes. I purposely abstained from going into any committee-room, or having any communication with them whatever. It was suggested to me to do so, and I followed that suggestion. There was only one house that I was in from first to last during the election where there was a meeting. I went one night in the early part of my canvass into that house; I believe the canvassing had commenced; there was a meeting of Liberal friends at the Berkeley Arms; I wanted to see Mr. Wilton; I was not in the house five minutes; that is the only meeting that I was at.

2878. Do you say that the evidence given by Samuel Jeffs before the committee with respect to your being at Hutton's house is not true?—It is not true; so much so that when I saw that evidence I did not know who Mr. Parkes was. I called on Mr. Parkes on the following Monday. He is a currier; and I asked him then if he knew me, and his reply was, "I believe your name is Innell." I said, "Yes. Did "I ever speak to you in my life?" His reply was, "No." "Did you ever tell Jeffs that I had sanc- "tioned your offering him 8*l.* for his vote?" and he replied, "Certainly not." I never spoke to my knowledge before or since to Mr. Parkes.

2879. You are a member of the Town Council, are you not?—I am.

2880. Is there any other Mr. Innell a member of the Town Council besides yourself?—There is not.

2881. Hutton's house is in Northgate Street, is it not?—It is. I did not know at the time where Hutton lived. I was in Hutton's house about the Monday or Tuesday week after the election, when a contest was approaching for a municipal election.

2882. Hutton himself is a hair-dresser, is he not?—He is a hair-dresser. I do not know the names of the people it is stated I was with, but when those gentlemen come before you I have a favour to ask you.

2883. Did you ever give to Mr. Parkes an order for eight sovereigns?—I never gave Mr. Parkes or any body else an order for eight sovereigns.

2884. Did you know during the election that there was a room that was occupied by the friends of the Liberal party at Hutton's?—I really did not know as a fact that it was at Mr. Hutton's. I knew there was a committee; I had heard there were four committees, but where they held their meetings I did not know. When it was suggested by some friends to form themselves into district committees at the central committee, I went into a small room, and there locked myself in, because I would have no communication at all with these district committees; that was the room occupied by Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan was outside, and Brewer Monk, and when they come to give their evidence they will, I think, bear me out in my statement that I was locked in.

2885. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you summoned to attend the committee of the House of Commons?—I received a speaker's warrant, and in that warrant it was stated that the day I should be wanted would be

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C. F. Insell.
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communicated to me through the agents. I came home at great inconvenience on purpose to be in Gloucester, and not being summoned I went to London.

2886. Were you summoned by the petitioners or the sitting members ?—By the petitioners.

2887. But you were not called ?—I was not called

2888. The counsel did not go into the case on behalf of the sitting members ?—No ; I was summoned by the petitioners, but they did not call me.

2889. Not having been called by them, you would probably have been called by the sitting members if their case had been gone into ?—Decidedly ; I should have volunteered.

2890. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did the petition on the part of Sir Robert Carden pray the seat ?—No, I believe not.

2891. If the seat was not prayed you could not go into evidence ?—I really am not aware ; that is a matter I know nothing about.

2892. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you canvass with Mr. Monk ?—To the best of my belief I did not ; not to my recollection.

2893. Did you in the course of your canvass receive intimation from any of the voters that bribes or anything approaching to bribes were expected ?—I heard that the opposite parties were offering large sums of money.

2894. Did you receive from any of the voters such intimations ?—Yes ; but I could not mention them ; it was very general.

2895. Did you when you were canvassing the voters receive from any of them intimations that bribes were expected ?—No ; I did not ; and I will say this : that when Mr. Monk came down I do not believe that if he had had the slightest knowledge that any amount of money was to be spent in bribery anything would have induced him to come ; and I may state a circumstance which occurred : one evening, after canvassing, I was walking with Mr. Monk ; he had heard a good deal of a family named Coopey, and he asked me who they were. I told him they were a family who I believed received always large sums for their votes. He said, "Well, I hope they will not vote for "us, for I would rather lose my election than have "their votes."

2896. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How did they vote ?—For Sir Robert Carden, I believe.

2897. How many ?—I do not know ; I do not know how many of them there are.

2898. Did you canvass them ?—No.

2899. Did you ever bribe Samuel Jeffs at all ?—To my knowledge I never saw him.

2900. Then you did not bribe him ?—I did not.

2901. Either directly or indirectly ?—Either directly or indirectly. There is one statement I should like to make. I believe it was the week of the election,—I am not sure whether it was on the Tuesday or the Wednesday (it was a very wet day, and that was the reason why I was in), about three or four o'clock, to the best of my belief, a party named Clarke came to our committee-room. He had seen Mr. Smith, and he told me he had something of great importance to communicate to me, and he asked me whether there was a person there,—I will not say whether it was Thompson or not, and then he inquired for Mr. Wilton. He said he had to communicate to Mr. Wilton something of very great importance. I said, "Mr. Wilton is very seldom here ; he "is engaged as a surgeon ; but if you wish to see Mr. "Wilton I will communicate with him, and then you "come down at seven o'clock." About five minutes after he had left I thought I would go to Mr. Wilton's surgery in King Street. I went there, and there saw the party who is employed by Mr. Wilton, and told him that some one wished to see Mr. Wilton particularly at seven o'clock. As I came out of Mr. Wilton's surgery I saw that man Clarke by the Cattle Market, and followed him, and said, "Mr. Wilton's "surgery is there." He said, "I believe you are "taking an active part in the election ?" I said, "Yes." He said, "The fact I have to communicate "is that Frail is here." I said, "How do you know." He said, "I know him, and he knows me very well. "As I went into the Wellington Frail was lying down "in the coffee-room in the Wellington, and I got out "unperceived by him." Clarke said, "I am sent "by the Reform Club in London to watch his move-"ments."

2902. Did he say what Frail it was ?—Of Shrewsbury.

2903. Did he say anything in connection with the name of Frail ?—No ; merely that he was sent to watch his movements ; that is all that ever took place.

2904. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He said he was sent by the Reform Club ?—Yes, to watch his movements.

2905. Did you communicate that to your friends ?—Yes, that Frail was there.

2906. You say you joined Mr. Wilton in representing to Mr. Monk that from twelve to fifteen hundred pounds would be about the expense of a contest ?—I took that for granted, Mr. Wilton having said so.

2907. Had you ever before been engaged in an election as a member of a committee ?—No. In fact, I do not know that I was a member of this committee.

2908. In the course of your life, since your connection with the city, have you ever ascertained what the expense of an election was ?—No.

2909. Then it did not occur to you that 1,500*l.* was too large a sum for legal expenses ?—No ; I had no means of knowing what the expenses were ; I never heard.

THOMAS SMITH sworn and examined.

T. Smith.

2910. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are a solicitor here ?—I am.

2911. You had a portion of the management of the election of the late members for the city ?—Yes.

2912. You and Mr. Jordan, I believe, between you, were the managers of the committee-room in the Westgate Street ?—Yes, I suppose so. I was sometimes canvassing and sometimes there.

2913. Was Mr. Jordan there on behalf of Mr. Price; and were you there on behalf Mr. Monk ?—I think he was there in the service of both ; I fancy so.

2914. And you were there in the service of both ?—Yes; there was no direct appointment by the candidates I believe of either Mr. Bretherton or myself.

2915. Did Mr. Bretherton attend that committee room ?—Yes.

2916. And took part with yourselves in the management of the election ?—Yes.

2917. Did you take any part in the appointment of the messengers ?—No.

2918. Or of the clerks ?—No.

2919. To whom was that left ?—Brewer Monk, I think, appointed those ; I did not.

2920. And was the payment of the messengers also confined to Brewer Monk ?—I believe so ; I did not pay them.

2921. Do you know the number of messengers employed ?—I do not.

2922. Or the number of clerks ?—Nor the number of clerks.

2923. What number of messengers had you in attendance at the committee room in Westgate Street ?—I cannot say the number ; there was a room for them, and there were generally half a dozen there, at least half a dozen. It was a small room, and it was generally full.

2924. How many clerks ?—I never counted them ; but there was a table, holding, I should think, from a dozen to fifteen ; there may have been a few more or a few less ; I cannot say ; I have seen as many as fifteen I am certain.

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2925. Were twelve or fifteen generally there?—They assembled sometimes, and then got away as soon as they could.

2926. How many clerks generally attended there?—I should think about fifteen; from twelve to fifteen. When the table was full there were from twelve to fifteen, I should think, but I never counted them.

2927. Who gave them orders on behalf of the committee?—If I wanted anything done, if I wanted anything like a circular sent out, or anything written, I gave it to one of the clerks, and told him to obey my instructions, and if anybody else wanted anything done they obeyed their instructions in the same way; Mr. Jordan or anyone who came in.

2928. Were the orders issued by yourself?—Yes, or by Mr. Jordan or Mr. Bretherton, or any one who was about there.

2929. Or any member of the committee?—I do not know that there was any committee; any gentleman who would make himself useful and give us his assistance.

2930. How many people were in the habit of going to that committee-room and taking an active part on behalf of the candidates?—I do not know whether there was any number; anybody came in who was a friend of the parties; there was no regular committee.

2931. You know, I suppose, the names of the principal persons who were active in the conduct of that election?—Yes, of course I do, some.

2232. Can you give me a list of them?—There was Mr. Ellis and Mr. Bretherton, and myself; there were some canvassing parties; Captain Mason used to come in; some came and rendered assistance, and some did not.

2933. Can you give me, to-morrow morning, a list of those persons who were active in the support of the different candidates?—Mr. Innell.

2934. I do not wish you to give the names now, but will you give me a list to-morrow morning?—I will endeavour to do so.

2935. How many district committee-rooms were there?—I understood there were four.

2936. Do you not know there were four?—I do not know it of my own knowledge; I only know it from report.

2937. Where were they?—In Eastgate, Northgate, Westgate, and Southgate Streets. I know of their meeting in the Northgate Street, on one occasion.

2938. Where was that?—At a Mr. Isacke's; I was present on that occasion.

2939. Where else?—And there was a meeting at a Mr. Jeffs', in the Southgate Street. I do not know of any other meeting of my own knowledge.

2940. What other committee-rooms were there?—I do not know of any other except those I have mentioned; there was Mr. Hutton's, in Northgate Street, I know he has been paid.

2941. Did you ever see Thompson there, or Thornton?—No; I never saw Thompson or Thornton anywhere.

2942. Was there not a committee-room at Hutton's?—On the polling day there was a room, but that was for one set of the clerks keeping a register of the voting.

2943. Do you know yourself of any money having been paid for bribery?—No.

2944. Or any money paid in treating?—Nor in treating.

2945. Did you pay any money yourself to any one?—Not in bribery or treating. I made some petty payments in the committee-room.

2946. Did any person communicate to you that a necessity existed for the purchase of votes to win the election?—No.

2947. You had no participation whatever in any bribery that was practised?—None whatever.

2948. You took part in making up the accounts, did you not?—I did.

2949. You took part with Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan?—Yes.

2950. We hear that the account sent in to the election agent is an incorrect one?—Yes, there were some items incorrect.

2951. In fact, this account was made up, was it not, by yourself, Mr. Bretherton, and Mr. Jordan, for the purpose of concealing from the attention of the Parliamentary committee facts that you thought would prove prejudicial to your case?—We thought some claims were made which were not exactly necessary for the election, and which might be taken objection to, some printing, which, perhaps, was not absolutely necessary.

2952. If these other accounts were entered into the election agent's accounts, you thought they would disclose facts you were anxious to conceal?—We thought they had better be omitted.

2953. And for that reason your name, among others, was entered as having received a larger sum by 20*l.*, than you had actually received?—Yes.

2954. What was the sum you received altogether?—50*l.*

2955. The committee-rooms also belonged to you, did they not?—They did not belong to me, but I was agent for them.

2956. There was a payment made in respect of them?—Yes.

2957. How came you to select 61*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* to enter into this account for messengers?—I believe that there was a list furnished by Brewer Monk to us.

2958. Do you mean to say that that sum of 61*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* for messengers was the total amount rendered to you by Brewer Monk?—Yes.

2959. Did he represent to you that he had not paid more than that to messengers?—I do not know that he represented that; he said that that was the messengers' account.

2960. Did he hand to you an account showing the names of the messengers who were employed?—I could not say the names; I think there was a list of messengers, and I think of clerks also.

2961. Have you got the list?—No, I have not.

2962. Who has it?—I do not know.

2963. Before you put down in the account 61*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* for messengers, and 43*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* for committee-room clerks, I suppose you had the names of those parties to whom the money was paid rendered to you?—I am inclined to believe it was so, but I should not like to say so. I think there was a list of their names.

2964. Can you tell what were the charges of 1*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* to Mr. Judson?—For tables and chairs.

2965. At your rooms?—Yes; in Westgate Street.

2966. Have any other payments come to your knowledge, or any other claims since the rendering of this account?—No, not since the rendering of it.

2967. You have no knowledge yourself of any claim which is outstanding in respect of the election of the Liberal members?—No, not outstanding. I should say there is one that I may, perhaps, consider a claim outstanding. I repaid a person what he had paid for a voter's expenses from somewhere in Hampshire; a voter had changed his residence and went to live in Hampshire. I did not know him, but I heard it of a friend or neighbour of his who did, and I asked that friend to write to him, and ask him to come and vote, and I said his travelling expenses would be paid. I believe he came, and I repaid the sum that was paid, which was 5*l.*

2968. Who was the friend?—A Mr. Snow.

2969. What was the name of the voter?—The name of the voter, I think, was Levi.

2970. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was the five pounds given for travelling expenses?—Yes, from some place in Hampshire.

2971. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the address of Mr. Levi?—I did not know his address, but Mr. Snow did.

2972. What is the address of Mr. Snow?—In Southgate Street, in this city.

2973. He paid the five pounds?—He paid the five pounds.

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T. Smith.

28 Sept. 1859.

2974. And you repaid him that sum?—I repaid him that sum.

2975. Was any application at all made to you during the election for any sums of money for bribery?—No.

2976. Did you know that any bribery was going on?—No.

2977. Did you hear of it?—I was continually hearing of it, on the other side as well as on our own.

2978. You heard that bribery was going on on both sides?—Yes.

2979. It was well known, was it, in the city?—I should think so.

2980. Did you know who the parties were who were bribing on behalf of the Liberal party?—No, I did not.

2981. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you see Clarke or Thompson in the town?—I saw Clarke.

2982. Had you any conversation with him?—Yes; I was in the committee-room, and I was called out of one of the rooms; a person wanted to see me, and I saw a man who said his name was,—whether he said Clarke or not I do not know.

2983. Was it Brettles?—I do not remember that he said Brettles. He said he wanted to see some one acting for the Liberal parties, or for the Liberal candidates, as he had a communication to make. I said, "Well, what is it?" He said he came from the Reform Club. I think he said he was sent to see a Mr. Thompson or Thornton; I do not know which name he used; he asked me whether he could see him. I said I did not know such a person, and he gave a sort of description of him. I said I did not know him, and I think I called some one up; I think I called to Mr. Innell, and asked him if he knew him, and he said he did not. From his appearance and manner I had no confidence in him; I thought him a spy or traitor from the other side, and I would not have anything to say to him.

2984. With reference to those accounts, was any receipt taken from the individual messengers?—I did not pay the messengers.

2985. Did Brewer Monk bring any account to you?—I think he brought in an account showing the total; I think it only showed the total; whether the names were in or not I will not say.

2986. Was a receipt taken from him when he was paid?—I did not take a receipt. I did not see him paid.

2987. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you examine the vouchers for the account you sent in to the auditor?—Some of them; some of the vouchers I saw, but I did not see them all; in fact, the latter part of the matter I had nothing to do with.

2988. When was this account arranged in the way you speak of?—I think it was the very last date of sending in the account; I am not certain, but I think it was the 30th of July.

2989. Before the committee of the House of Commons sat?—It was the day after the petition was decided; the conclusion of the petition.

2990. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I do not think you gave us the name of the committee-rooms in Westgate-street. Can you give me that?—I saw a meeting of some of the liberal electors at a Mr. Jeffs'.

2991. That is in Southgate Street?—Yes.

2992. I asked you as to Westgate Street?—There was no committee-room there.

2993. I thought you said that the borough was divided into four districts. You have given us Northgate and Southgate Street; can you tell me as to the others?—I do not know as to that; I never attended them.

Adjourned to to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

Fourth Day.—29th September 1859.

BENJAMIN JORDAN sworn and examined.

B. Jordan.

29 Sept. 1859.

2994. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a clerk, I believe, of Mr. Ellis?—Yes. Ellis, Elliott, and Swann.

2995. You have taken part in the elections for the city of Gloucester, have you not?—Yes.

2996. The last election and previous elections?—Yes.

2997. How many previous elections?—Three before the last, I think.

2998. At the last election you were requested by Mr. Ellis to go to the committee-room of the Liberal candidates in Westgate Street, were you not?—I think it was Mr. Wilton who first mentioned it to me; Mr. Robert Wilton.

2999. What did Mr. Robert Wilton request you to do?—He told me it had been arranged that I should be in the committee-room, if I had no objection, to take the returns of the canvass, and to attend generally to the committee-room.

3000. For whom were you to attend there; for both the candidates?—I do not know that that was mentioned.

3001. How long was it before the election that you were requested by Mr. Robert Wilton to attend the committee-room?—I think it was the day before I went down, and I think that was either the 7th or the 8th of April.

3002. Was the canvass commenced at that time?—I do not know whether the canvass had commenced; the rooms were opened.

3003. Were proceedings being carried on in the interest of the different candidates?—Yes.

3004. Towards securing their return?—Yes.

3005. Was Mr. Monk at that time a candidate?—I believe he was in Gloucester. I do not know whether he came there for a day or two after I first went, but I believe he was there within a day or so of the time I first went. I am not sure of the day on which I first saw him.

3006. What books did you keep at the committee-room?—I had a register ruled to take the returns in, and I had a small memorandum book of my own.

3007. Have you those books still?—I have them with me now.

3008. Will you produce them, if you please?—This (*producing it*) is the book in which I kept the returns of the canvass; this (*producing it*) is the memorandum book in which I kept the petty payments made by me.

3009. Were those the only books that you kept?—Those were the only two.

3010. Were all the entries that you required to make in books made in these two books?—Yes.

3011. And did you put down in them from time to time all the information which you received which it was necessary for you to enter in books?—Yes; as to returns of the canvass.

3012. Was your duty confined to keeping returns of the canvass?—The general business of the committee-room; I attended to any work in the committee-room that I had time to do.

3013. Then what other work did you do?—I prepared an index; a book of all the names of the voters; an alphabetical index, in which I should have kept the returns if it had been ready, but it was not ready

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B. Jordan.
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in time, and therefore I continued to keep them in the register. I merely used it to refer to.

3014. Had you a room in which you, generally speaking, sat by yourself, in the committee-rooms?—Not by myself; there were others there besides myself.

3015. Other clerks, do you mean?—No other clerk. Mr. Smith was there, and Mr. Bretherton and others were in the room.

3016. They resorted to the room which you occupied?—Yes.

3017. Did they confer with you from time to time as to the progress of the canvass, and the result of the proceedings that were adopted for the success of the Liberal candidates?—They inquired from me at any time they wanted to know how the canvass stood.

3018. Had you taken the same part in the election for 1857 as you were taking in the election for 1859?—Yes, I had.

3019. Had you any books in your possession respecting the canvass or the polling of 1857 at the time you were in the committee-room?—I had the index at the office; I do not know whether I took it down to the committee-room or not; I almost think it was there some part of the time; yes, I know it was there some part of the time.

3020. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You had the book of 1857 with you in 1859?—Yes, some part of the time.

3021. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you make a comparison of the returns of the canvass in 1857 with the returns of the canvass in 1859?—No; I merely had the register to assist me in making the new index.

3022. When did you receive the returns of the first general canvass?—I received them from day to day as they were brought in.

3023. When was the first general canvass completed?—On Saturday.

3024. On what day?—Saturday the 9th of April.

3025. Did you consider that those returns were favourable or unfavourable?—Favourable.

3026. Can you tell me what number of electors who had been canvassed had declined to make any promise as to how they would vote at that time?—No.

3027. Have you any recollection as to whether there was a considerable number that so refused to promise?—No, I do not know that.

3028. Did you, on looking through the returns, discover that there were amongst those who had not promised the names of persons who had at the former election voted for the Liberal candidates?—I did not compare them at all.

3029. Did you before or after the election make any such comparison?—No.

3030. Are you able to say whether there were any electors who, having voted before for the Liberal candidates, had promised to record their votes at the election of 1859 for Sir Robert Carden, or who had declined to record their votes for the Liberal candidates?—No; I did not compare the lists at all.

3031. How many messengers were employed in the committee-room?—I do not know.

3032. Do you know at all?—No, I did not know the messengers at all.

3033. Do you know how many clerks were employed?—No; I do not know the number.

3034. About how many?—I should say I have seen from 15 to 25 at times when I have gone into the clerks' room.

3035. How many clerks did you generally see there employed?—I do not think I went into the room half a dozen times altogether, but I should think I saw from 15 to 25; there may have been more or less.

3036. Did you engage those clerks?—I did not.

3037. Was any communication made to you respecting the engagement of them?—No.

3038. Was a list of the clerks kept in the office?—Not by me.

3039. Do you know whether there was such list kept?—I understood that Brewer Monk kept it.

3040. Had you anything to do with the payment either of the messengers or of the clerks?—I paid twelve of them seven shillings a piece during the election.

3041. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were they clerks or messengers?—Clerks; they asked for something on account, and I declined to give it myself. Mr. Innell was in the room, and he said he should think it would be quite right to give them something; it was the day before the Fast-day; the list was handed to Brewer Monk of the names.

3042. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know those clerks yourself?—I had seen them there; I did not know them by name.

3043. Did you know who they were?—I do not remember their names now at all. I gave a list of their names to Mr. Monk.

3044. Can you say whether they were electors?—I do not know; I should think not, most of them.

3045. What money passed through your hands during the time you were in the committee-room?—This is all (*producing a book*).

3046. What is the amount?—£25 I received from Mr. Wilton. 11*l.* 16*s.* I expended, and handed him back the balance.

3047. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What Mr. Wilton was that?—Mr. Robert Wilton.

3048. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that the total sum you expended?—Yes. After the election was over I handed Mr. Brewer Monk 50*l.* on account of messengers and clerks. It merely passed through my hands. That was some days after the election; eight or ten days, I think.

3049. From whom did you receive that money?—Mr. Bretherton.

3050. Do you know of any persons who were bribed before or during the election?—Not one.

3051. Do you know of any persons who gave any money to any persons to be employed in bribery?—Not one.

3052. Did you receive any further sum after the election besides the 50*l.* which you state you received from Mr. Bretherton?—I received a sum for my own services.

3053. That sum is returned in the election agent's account, is it not?—Yes; I received nothing but what is in the return.

3054. What was the amount you received?—Twenty-eight guineas.

3055. Excepting the 28 guineas, and the 50*l.* which you paid to Brewer Monk, and the 25*l.* which you received from Robert Wilton, do you undertake to say no money passed through your hands in connexion with the election?—Only Mr. Ellis's amount; what was paid to him. I acted as Mr. Ellis's clerk.

3056. What do you mean by "Mr. Ellis's amount?"—The amount that was carried into the election auditor's account.

3057. (*Mr. Fitzgerald*) How much?—£50.

3058. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean the amount which was paid to Mr. Ellis for his fee?—Yes; and I handed to Mr. Bretherton Mr. Price's share of the auditor's account.

3059. Did you keep any account of the committee-rooms that were established in other parts of the city?—No, I did not.

3060. Was there any list of persons made to whom the election was to be entrusted at a distance?—Not by me. I think some of the parties in the different districts formed district committees of themselves.

3061. Was there any list made of persons to whom the affairs of the election were to be entrusted in other parts of the city?—Well, there were some names given to me, to whom I was to send books with the lists of parties in their districts.

3062. What were the names of those persons?—I do not remember. I know Moss was in the east district.

3063. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who was in the south district?—I forget who was mentioned in the south.

3064. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that Mr. Moss a builder?—Yes.

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3065. Who was named in the south?—I do not know; I know the person to whom I gave the list.

3066. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is his name?—Mr. Davis.

3067. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

3068. What is he?—He is clerk to Messrs. Phillpotts & Co. If I remember right, he is the person to whom I gave the list.

3069. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To whom did you give the list for the Northgate-street district?—Somebody told me to send it to Mr. Isacke, and I sent it to him, but he returned it to me again.

3070. To whom afterwards did you send it?—I do not know at all who had it; I almost think that Mr. Moss had that list, but I am not sure.

3071. With respect to the Northgate and Westgate, was there any list sent to any person irrespective of those you have mentioned?—I know Mr. Biggs had a list from us, but I do not think he attended to it much.

3072. What is he?—I think he is a tobacconist.

3073. I understood you to say that you sent lists to each of these different persons?—Yes; lists made in memorandum books.

3074. Lists of what?—Of the voters in the districts.

3075. Lists of voters in the districts that those parties were to canvass?—Yes; to bring returns of the voters named there.

3076. Was any intimation given, at the time those lists were sent, as to what steps it would be necessary to take for the purpose of obtaining the votes of any of those parties?—No; merely to return the answer, "yes" or "no," if they had promised or not.

3077. Did you receive returns from those various persons whose names you have given?—Some of them, I think.

3078. Did those parties see you from time to time with regard to the progress of the election?—Some of them.

3079. Did those parties see you from time to time with regard to the progress of the election?—Some of them I know did.

3080. Did they all see you?—Moss did; I saw him twice; I do not know that I saw Mr. Isacke more than once; Biggs was backwards and forwards in and out of the committee-room.

3081. He came and saw you from time to time?—Yes.

3082. Did they, when they came to see you with regard to the returns, point out to you at any time the names of persons who in their judgment it would be necessary to bribe?—No. They merely went through the list with me, and I asked them for whom they had promised, and they said either "Price," "Monk," or "Carden," and if they had not promised at all they said "not promised."

3083. Will you undertake to say that no communication was made to you by any of those parties in the course of the election that it would be necessary to resort to bribery for the purpose of obtaining any of the votes of electors in their district?—No more than I have sometimes asked why different parties had not promised, and they said most likely they were waiting to see what they could get.

3084. Do you remember the names of the persons with respect to whom that charge was made?—Not one; for I took no note whatever of any of them.

3085. You directed their attention to certain persons who had not promised?—Merely as we went down the list in the book.

3086. Although you went down the list, do you mean to represent you did not take any notice of the names with regard to whom that charge was made?—I took no note of them; only when there was no return I asked them why, and as to one or two of them I understood that that was the reason.

3087. That they had not promised because they were keeping back to see what they could get?—Yes.

3088. About how many should you think that applied to?—I cannot say. I do not think I asked the question half a dozen times. They merely answered "promised" or "not promised," if they had no return from them.

3089. Can you say from your recollection about what number of persons it was to whom that charge would be applicable?—I cannot say.

3090, A hundred?—Oh no; there was no calculation of that kind made on purpose for me to take any note of it.

3091. Cannot you afford us any information upon that subject?—No, none whatever; I took no note of any person except those who had really promised.

3092. I do not ask you as to any note, but as to your memory, with regard to the number of persons about whom it was said that they were hanging back to see what they could get for their votes?—I may have heard it of a dozen or from that to 20. I could not say.

3093. Do you remember by whom that charge was made?—No, I do not.

3094. Was it made by Mr. Moss, the builder?—He did mention one or two.

3095. Was it made by Mr. Davis?—I think he mentioned one or two.

3096. Was it mentioned by Mr. Isacke?—I do not remember hearing him mention any.

3097. Was it mentioned by Mr. Biggs?—I do not think that Mr. Isacke or Mr. Biggs did, but all the others may have mentioned it; I could not say positively whether they did or not.

3098. About how long before the election do you remember was it that you heard those observations made by those parties?—It was from time to time.

3099. As the canvass proceeded?—Yes.

3100. Were you not from what you heard under the impression that bribery would be necessary in order to ensure the return of the Liberal candidates?—No. I thought it was quite the other way, from what I heard. They brought very good returns to me, and I thought it would not be necessary.

3101. From your experience in other elections, and bringing that experience to bear upon the last election, were you of opinion, from the character of the returns, that bribery would not be necessary?—Yes.

3102. Did that opinion undergo any change?—Not at all; I was very much astonished afterwards when I heard that there had been bribery.

3103. And did you remain down to the close of the election, of opinion that bribery would not be requisite to ensure the return of your candidates?—Yes, I did.

3104. Am I to understand you to say that you were not at all aware that any bribery was being practised in the town?—Not a single penny that I knew of was being spent in bribery.

3105. Were you not aware that a very large number of messengers was being employed?—I did not know the number at all; there were men round the door and in the lower rooms. I did not know whether they were messengers or not. Whenever I wanted a messenger I called out for one, and one came, sometimes one and sometimes another, and the same with respect to the clerks.

3106. Did you not know in what character the persons who were in the rooms were attending there?—I knew that the clerks were clerks from their sitting at the table writing. I did not know their names, many of them.

3107. Was there a larger number than you had been in the habit of seeing at former elections?—Do you mean clerks in the committee-room?

3108. Clerks and messengers?—I did not know who were the messengers at all; there may have been more clerks than there were at the last election, but I almost forget how many were employed at the election before.

3109. Do you mean to represent that you did not know that the persons down stairs were messengers

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—I did not know who were messengers and who were not. Whenever I wanted a messenger I called out for one, and one came.

3110. You knew there were messengers there?—Yes.

3111. Is the meaning you wish to convey this:—that you were unable to distinguish between who were and who were not messengers?—I did not know who were messengers and who were not.

3112. Have you had any communication since the election with Mr. Ellis with respect to the money spent at the election?—I made up the accounts; I assisted him to make up the accounts for the auditor.

3113. Was that account made up by yourself in conjunction with Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Smith?—It was.

3114. Did Mr. Ellis take part in the making up of that account?—I do not know whether he saw them; I think the list was shown to him; I am not sure. Mr. Bretherton was appointed to receive the bills that came in, and all bills that came were sent to him.

3115. Did you know at the time of the preparation of that account that certain sums were omitted to be entered although they had been paid?—It was not so in the first place; the account was prepared for the auditor with every sum put down right, as it should be.

3116. I am speaking of the account that was prepared by the election agent, to be sent in to the election auditor?—Yes; in the preparation of that account every item was put down as it should be.

3117. In the first place?—Yes.

3118. When was it that an alteration was made in the account which had been so prepared?—While I was in London.

3119. Did you not take part at all in that alteration?—No. When I came back I understood it had been altered because the petition was on; and when I came back the petition was over, and I went to Mr. Bretherton, and we tried to alter it back exactly as it was in the first place, but there was some difficulty, because we could not find the old statement.

3120. Were you absent from Gloucester at the time when it was considered necessary that an alteration should be made in order to conceal certain statements that it was not thought advisable to submit to the committee?—I was in London at that time.

3121. When you came back to Gloucester you heard that an alteration had been made?—Yes; and it was the last evening for sending in the account to the auditor that I returned from London.

3122. Did you go to London upon the petition?—Yes.

3123. Was it your belief before you went to London that the account which had been made out for the election agent was a true return of all the monies that had been expended?—The one that was to go in to the auditor do you mean?

3124. No. Was it your belief that the account which was prepared for the election auditor comprehended all the sums which had been expended on behalf of the Liberal candidates?—With the exception of some printers' bills; there were some items in the printers' bills that were thought not legal, and therefore they were struck out.

3125. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) That was in the first account?—In the first account.

3126. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That was when the account was first prepared?—When it was first prepared.

3127. What items were those?—I do not know how much it was. It was for printing squibs, I think. Mr. Smith and Mr. Bretherton said that whoever ordered them ought to pay for them; that it was not legal to carry them into the account.

3128. Was the objection confined to those items, the printers' accounts?—I do not remember any others.

3129. Was that the only reason that was given why they should not be included in the account?—That was the only reason.

3130. When was it that you first of all knew that that account did not comprehend all the money which had been expended excepting those items for printing?—When did I first know of the alteration do you mean?

3131. No. When was it you first knew that other monies had been expended besides those monies which were included in the election agent's account?—Do you mean monies for bribery?

3132. Yes?—When I was in London; when it came out before the committee.

3133. Has any person made a communication to you since as to any monies that had been paid by himself in the purchase of votes?—No.

3134. Since your return from London?—No.

3135. Have you had a conversation upon this subject with different gentlemen in Gloucester?—Not more than as to what was said at the House of Commons.

3136. My question was, since your return from London have you had any conversation with gentlemen in Goucester as to what had taken place during the election?—No.

3137. You have not?—No; not that I remember, more than in common conversation with people about the town.

3138. Has any information been conveyed to you as to persons who gave bribes or persons who were bribed?—No.

3139. Do you know of any monies that have been paid in bribery besides those monies that were stated in the evidence given before the committee in London to have been so expended?—No.

3140. Did Mr. Ellis ever tell you of any arrangement that was come to as to the mode in which the election expenses of the two candidates should be divided?—No; he never mentioned it.

3141. Were you instructed that the proper mode of sharing the expenses was an equal division?—I have heard it mentioned since the election that Mr. Monk had agreed to pay two thirds, and Mr. Price one third.

3142. You heard that since the election?—In conversation with some one; I do not know who it was.

3143. Did you hear that before the preparation of the account?—Not before; I do not remember hearing it before.

3144. Did you know of any public houses being opened or being kept open for the entertainment of electors during the election?—No, I did not.

3145. Can you give a list of the names of the persons that were in the habit of attending your committee-room?—I remember some of them.

3146. Can you supply us with a list when you leave the court?—I will try and remember.

3147. A list of all you saw come into the committee-room?—I will try and remember them.

3148. (*Mr. Welford.*) In keeping the returns of the canvass, what entries did you make?—We went over the lists with the persons making the returns, and the names were called over, and they said, "Price and Monk," or "Price and Carden," and so on.

3149. And in cases where no promise had been given, what did you do?—Made no return.

3150. Did you make any entry then?—No; I left them open, as they are here: this is just as it was at the time; I have not altered it since.

3151. Then if on a subsequent day it was found that any man who had been left in blank had promised either the one side or the other, when a return was brought to you of it you filled it up?—Yes.

3152. From day to day, did you make up the account on both sides?—Yes.

3153. Was your duty in the committee room confined to making up the returns?—I prepared the books that were wanted to be used on the day of the election, and so on.

3154. Did you give canvassing books to anybody besides the gentlemen you have mentioned, Mr. Isacke, Mr. Davis, Mr. Moss, and Mr. Biggs, do you recol-

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lect ?—Whoever asked for a list had it ; I had a great number of lists made out.

3155. Just tell me, from your recollection, to whom you gave canvassing books besides those you have mentioned ?—I cannot remember.

3156. Did you give Mr. Jefferson Bryon any ?—No ; I do not remember him.

3157. Or Jeffs ?—No ; I do not remember it.

3158. Mr. Hutton ?—No.

3159. Mr. Brewer Monk ?—No ; he never had any of the lists, that I remember. I think he had a book of his own.

3160. Who canvassed the out-voters ?—Mr. Abell and Mr. Herbert.

3161. What is Mr. Abell ?—A solicitor.

3162. And Mr. Herbert ?—He is a solicitor.

3163. Did you get any return from them ?—Yes ; and Mr. Richards.

3164. Is he a solicitor ?—Yes.

3165. Did either of those three gentlemen account to you for the reason why any of the voters had not promised ?—No.

3166. They did not tell you that they were waiting for what they could get ?—No ; they merely brought me "yes," or "no," or "not promised"; or they said, "Price," "Monk," or "Carden."

3167. Was there a messengers' room ?—There was a room down stairs in which the messengers were.

3168. Did you go into it ?—I remember going in once, and calling for a messenger. I think it was on the day of the nomination.

3169. How long were any clerks employed ?—All the while I was there.

3170. How many do you say there were employed during that time ?—I cannot say exactly ; I never counted them. I should think sometimes there may have been fifteen, or from that to twenty ; or there may have been more than that.

3171. What were they all doing ; were they writing, or how were they employed ?—Some of them were writing.

3172. And how many messengers did you see ?—I saw a great many men about the door. I did not know whether they were messengers or not.

3173. When you called for a messenger, and one came, you did not know whether he was a messenger who was paid, or a volunteer, or what ?—No, I did not.

3174. Who paid Mr. Price's share of the expenses after the election was over ?—I paid it to Mr. Bretherton.

3175. From whom did you receive it ?—Mr. Ellis.

3176. What did it amount to ?—The amount of the auditor's account, with the exception of the 50*l.* to himself, and the amount of 28 guineas to me.

3177. Do you mean the whole, or half of the amount, or what ?—His share was 400*l.* and something.

3178. It was the half then ?—Yes.

3179. Then the sum you paid for Mr. Price's expenses amounted to one half of the amount charged in the auditor's account, except the 50 guineas retained for Mr. Ellis, and the 28 guineas retained for yourself ?—I do not remember anything else being stopped; it was somewhere about that amount.

3180. Have you told us now all the sums that passed through your hands during the election with reference to the election ?—Yes ; I paid the auditor 40*l.*, 20*l.* from Mr. Ellis, and 20*l.* from Mr. Jones, to tender to the under-sheriff.

3181. That was after the election ?—Yes.

3182. From whom did you receive that money?—That 20*l.* was stopped as well. I received 20*l.* from Mr. Jones, and 20*l.* from Mr. Ellis.

3183. And you stopped 20*l.* yourself from Mr. Price's account ?—Yes.

3184. When did you first know of the alteration of the account that was made out for the election auditor. You say the alteration was made when you were in London ?—Yes.

3185. When did you first know of the alteration ?—I do not remember whether it was before I left London, or when I first arrived in Gloucester.

3186. You arrived in Gloucester the last day on which the account could be delivered ?—Yes.

3187. Was the account then altered back again ?—As far as we could remember. We could not find the original account, the old one, and we tried to remember as near as we could.

3188. You assisted in that attempt to remember, did you ?—Yes, I did.

3189. Then the danger arising from a discovery before the committee having passed by, you endeavoured to put the account into the shape in which it had been originally prepared ?—As I had left it.

3190. What was the difference between the account as originally made out and that ultimately sent in to the election auditor ?—There were one or two solicitors names left out, I know.

3191. Why were they left out ?—I was told that the reason why they were left out was that they thought the agency might be shown if they were left in.

3192. Was Mr. Evans one of those who were left out ?—Yes.

3193. Why did they fear that Mr. Evans's agency should be proved?—I do not know at all.

3194. What part had Mr. Evans taken in the election ?—I think he was in the north district.

3195. Then you think Mr. Evans was one of the gentlemen from whom you received returns as to the north district ?—I remember he did come into the committee-room, and make returns.

3196. Did Mr. Evans tell you that some of the voters who had not promised were waiting to ascertain what they could get ?—I do not remember that he did.

3197. Do you remember that he did not ?—I do not think he did.

3198. Was Mr. Roberts one of the gentlemen left out ?—Yes, he was.

3199. His name was omitted from the account altogether, was it not, when it was altered ?—Yes.

3200. And for the same reason, or for what reason?—Yes ; that was the reason that was stated to me. I had no knowledge of the reason myself, for it was done while I was away.

3201. What is Mr. Evans ?—He is a solicitor.

3202. Where does he live ?—I do not know where he is living ; his name is William Martin Evans.

3203. Does he live in Gloucester?—Yes.

3204. William Martin Evans ?—I think that is the name.

3205. What part did Mr. Roberts take in the election ?—I do not know; he was backwards and forwards; I do not know whether he brought me in any returns or not ; a great many brought me in returns which I merely entered on a slip of paper.

3206. You do not know what district Mr. Roberts took ?—No, I do not ; I have some idea that it was in the north too, but I am not sure.

3207. Did you hear for what reason they feared his being shown to be an agent?—I do not know that any reason was given as to any one in particular.

3208. But you were a party first of all to making out a true account, then you found that the account had been altered to an untrue account, and then you assisted in endeavouring to bring it back to a true account again. Did you during that time hear any reasons for these alterations or falsifications of accounts ?—Only that which I mentioned at first.

3209. With reference to the proof of agency ?—Yes.

3210. What alteration was made in Brewer Monk's account ?—He was left out altogether.

3211. Was there any body else left out altogether ?—Probert was left out.

3212. Was Hutton left out altogether ?—Yes, I have found since that he was ; those names were left out because they were forgotten, or else they would have been put in again.

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3213. Was that reason given to you?—They would have been put in had they not been forgotten. We tried to remember those we could, and put them in according to the account that was made out in the first place.

3214. Monk, Probert, and Hutton were in in the first instance, were they?—They were.

3215. And they were omitted in the second?—Yes.

3216. What was the reason why those three were omitted?—It was understood, in the first place, that they were omitted on account of proving agency.

3217. Then why were they not restored?—They were forgotten.

3218. Do you recollect Monk's amount; was it 15*l.*?—Yes, it was.

3219. Probert's account; was that 15*l.*; you say he was omitted?—Yes; in the first place he was down, I think, for 10*l.*

3220. Not 15*l.*?—I do not know whether it was altered; that was the first amount that was put down; whether it was altered before it was made up I do not remember.

3221. Do you remember Hutton's amount?—I do not.

3222. Was it 7*l.* 10*s.*?—Somewhere thereabouts.

3223. Then there were some printers' accounts omitted?—Yes; those were not in the first accounts, not the printers'.

3224. And how much was that struck out; 13*l.* 8*s.*?—I do not remember the amount.

3225. Mr. Henley's; was he struck out of the first account?—Not in the first.

3226. The Gloucester Journal?—Yes.

3227. And Gardiner?—I do not know as to Gardiner.

3228. Were there any sums entered as payments in the account sent in to the election auditor that had not been paid?—They were not paid when the account was sent in to the auditor.

3229. They never were paid?—None of the accounts were paid when the accounts were first sent in to the auditor.

3230. How much was charged in that account to Mr. Ellis?—£50.

3231. And nothing more?—Only 50*l.*

3232. How much to Mr. Jones?—£50.

3233. And nothing more?—No.

3234. Are you sure of that?—Only 50*l.*; Mr. Ellis returned 30*l.*, and Mr. Jones 25*l.*, I understood.

3235. Those were the sums charged and ultimately returned?—Yes, some of them; some parts of them.

3236. How much money did you receive from Mr. Robert Wilton?—£25.

3237. And how much of that money did you expend?—£11. 16*s.*, I think.

3238. The whole of the amount you so expended is stated in that little book?—Yes; those entries were made at the time in pencil, as they are now.

3239. And the balance you repaid?—Yes.

3240. And the sums you have now named are all the sums you paid or received during or since the election, or before the election?—Yes; they are all that I have any remembrance at all of.

3241. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) Were the sums which you put into the book brought into the account which went into the election auditor?—Yes; they are charged in the petty payments.

3242. Did you ask Mr. Robert Wilton for the money, or did he volunteer it?—I asked him if there would be pens and ink and paper at the committee-rooms, and he said, "I will give you some money on account," and he did so.

3243. How soon was this before the election?—I think it was the day before I went down.

3244. Did you consider Mr. Wilton to be the agent?—No; Mr. Wilton told me he was not going to take an active part in this election.

3245. Did he tell you how he came to advance you money?—He said he would advance it to me and I could account to him for it; and directly after the election was over I returned it.

3246. Did he give it to you as clerk to Mr. Ellis? Did he treat you as acting for the candidate?—He told me that it was arranged that I should go down to the committee-room; he did not say by whom.

3247. Mr. Robert Wilton?—Yes; it was he who first mentioned to me about going down.

3248. Was Mr. Ellis at that time the duly appointed agent for Mr. Price?—Mr. Ellis has always been Mr. Price's agent; but they were not duly appointed at that time; it was some time before the election.

3249. (*Mr Welford.*) Did Mr. Ellis direct you to go down?—He said it was arranged; he had given up my time.

G. P. Wilkes.

GEORGE PETERS WILKES sworn and examined.

3250. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you employed professionally as a solicitor by the friends of the Liberal candidate at the last election?—No.

3251. You took part in the conduct of the election, I believe?—I took no part in the conduct of the election; I took part in the election, but not in the conduct of the election.

3252. You took no part in the management of the election?—None whatever.

3253. What part did you take?—I canvassed voluntarily and separately some few individuals that I knew.

3254. Whom did you canvass?—I cannot undertake to say that I can recollect every person I canvassed.

3255. You say you canvassed a few individuals?—Yes; persons I am acquainted with. Shall I begin by enumerating them as far as my memory will go?

3256. If you please?—I canvassed a Mr. William Murrell, in Littleworth.

3257. What is he?—I do not think he is in any business at present. He did keep a district post-office. I think he now distils peppermint, or something of that kind.

3258. Who else did you canvass?—I canvassed him through his wife. I afterwards saw a person, a Mr. George Shergold, who is a son-in-law of Mr. Murrell.

3259. At the same place?—He came there on the morning of the poll. He was living at Cheltenham. He had left the residence which qualified him.

3260. Had he no vote?—He was entitled to vote, though, I believe, on a scrutiny, his vote would have been taken off, but he was on the register, and entitled to vote.

3261. Who else did you canvass?—I canvassed James Dowding, in Bell Lane.

3262. What is he?—He is an innkeeper there and I canvassed a Mr. Edmund Axten, who is a beer-seller in Eastgate Street; and a Mr. James White, in St. Aldate Street.

3263. What is he?—He is a beerhouse keeper.

3264. Who else did you canvass?—I canvassed a Mr. George Kent in the Island; he is a baker; and I canvassed a Mr. James Nichols, of Highnam, a little way out of the town.

3265. What is he?—A tailor. I think I did canvass Mr. William Stevens, living also at Highnam Green. If I did, it was a mere matter of compliment, being acquainted with him. I may have asked him as a compliment to vote; I knew how he would vote without asking him; I would not say I did not ask him.

3266. Any more?—I canvassed a Mr. James Brown, a butcher in Barton Street; and I asked the wife of a Mr. Ephraim Houldey about her husband's vote: I never saw him.

3267. Where does he live?—He lives in Bear Land near the back of the Shire hall; I believe that is where his residence is. I canvassed Mr. Henry Cox, in Blackfriars Lane.

3268. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is he?—He lived

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there then, he does not live there now; he was a beer-house keeper at that time, but he has given it up. I do not at this moment recollect any more, but probably there are a few more.

3269. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you canvass any of the persons, whose names you have mentioned, on more occasions than one?—Some of them probably I did, and some of them not.

3270. Let me draw your attention to the name of William Murrell of Littleworth; did you canvass him on several occasions?—I saw him on several occasions, but I do not consider that I canvassed him more than once, because he promised me the first time I asked him.

3271. He promised you at once, did he?—Yes.

3272. Had he voted for the Liberal candidates at former elections?—He had been deprived of his vote in consequence of keeping the post-office.

3273. This was the first election at which he had a vote since keeping the post-office?—I believe it was.

3274. Did you offer any money to him?—I did.

3275. What did you offer him?—I believe it was 3*l.*; I believe he would have voted without receiving any offer at all, by my simply asking him, because he was under an obligation to me, but he was a poor man.

3276. You offered him 3*l.* to vote because he was a poor man?—He would have voted, I believe, without my giving him a halfpenny, but knowing he was poor, and believing (as in fact I shall presently prove) that he would be tempted with money to vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden, I did make him an offer in order to induce him to resist the temptation.

3277. Did he tell you at the time you offered him the 3*l.* that money had been offered to him by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—Not at that time, but subsequently, before he received the money from me.

3278. When you made him the offer of 3*l.*, were you aware that any offer had been made to him by the other side?—No, I do not know that I was; I think they mentioned to me that several gentlemen on the Blue side had been there asking for his vote, but I do not believe they said that any offer had been made.

3279. The offer of 3*l.* for his vote was an offer you made him before you had any intimation that he had been bribed on the other side?—I believe so; it was only a conviction on my own mind that he would be bribed if he had not been.

3280. I understood you to say you made him that offer from feelings of humanity, because he was a poor man?—No, not exactly that; I do not say so. He was a poor man, I knew. I believed, from my knowledge of Conservative tactics in Gloucester, that an offer would be made to him by somebody on behalf of the Conservative party, and therefore I thought he was entitled to something in order to enable him to resist any such temptation; I think I gave him a few shillings at that time; nearly five shillings. I think I also, in the interval before the polling day, gave him either two half-crowns or another five shillings; that was between the first five shillings and the polling day; it might be perhaps seven shillings and sixpence.

3281. And when did you pay the remainder?—He promised me that he would not go to poll until I came for him on the polling day, and I went down there to him to keep my promise; I think that was about eleven o'clock on the polling day, when the vote was quite useless.

3282. What time was it?—As nearly as I can recollect it was about eleven o'clock.

3283. Did you then pay him the remainder of the 3*l.*?—I paid him then 4*l.* I did not take into account the seven and sixpence or ten shillings or whatever it might happen to be that I had given him before; I did not deduct that from the 4*l.*, and I will tell you why: I said to him, I think, "Are you ready "to come and poll?" He said, "Yes, sir," and I believe it was his wife or him, I would not say which, but I believe it was his wife, said, "Oh, sir, Mr. "Stamper has been here this morning and offered us "4*l.* a piece for our votes." I do not exactly and never did understand what she meant by "4*l.* apiece," whether it was 4*l.* for the vote and 4*l.* for the wife, but she will perhaps explain how it was; I did not then clearly understand it, and I thought I would be as generous as Mr. Stamper, and I gave 4*l.*

3284. You were only half as generous?—Only half as generous.

3285. I thought you said that when you went down at eleven o'clock the vote was useless?—Quite useless; I considered it so because the state of the poll at that time, I think, showed a majority of more than a hundred for the Liberal candidates, and the reason why I acted as I did was that he had promised not to go and vote before I came to him. I thought he had honestly performed his promise by resisting Mr. Stamper's temptation, and I thought he ought not to suffer for it, and therefore I gave him the money.

3286. And you took him down to poll?—No, I did not. He went in a fly with another person who was there, whose name I have also mentioned.

3287. Who was that?—The son-in-law, George Shergold.

3288. Did Murrell poll and record his vote for Price and Monk?—I believe he did; I did not see him poll. Subsequently Mrs. Murrell informed me when there was a noise about the petition. I saw them, to know whether they had been giving any information, and she told me they should do the Conservatives no good, for, in addition to Mr. Stamper's offer, Mr. Buchanan, who was one of the petitioners against Price and Monk, or one of the sureties, had also called upon them several times, soliciting Mr. Murrell for his vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden.

3289. Who was that?—Mr. George Buchanan; that upon his pressing either her or the husband for the vote,—I do not know that she mentioned which it was,—she mentioned to him that they were under obligations to a Yellow gentleman (I suppose she meant myself), and that they owed him 10*l.* for interest on a mortgage. The fact was, I believe, that there was only 5*l.* in arrear for interest at that time; I would not be sure whether the other half year's interest was not accruing. At any rate she told me she had told him it was 10*l.* She said that Mr. Buchanan said something like this, "Ah, my good woman, I am very "sorry for you. There are a great number of per-"sons who are under obligations to Yellow gentlemen "besides you, otherwise they would vote for Sir "Robert Carden," or something to that effect was said; and then some intimation was made by her or by Mr. Buchanan,—I think by her to him,—I forget the exact words, to the effect that they were in want of this 10*l.*, and that it would be very useful to them. I cannot give the exact words,—that Mr. Buchanan said it was all left in Mr. Lovegrove's hands; that he would speak to Mr. Lovegrove about it, and see if it could be managed, or something of that kind,—managed or arranged, or some such word,—I would not swear to the exact word. She then told me that Mr. Buchanan had called upon her again, and said he had seen Mr. Lovegrove, and spoken to him about it, and that it would be all right.

3290. Is that all the statement?—No; I believe she also told me (that is the impression on my mind, but I would not swear positively to the fact,) that Mr. Lovegrove subsequently called himself, and gave her an intimation that it would be all right.

3291. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is this William Henry Murrell?—No; it is William Murrell. I would not venture to swear positively that she did tell me that, but I believe she did, and it is the firm impression on my mind that she did so, but she will be able to say herself whether she did or not.

3292. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Does Mr. William Murrell live there now?—Yes, he does.

3293. That is the statement made to you?—Yes, as nearly as I can recollect the words.

3294. That statement, I understand you to say,

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was made on the polling day?—No; after the petition was presented. I felt somewhat anxious, and particularly so when I knew these petitions had been presented against Price and Monk, on the ground of bribery and treating, if I could to obtain some sort ot counter-information, and I believe that was how it happened that she came to tell me this.

3295. Now, with regard to George Shergold?—He did have money from me; and I will tell you exactly how it happened. He had rented a house of an uncle of mine in Littleworth; a house that he had left clandestinely in the night-time, leaving a quarter's rent unpaid; I was informed that he had left it clandestinely; I did not know it of my own knowledge, but I knew that he had left the house, and taken his things away.

3296. Leaving a quarter's rent unpaid?—Yes; and he was afraid, I believe, of his being discovered, for fear some proceedings should be taken against him with respect to the 4*l.*, I think it was, that was due; that was the amount of the rent due, and, in strictness, there was another quarter accruing.

3297. That was what he owed you?—Not me, but an uncle of mine; and I occasionally looked after the property for him, and let it, if I could. I believe I let the house to this very man; both parties, I believe, were trying to find out where he was gone to; and those who made inquiries were unsuccessful. I inquired of Mrs. Murrell if she knew where he was to be found, and she hesitated in telling me for some time, for fear my object was to take proceedings against him.

3298. Did you ascertain where he was?—No, I did not. Mrs. Murrell said if she went to Cheltenham most likely she should be able to find him out; and I gave her half-a-crown or five shillings to go and try to find him out; and I believe I authorized her, either then or subsequently, to tell him that if he would oblige me by voting for Price and Monk no proceedings should be taken against him in respect of this 4*l.*, and that he need not be afraid to come to Gloucester to vote on that account.

3299. Did he come over?—He came over the night before the nomination, and stayed at the house of William Murrell, so far as I was informed.

3300. And did he vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; but there was something more happened between us before then. I wish to tell you the exact truth. When I went down to see William Murrell, in the morning about eleven o'clock, I was told that Shergold was in the front parlour; the little room in front. I had previously been told by Mr. Murrell about this 4*l.* apiece and Mr. Stamper; and it passed through my mind at the time whether this party had been offered anything by Mr. Stamper. I did not ask him; but when I went into the room he said, "Oh, you are here, Sir," or I said, "Oh, you are come;" and he said, "I hope you will see me clear of that rent, Sir, "as Mrs. Murrell told me you would;" and I said I would. I think he asked me to give him a receipt for it; that I will not be quite sure about; but I declined to do it. I said he must trust to my honour. I believe those were the words I used. Then he said, "I hope, "Sir, you will give me something to take my watch "out of pawn." I thought the man had lost two days' time, and had been at some expense in coming over and going back, and I gave him 30*s.* I did not ask him what he wanted. I think he did say the watch was in pawn for 18*s.*, but I will not be sure whether he did or not; that is the impression on my mind.

3301. You gave him 30*s.*?—Yes; and I afterwards paid the 4*l.* rent to my uncle.

3302. You paid that yourself?—I did, in order that he might be no loser by my generosity to Shergold. I had no authority from him to give up anything on his account, and I paid it to him. Shergold went up with Murrell to poll, and polled, I believe, at the same time for Price and Monk.

3303. Have you any statement to make with regard to any communication which had been made to him by Stamper?—No, I did not ask the question. I do not know at all whether any was. I have no doubt there would have been if they had known where to find him; but I made Mrs. Murrell promise me not to let anybody know where he was to be found, so that I might be sure of him.

3304. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) He cost you altogether 5*l.* 10*s.* then?—Yes, and a trifle more, because I paid Mrs. Murrell 5*s.* or so for going over to Cheltenham to him.

3305. (*Mr Vaughan.*) £5 15*s.* was the price of the vote?—Yes, or thereabouts that is what the vote cost me.

3306. The next name, I think, is James Dowding; did you canvass him?—I canvassed him, and made him an offer.

3307. What did you offer him?—There was a preliminary conversation between us that induced me to do it on the spur of the moment. I did not make the offer seriously, I should say, at the time; there was something that led to it that I must tell you to make my story truthful.

3308. Tell us first what the offer was, and then explain it?—Will you allow me to explain it in my own way. I asked him if he had promised his vote, and he said he had not, that he had not made up his mind, and then he said he should be better able to talk to me if he had something to drink or a glass of wine or something of that sort; would I stand a bottle or would I stand a glass, I will not be sure which it was; but my impression is that it was would I stand a bottle or pay for a bottle; and I said I would, and I put a sovereign down on his little ledge, I think it is, at the bar, to pay for this bottle of wine, upon which he picked up the sovereign, put it in his pocket and walked off. I waited ever so many minutes in expectation that the bottle of wine would come back and the change; but Mr. Dowding did not make his appearance. Mr. William Henley was in company with me at this time, and I believe he heard all that passed. He said to me, "I must go and shut up my "shop, I cannot stop any longer."

3309. At what time was this?—I should think it was about half past ten on the Saturday night prior to the election; somewhere thereabouts; ten perhaps it might be, but I will not be sure of the time. I think he remarked upon that, "I must go and shut "up my shop, and we can come back and have this "wine." He went, and I believe I went with him to the shop and waited while he shut it up. We may have gone somewhere else in the interval before we returned to Dowding's, but I am not quite clear about that; at any rate we did return to Dowding's, and supper was on the table, and we had some supper. Either Henley or I said, "Come, Dowding, let us have "this bottle of wine," or some such words as those. He did not seem to move, and Mrs. Dowding came into the room, or we saw her passing the door, I cannot tell now exactly how that was, but either myself or Henley asked her to bring this bottle of wine, and she promptly responded, and brought a bottle of sherry, and we drank it. Henley had some, and I had some, and Dowding had some, and I think Mr. Barnett, who keeps the market, came in at some period of our stay there, and partook of the wine. I do not know that he heard much that happened between us. While we were drinking this wine I think it was either me or Henley, I rather think it was Henley, said, "Well, now, Dowding, take and make up "your mind; tell us what you will do." I think he replied, "I shall not make up my mind till Wednes-"day," or some such expression as that; either Tuesday or Wednesday, I do not know which day. By way of trying to find out how really he was inclined to vote, I said, or Henley said, "Will you "vote for Mr. Price?" I think his reply was, "I "should not vote for such a scamp as that;" and then one of us went on, "Will you vote for Mr. Monk;" and he replied, "I should not vote for such a fellow as "that," or some such words as those, some derogatory expression; and then one of us said, I will not be sure which, "Then of course you are going to vote for

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"Sir Robert Walter Carden?" On which he said, "I "would kick his ——" (using a vulgar expression) "out if he was to come into the house and ask me for "a vote." I thought that was a very curious thing that he did not like either of the candidates, and I came to the conclusion that he wanted to be bribed, especially as he said he should not make up his mind till Wednesday. I came to the conclusion then, coupled with the fact of his having taken the sovereign away and not bringing the wine, and his putting it off till Wednesday, that he wanted to be bribed, and I thought I would find out what his price was if he did. I believe Henley asked him if he would like to have a meeting there, and if so, he would get the Reform Club to come in a body and fill his house. I believe that was the expression; and I produced some money from my pocket; I believe it was 5*l.*; five sovereigns, I think. He has stated, I think, to some persons, that it was 7*l.* that I produced, I would not be sure which it was, but the impression on my mind is that it was 5*l.* I asked him, I think, if that would do, or some such words as those, leading him to believe that he could have it if he would vote for Price or Monk. He said, "I shall not make up my "mind till Wednesday" (I think that was the day he fixed); "if you will come then" (I believe that was his remark)—"if you will come then I will give you "an answer, or tell you what I mean to do."

3310. Did you go away?—I put the money back in my pocket, and left, he keeping the sovereign, and us leaving the supper and the bottle of wine unpaid for. He alleges that I said he was to keep the change.

3311. Did you see him again?—I did. I saw him about the middle of the day on the polling day, going up the Westgate Street from towards the polling booth, and I was rather curious to know how he had voted. I am not quite positive, but I believe this is true, that I followed him, and tapped him on the shoulder, and asked him how he had voted, and he said he had voted for Carden. That is the impression I have on my mind; I do not think anything more was said at that time. I afterwards discovered that his son was a clerk or something, or a messenger on Sir Robert Carden's committee. I was told that, and I have heard that there is some account owing there for treating on Sir Robert Carden's behalf, but I do not know anything of it as a fact.

3312. Were any meetings held at Dowding's house on the part of the Liberal candidates?—Not to my knowledge. You asked me how Murrell had voted before. Mr. Dowding, I believe, had voted before for Admiral Berkeley, in 1853, in the single-handed contest with Mr. Hope. There were no separate votes; he was obliged to vote a plumper one way or the other. He voted for Admiral Berkeley against Mr. Hope. At the next election he voted a plumper; I believe it was for Sir Robert Carden. In the meantime he had shifted from a beerhouse that he kept to a private house in Bell Lane, which he converted into a beer house, and afterwards procured a spirit licence for it, and there was an impression on my mind, and I believe on the mind of other persons, that that licence was given to him in consideration or on some promise that he would vote for a Conservative candidate at the next election. I do not know whether there is anything in it or not, but the impression that was created in my mind was that the Conservatives, having obtained, when the Conservative Government was in power, a new appointment of magistrates, and so got a majority, they gave this man his licence. That was the only way in which I could account for the change in his principles. I had no knowledge on the subject, but that was the impression on my mind.

3313. He removed to a house in Bell Lane?—Yes, which had been a private house.

3314. And which he converted into a beerhouse?—Which he converted into a beerhouse, and then applied for a spirit licence. I think it was after the licence was granted that he voted (the dates would prove that, I cannot be sure about it,) a plumper for Sir Robert Walter Carden, and we certainly had the impression that that which I have stated was the reason why he voted as he did.

3315. Did you intend that the sovereign which you put on the ledge of the bar should be regarded by him as an inducement for his vote?—No; I intended it to pay for the bottle of wine; that was the original intent, and I never altered from that.

3316. You did not intend it to be regarded by him as a bribe, but simply as treating?—Precisely. He asked me if I would stand a glass of wine, and I put down a sovereign, in order that he might bring the wine, and give me the change, instead of which he pocketed the sovereign, and did not bring me the wine.

3317. You received nothing for that sovereign except a portion of that bottle of wine?—Yes; I had supper.

3318. When you took out the five or seven sovereigns from your pocket, and showed them to him, and asked him if that would do, did you not intend that to be an offer of money for his vote?—I did not intend, at the time when I produced it to him, to give it to him; it was more rather to ascertain really whether he was open to a bribe, and if so what he expected to get. I do not say that if he had said, "Very well, I will take it, and vote for Price and Monk," I might not have allowed him to have it; but the intent with which the offer was made was really to ascertain whether he was bribeable, and secondly what he expected for his vote; and as he did not indignantly refuse the offer, but said he would not give an answer till Wednesday, I came to the conclusion that he was bribeable, and that 5*l.* or 7*l.* was not sufficient, and that in the interval he would see whether he could get more from the other side.

3319. Did you not intend to influence his mind when you produced to him that money from your pocket?—I think I must say that I did certainly. He did not intimate at all that he would take it, and he did not reject it at all, as I should have supposed a man would who felt offended at being offered a bribe. I should have thought he would have asked me if I intended to insult him; instead of that he said, "If "you will call again on Wednesday I will give you "an answer," or "I will make up my mind," or something like that.

3320. I understand you to say if he had promised to vote for Price and Monk at the time you produced that money you would have allowed him to keep it?—If I thought he had been sincere in the promise I should have allowed him to take it. I did not intend that when, on the spur of the moment, I produced it.

3321. Did you canvass Edmund Axten?—Edmund Axten I canvassed. I made him no offer at all; I asked him how he was going to vote, and he said he thought he had made up his mind to vote for Carden. I believe that those are the words; and I believe I said something like this to him, "Is there anything "that we can do," or "that I can do for you, that "will induce you to give one vote for Mr. Monk;" and he said, "I do not think there is;" those are the words, as near as I can recollect them.

3322. Your negociation with Axten did not proceed further than that?—A little further. I asked him if he would consider it, and he said, "Well, perhaps he would;" and I said I would call again; and I called again. I said, "Have you made up your "mind?" He said, "I have; I have made up my "mind to vote a plumper for Sir Robert Carden;" and I said nothing more. I thought he was a person that was not bribeable. I think I paid for two glasses of ale there, or something of that sort, I am not quite sure; but that had nothing to do with the vote.

3323. James White?—I canvassed him several times; I never offered him anything. I asked his wife to try to prevail on him to give a vote for Mr. Monk; I believe that that was it. I think I gave her a sovereign, as a sort of present to herself, to induce her to use her influence with him, but I believe that White himself never knew anything about it, and he

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does not know anything about it to this day. I am very sorry to mention it, but I do it because I am on my oath, and am sworn to tell the truth. I am not quite sure about the next fact. I believe I called again to know whether she had made any impression upon her husband, and my impression is that I gave her another sovereign under similar circumstances, but I am not quite sure about that; I may be wrong in my recollection of it. I had heard from somebody, but I am not sure who it was, that Sir Robert Walter Carden purchased a large quantity of bottled cider of Mr. White while he was on his canvass. I think it was Mr. Edwin Thomas, or somebody, that told me; I am not quite sure now that it was a fact. I think the sum I heard it came to was 10 guineas, or 10*l.*, or something like that, and that it had been paid for during the election.

3324. You say Sir Robert Carden, or some one who was with him, did this?—Either Sir Robert Walter Carden, or Mr. Lovegrove, his agent. I do not know this of my own knowledge; it was only what I heard Mr. Edwin Thomas, I think, should say. I do not think he told me of it himself; but somebody else, I think, told me.

3325. Who is Mr. Edwin Thomas?—A clerk to Mr. Smallridge, a solicitor in Gloucester, and he is in court now. Whether that had any influence on his vote, I cannot at all say; he is, I believe, a pretty independent man in his political principles.

3326. Do you know whether it is true that the cider was so purchased?—I do not.

3327. Or do you know whether the purchase of the cider had greater influence than the two sovereigns that you had given to his wife?—No, I do not think my two sovereigns had any influence; and I do not think he ever knew that his wife ever had them.

3328. You gave her two sovereigns to use her influence with him?—Yes, to try to persuade him; I do not know whether it was two sovereigns, if it was two it was only one at a time. I think she told me, while I was there canvassing with her, that there had been a leg of mutton supper there some few days before I called, for some of Sir Robert Walter Carden's messengers, I think it was, or friends; a leg of mutton dinner or a leg of mutton supper, I would not be sure which it was now; I dare say it was considered a dinner; I think it was some time in the afternoon, she told me; I think she mentioned, too, it was James Maysey who had ordered it; he is one of the active canvassers, and, as we consider,—I do not know whether it is a fact—but we presume he is one of the active bribers on the Conservative side. I think she said that James Maysey ordered the dinner or supper or whatever it was; I am not sure which it was, whether a dinner or a supper, but she did not at all lead me to suppose, nor did I infer from the circumstance, that it had any influence on Mr. White's vote; I thought it was more a matter to influence those who partook of it than Mr. White.

3329. It was capable of producing an influence both ways, was it not?—Yes; he afterwards did vote for Carden and Monk.

3330. I think you told me that James White was a beerseller?—Yes.

3331. Living in Saint Aldate Street?—Yes.

3332. The next name, I think, is George Kent?—

3333. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What parish is he in?—St. Nicholas, I believe.

3334. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Living in the Island as a baker?—Yes.

3335. What negociation took place between you and him?—I canvassed him several times to vote, I believe for Mr. Monk only; he lives in a house belonging to Mr. Goodrich, who owns a great number of houses in Gloucester, the tenants of which have votes, ever so many, I believe.

3336. What are the politics of Mr. Goodrich?—He is a Conservative, and I believe that whenever an election is about to take place, Mr. Goodrich, the first opportunity, canvasses all his tenants to vote in that interest.

3337. Where does Mr. Goodrich reside?—I believe at Maisemoor, a parish a little way out of Gloucester.

3338. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Within the borough?—No, his residence is not, but his houses are within it; that is, the property that belongs to him; and when I canvassed Mr. Kent, he mentioned to me that Mr. Goodrich had been there, and canvassed him for his vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden, and that he must give one to Sir Robert Walter Carden, because he did not wish to disoblige his landlord; I think that was it, or some such words as that; and, perhaps, while I mention Mr. Goodrich's name, I might mention two other tenants of his.

3339. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It will be more convenient to proceed with any other information you may have at a future period; I am only now taking your explanation with regard to these different persons whose names you have given?—He said he was to give one vote for Sir Robert Carden, and I did not press him otherwise, but I asked him to give one vote to Mr. Monk to oblige me, and he intimated that he would do so.

3340. And he did?—He did; but there was something else happened as to that. He afterwards voted for Carden and Monk, I believe. I saw him, I think it was the night of the nomination, and he gave some sort of intimation to me then, that he did not particularly care about voting for Carden if his voting for Price and Monk would be any obligation, or something of that kind was the word he used to me, and I promised to meet him the next morning, I think I named twelve o'clock, at his brother William's, in the Northgate Street, and I went there according to my promise, about, I should say it was a little later than twelve, between twelve and one.

3341. About 12?—I rather think it was later; and I saw him there in company with his sister, Mrs. Blackwell, and something was introduced about some consideration for his vote; he intimated to me that his sister could also get her husband, George Blackwell, to vote likewise, and I said, as the fact was, that I did not think that the votes were of the slightest consequence at that time; that there was a very large majority in favour of Price and Monk, but inasmuch as he had waited till 12 o'clock to oblige me, I was willing to do anything in reason, or some such words as that, and he said that if he took any money, or something of that kind, it would be bribery; that it would be considered as bribery, or something of that kind, and then he said to me, "You have got "10*l.* of mine in your hands," as the fact was, subject to a qualification; I had received 80*l.* for him, on his account, and I had paid him over 70*l.* of it, retaining the other ten in hand to answer some charges that I had to make against him in the matter, and he said, "If you will give me that 10*l.*, why, I will speak to "my sister, and I will vote for Mr. Monk, and my "sister will prevail on her husband, I have no doubt, "to vote for Price and Monk." The 10*l.*, I believe, that was mentioned, would be equal to 5*l.* each, and I assented to that. I told him if he voted he should have the 10*l.* some day, if he would call upon me; and he called upon me some fortnight or three weeks after, I think; I could not be sure exactly as to the time, and I gave him the 10*l.*; he received it as the 10*l.* which I had in my hands belonging to him; that was the way in which he received it.

3342. The 10*l.* were for charges?—No; I retained it to cover any charges that I might have, but I never made out any bill; I did not know what the charges would be.

3343. But you retained that 10*l.* to cover any charges which your bill might amount to?—Yes, I holding myself accountable to him for the 10*l.*, less the amount of that bill.

3344. Did you go into the charges afterwards?—I never did.

3345. Have you any notion what they amount to?—I issued a writ in a matter; I do not suppose I was a pound out of pocket, but I might, perhaps, as a

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lawyer, strictly make out a bill for attendances and letters, which lawyers can do, making it up 10*l.*; I judged, in my own mind, it might come to that; there was a correspondence with some solicitors, and I also considered that my services in the matter had been extremely useful to him; and when one succeeds for a client, doing him a great advantage, I myself expect to have a little per-centage beyond the ordinary bill for the extra good I have done to the person by the way in which I have conducted his business.

3346. You considered yourself fairly entitled to retain that 10*l.* for professional services?—I would not say I should be entitled to retain quite so much.

3347. What should you say?—Perhaps, from five to seven pounds, if I had made out a strict bill.

3348. That would have been the amount you would have expected to receive from him?—No; that would have been the strict bill. I think if nothing had happened about the voting, I should have considered myself fairly entitled to have retained the 10*l.*

3349. Had it not been for the intervention of the election, should you have considered yourself entitled to retain the 10*l.*?—Yes, I should have considered myself entitled to it; but it was an open matter between him and me, whether I should keep it or not. I said, "I think you ought to let me keep the 10*l.*"

3350. Having agreed to pay that 10*l.* over to him, did you not consider that that was a payment of 5*l.* to him for his vote, and a payment of 5*l.* to his sister for Blackwell's vote?—Yes, I did; I considered it so; but I do not think he did, or did not wish to.

3351. Where does Blackwell live?—He lives in Prince Street.

3352. What is he?—I think he is a stonemason. Mr. Kent told me, with respect to Blackwell, at some interview that happened between us, I could not exactly say when it was, that Blackwell was a member of the Conservative Club, which I did not know before, or I should have been afraid to have had anything to do with him. From what I heard subsequently transpire as to the ordeal they were put under, being turned out of the club, and so on, I should have been afraid to have had anything to do with him, for fear he might be forced to tell. And he also told me that his sister or Blackwell told him he had met Mr. Whithorn in the street, and that Mr. Whithorn had said, "Thee go home, Blackwell, "do not go on working for 3*s.* 6*d.* a-day, when you "can stop at home and have 5*s.* or 7*s.* 6*d.* a-day," I am not sure which he said, "for being on the Blue "committee, and you can play during that time." Mr. Whithorn saw him, he said, somewhere in the street at work, I think, and then he subsequently told me there was a municipal election happened just afterwards. Kent told me that his sister told him that at a municipal election which was happening just after for the east ward he was canvassed for the municipal election by Mr. John Ward and by Mr. Walter Clutterbuck, or she was canvassed for him, I will not be sure which.

3353. Did Blackwell's wife tell you this?—No; Kent told me that Blackwell's wife told him, that he was unwise or foolish to have voted for Price and Monk; that if he had voted for Carden he would have been paid,—I think the sum named was 4*l.*,—for being on the Blue committee.

3354. Kent told you what?—That Mr. Ward—Mr. John Ward and Mr. Walter Clutterbuck—came to their house to canvass him for the municipal election, and then said,—I think it was to her,—I do not think the husband was present,—"What a fool George must "be," or some such remark as that, "that he did not "vote for Carden, and voted for Price and Monk, "when he would have had 4*l.*"—I believe that was the sum mentioned—"for being on the Blue com-"mittee."

3355. Where does Mr. John Ward reside?—He resides, I believe, in Worcester Street.

3356. What is he?—I think he lives on his property; he is a builder, I believe, by profession; I do not think he carries it on now.

3357. And who is Mr. Walter Clutterbuck?—He is a solicitor in Gloucester. They are both of them very active agents on behalf of the Conservative party

3358. Is there any other Clutterbuck a solicitor besides Mr. Walter?—No, not in Gloucester.

3359. Then you canvassed James Nicholls?—I did.

3360. What did you offer to James Nicholls?—I asked him first of all for his vote for Price and Monk, I believe. I think he remarked that he did not think he should have any objection to vote for Mr Monk,—I believe that was it,—but that he would not vote for Mr. Price, as near as I can recollect.

3361. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What parish is he in?—Highnam in the parish of Churcham.

3362. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That he would vote for Mr. Monk but not for Mr. Price?—I do not think he said positively he would, but that he thought he would not have any objection. I said, "Why not for "Mr. Price?" Living a few miles from him I thought he would be more likely to vote for Mr. Price than for Mr. Monk; and he said, "I will tell you why, I "have got an outstanding account against the Liberal "party."

3363. What is he?—He is a tailor. "I have got an "outstanding account against the Liberal party." It was for refreshments, I believe, to voters, ever so many years ago; I forget the date. I did observe at the time when he kept an inn at Kingsholm,—I think it was an inn,—I could not be sure whether it was an inn or a beerhouse,—I think it was once an inn with the licence taken away,—I think it was an inn when he kept it, and afterwards some complaint was made against the house, and the licence was taken away,—and he said, "I ought to have been paid it many "years ago;" and he intimated—I am not sure he said it in words—that the nonpayment of that 16*l.* had caused him to desert or vote against the Liberal party, or something of that kind; that he ought to have been paid it, and he would never vote for them again until it was paid, or not vote for Mr. Price again till it was settled; and I then suggested a compromise of it; and whether there were any two sums mentioned or not I do not know, but eventually I believe I proposed to pay him 10*l.* in discharge of the account.

3364. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He is a freeman?—Yes, I believe he had always voted as a Liberal until he thought he was injured by this account being left unpaid.

3365. You proposed to pay him 10*l.* in discharge of the account that he might vote for Mr. Price?—Because his grievance should be removed; he would have no further reason for declining to do so.

3366. You paid him?—I gave him 5*l.* on account then, and the other 5*l.* I paid him on the afternoon of the polling day; I took no more notice of him; he said he should go and poll, and he did; I did not trouble any more about him; I thought he would keep his word, and I believe he did.

3367. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you inquire at all into the accuracy of the statement he made?—He showed me the book in which the entries were made of the different things that had been supplied, with the total; I think the total was 36*l.* with a credit of 20*l.*

3368. Did you inquire afterwards as to whether or not that claim was a valid claim?—I had some little knowledge myself that it was legitimate as regards the amount, but I am not quite sure whether it was not barred by the Statute of Limitations as to date, so that it could not be enforced; and I think also he had no one against whom he could proceed, though it was a standing grievance with him, and he would not vote for the Liberals until he had it discharged. I believe his principles were Liberal, but that it was a sort of grievance with him that he would not vote with the party until it was got rid of.

3369. His principles were considerably shaken by the nonpayment of that money?—Yes; there had been a sort of resolution that he would not vote for the

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Liberal party until it was arranged; that was what I understood from him.

3370. When you were willing to compromise that claim for 10*l.*, did you not think substantially you were agreeing to pay him a sum of money to secure his vote by way of bribery?—Yes, I did, but he did not. I believe he thought it was a strictly just claim, which he had a right to have settled, but I did not, of course.

3371. You had a knowledge of the law, and he had not?—I cannot say whether he had or had not, but I believe that was the view he took of it, that he was honestly entitled to the money, and had a right to claim it, and I preferred, of course, not to commit an illegal act, if I could help it; I preferred its being treated as a bonâ fide matter, and I believe he is under the impression still that it was.

3372. (*Mr. Welford.*) He did not claim it personally from you?—No; I was not responsible in any way; but I did recollect the circumstance of some voters being there, and I had a little recollection that it was by the order of Mr. Robert Hudson, who is now dead, who used to be an active agent on behalf of the Liberal party. He came to me a little while after the election, and said, "I am in the True "Blue Club, the Conservative Club." I said, "I did "not know that." In fact, if I had known that, I should have been afraid to have spoken to him, because I had a sort of idea that the members were called to task after voting, and if they had not voted right that they would be turned out of the club; and he then told me they had threatened to turn him out of the club, and would not receive his money; and he said if they would give him back what he had paid he would leave the club altogether, but I think he told me they had refused to do that. Then I said, "I do not think they can turn you out because you "did not vote as a Conservative." He said, "I never "joined the club as a Conservative club; I joined it as "a benefit society." I said, "I don't think they have "the power to turn you out, and I will write a Letter "to Mr. Tidd Pratt to ask him;" and I drew out a letter, which one of my clerks copied, as though it came from Nicholls. It stated that Mr. Nicholls, being a member of the society, voted for the liberal candidates, and that there was a rule that every member of the club should be of thorough Conservative principles, and that therefore it was contended on the part of the society that if he did not vote as a Conservative they could turn him out of the club. Mr. Tidd Pratt wrote back, "I am of opinion you "have not broken the second rule, and that you "cannot be ejected." I afterwards understood, either from him or somebody else, who knew the fact, that it was arranged that he should remain in the club, and the reason given to me why they did not enforce their rule was that one Henry Lane, who was also alleged to have been bribed by the Liberals, had been made a "plant" to get up a case against the Liberals, and as he had done that to oblige the Conservatives, they could not turn the one man out without turning out the other. Mr. Griffiths, the secretary, or Mr. Strafford, the president, can tell whether that is a fact or not.

3373. Had Henry Lane voted for the Liberals?—He had voted for the Liberals, and proved a case against them before the Parliamentary Committee, and that, together with what I had heard, confirmed the notion that he was a "plant," that he did not want to vote, but that he was sent to get money from the Liberals on purpose to go at once and give information and make a case for the petition.

3374. Who is the secretary of this club?—Mr. John Griffiths, clerk to Mr. Lovegrove, Sir Robert Walter Carden's agent, and the chairman is a Mr. William Strafford. There was also another reason given, that Mr. Strafford had said, as a reason why these men should not be turned out, that he had made some inquiries of Mr. James Maysey, and found that the Conservatives could not give them quite so much as the Liberals could, and that therefore the men were not to be blamed, or something of that sort.

3375. Then as to Stevens?—I made him no offer whatever; I merely canvassed him as a compliment. I knew that he would vote for the two Liberals. I might have asked him, as a compliment, but I am not sure whether I did or not.

3376. He did vote for the Liberals?—Yes, he did; he used to be a Conservative, but he had taken some offence.

3377. Then as to James Brown?—I asked James Brown if he had made up his mind how he would vote. He said he had not made up his mind; and I think I suggested to him that I could give him 5*l.* if he would vote for the Liberals; I believe that was the sum; and he said, "I never take money "myself." I think he said, "It must be done "through my wife," or something of that kind, or, "It must be managed through my wife." I think he said it must be done through his wife, or his wife managed it or transacted it, or something of that kind; I would not be sure exactly; and that he would not make any promise; he had not made up his mind how he should vote.

3378. Did he tell you he would accept the 5*l.*?—He did not.

3379. Did you afterwards give 5*l.* to his wife?—No; I never saw either of them after.

3380. Do you know how he voted?—I believe he voted for Carden, a plumper. I had an impression on my mind from something that had come to my eyesight or knowledge some years before, that he was what we should call one of Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck's men. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck for many years kept the "Hope" in Barton Street, close by where Brown lives; he has now shifted to an inn called the Dolphin. Mr Obadiah Clutterbuck was always reputed to take care of those in his immediate neighbourhood, and these persons at municipal elections and parliamentary elections, always, I believe, vote for Carden. I think I had seen Brown in his company, or saw or knew that he had breakfasted there at some municipal election or something of that kind, which caused me to have an impression that Mr. Clutterbuck had canvassed him.

3381. Nothing came of that?—No.

3382. But you did offer him 5*l.*?—I did not make a distinct offer of 5*l.* I think I put it in this way, "Would you vote for the Liberal "candidates if I could get you 5*l.*," or "give you "5*l.*;" it amounted to an offer, that is why I mention it, because, as I understand it, the Corrupt Practices Act now says that an unaccepted offer is as much an act of bribery as if it had been accepted. Being anxious to disclose all my misdeeds at the late election, I have told you that, though nothing came of it.

3383. I understand you now to say, you do not deny that that was intended by you to be an offer?—Certainly, if he would have taken it.

3384. The next person is a person named Ephraim Houldey, I think?—Mrs. Houldey.

3385. What is her name?—I do not know at all. I happen to have known them for some years.

3385. What is Ephraim Houldey?—A whitesmith or blacksmith, I do not know which. I saw her, and asked her, much as I did Brown, whether her husband had made up his mind how he was going to vote, and I think she said he had not, or some words to that effect; I think she said so; I would not be quite sure. I do not know whether she did not say she thought he was going to vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden; I would not be sure exactly now what it was she said. I think I mentioned it first. I do not know whether she said anything; I do not think she did. I think I said, "Will you tell him if he will vote for "Price and Monk I can manage to get him or give "him 5*l.*, or perhaps a little more." I think I added those words. She said she would tell him, and I believe she said she would call on me again, but she never did, to my knowledge, and nothing

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came of it. He afterwards, I believe, voted a plumper for Sir Robert Walter Carden.

3387. You did not go to see Houldey again, or Houldey's wife?—No, I did not.

3388. At the time that you said you thought you could get him 5*l.*, or that you would offer her 5*l.*, was anything said by her as to any proposition which had been made by the other side?—No, I believe not. She said she would speak to him, I think; I do not think she mentioned it.

3389. Then as to Henry Cox?—I think I told you where he lived.

3390. In Blackfriars Lane?—He lived then there, but he now lives in Saint Aldate Street. He is on the register though for Blackfriars, or for Berkeley Arms Lane.

3391. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—No; a householder.

3392. What would be the parish?—Saint Mary-le-Crypt.

3393. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He is a beerhouse keeper?—He was at the time of the election; he is not now. He had applied to me before the election, saying, that he was in difficulties, and asked me to take him through the court. I said I would, but that I should expect some money down before I entered upon the business, because we have to pay some fees to the court. Nothing came of it then. I do not think that an election was quite certain at that time. I afterwards saw him again, and I told him that if he would vote for Price and Monk I would take him through the court as he wished, and get him out of his difficulties.

3394. You would take him through the Insolvent Court?—Through the County Court. He said he would vote for them. About that time, or a little after, I heard of there being a leg of mutton supper there, ordered (some one told me so, I think, though I would not be sure,) by Mr. Stamper. I think then I spoke to him again, and he confirmed his promise to me. I think he said that would make no difference, or something of that sort. I would not be quite sure as to that.

3395. He confirmed his promise to you?—Yes.

3396. And said, that that should make no difference?—Yes. Subsequently to that I altered my mind, and said to him, "Well, Cox, I do not think I "can stand to that promise of mine to you, and you "had better see what you can do for yourself." I dare say there was an interval of a day or so, but I cannot be particular as to the exact time. I am not sure whether I mentioned Mr. Bryon's name at the Berkeley Arms, or whether he went to Mr. Bryon without my mentioning Mr. Bryon's name; but my impression is, I said, "You had better go and see "Mr. Bryon, and see what he will do for you."

3397. Was this at another interview?—No; I think that was at the same interview that I told him I could not stand to my promise, or something of that kind; and then he told me, I think it was on the following morning, or the evening of the nomination, that he had seen Mr. Bryon, and that Mr. Bryon said he would give him 7*l.*

3398. That is Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—Mr. Jefferson Bryon. I said, "Well, if he will do that, and you "will give me the money, why I do not mind keeping "to my promise to take you through the court; that "will about pay me the expenses I shall be out of "pocket." And he said to me, "You had better see "Mr. Bryon, and know that it is all right;" or, "and "be sure it is all right;" or some words to that effect. I saw Mr. Bryon, and Mr. Bryon said he had promised him 7*l.*, but that he had not got any money., I think he said he had had some money, but that the money was all gone, or something like that, and he had not any money to give him; but that if he could get the money of anybody he would keep to his word, or something of that kind. I thought it was extremely likely. I thought I could take Mr. Bryon's word that he would, if he could get the 7*l.* for him; and Cox said to me, "Is it all "right, Sir," or some words to that effect. That was after I had seen Mr. Bryon. I said, "I think "it is, Cox; you had better go and poll;" and he went and polled for Price and Monk. I have never had the 7*l.*, or any portion of it, and I will not be sure that I have ever asked Mr. Bryon for it since. If I did, he must have told me that he had no money in hand to pay it with; but I am not sure that I have asked him. I am sure I never received it.

3399. Did Cox poll for Price and Monk?—He did, and though I did not receive the 7*l.*, I thought I was bound in honour to perform my promise to him; and I took him through the court, and he obtained a legal discharge from his debts; but while going through the court some one told him that Mr. John Hanman, the grocer, a creditor of his in the schedule, was going to oppose him, and he thought it was because he had not polled for Sir Robert Carden, to oblige Mr. Hanman. I think he told me that Mr. Hanman had had a conversation with him, and offered to forgive him this score to say nothing about; that he was to go to Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Whithorn would do something for him as well; and then he said to me, "Well, if Mr. Han-"man opposes me, there is a document which you "have got in your possession, a grocery book of his, "where on the afternoon of the polling day of 1857 "he gave me credit for 3*l.* without my paying him "the money, and I shall be down on Mr. Hanman if "he opposes me at the court."

3400. Had you that book?—He had delivered it to me, and it was my duty to file it at the office of the registrar in the County Court, and I believe it was filed there; I believe it is there now, and can be referred to; I took his word for its being the fact; I believe the book was out of my possession at the time, at the registrar's office, and I did not take the trouble to go and ascertain whether it was as he stated or not.

3401. Did you receive it back from the court?—No; it would remain there in the custody of the registrar as the official assignee. He also told me that Mr. Whithorn himself had seen him, I think he told me by the corner of the Crypt church, as he was going there (this is only an impression), but I think he said he was going there to the election of the assistant overseer of the parish; Mr. Butt, I think, was elected; and that as he was going by there he saw Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Whithorn said, "Well, Harry, how are you going this time?" or, "You had better come and see me," or some sort of conversation of that nature.

3402. Does that refer to the last election?—This refers to the last election; and I think he told me two names (I am almost positive about this), that Mr. Denton, the spirit merchant, in company with Mr. Nunn, of the Ram, had canvassed him; and I think he also said that Mr. Denton, I believe it was, also referred him to Mr. Whithorn; I do not believe he went to Mr. Whithorn; I do not believe he told me so.

3403. Mr. Nunn of the Ram?—I think he mentioned that Mr. Nunn was in company with Mr. Denton; I do not think he said Mr. Nunn said anything about it, but that he was in company with Mr. Denton at the time that this happened; and he also mentioned that a Mr. William Cosham Cooke, to whom he was indebted, who was also a supporter of Sir Robert Walter Carden, and who was a grocer in the Southgate Street, would rub off or take no account of his debt, or something of that kind, and that he had also better go to Mr. Whithorn. It was one of the three persons who spoke to him who said it would make no difference; but Cox will attend, I dare say, and will tell you himself.

3404. Did he tell you the amount of money he owed to Mr. Cooke?—No; because I knew that from the schedule which was prepared in my office.

3405. Do you know the amount of money which he said was owing to Mr. Hanman?—I do not think he mentioned the amount, because he knew that I knew

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it well. My clerk, who is in court, says it was about 5*l.*, but I cannot venture to recollect.

3406. How much did he owe to Mr. Hanman ?—I cannot recollect, but I can refer and let you know. He also mentioned to me, I think, that there was a little beer score also in 1857 for Sir Robert Walter Carden which was paid for by Mr. Hanman ; I think it was Mr. Hanman he mentioned to me ; it was but a small amount; that was paid at or about the time of the election ; there was a little beer drawn, which was paid for ; that was in 1857. I think I told you that he said Mr. Hanman had rubbed off 3*l.*, and he said, in addition to the 3*l.*, he was ordered to draw a little beer, which I think he also said was paid for by Mr. Hanman, but I may be mistaken in the name of the person.

3407. What did it cost you to take Cox through the Court ?—I could not exactly say ; I should say about 7*l.* or 8*l.* out of pocket in court fees.

3408. Seven pounds or 8*l.* out of pocket ?—Yes.

3409. That is allowing yourself nothing for your services ?—No ; I was quite willing to give them. I could tell exactly, if it was of any consequence, by reference to the papers ; but it was 7*l.* or 8*l.*, as near as I can judge.

3410. You knew what it would cost you at the time you offered to take him through the County Court ?—Yes ; there is a regulated scale of fees that never varies unless there are some extra meetings, or something of that sort.

3411. And you intended that your services should be rendered to him in that way, and should be accepted by him to that extent as a bribe ?—I did ; I do not suppose he took it as such ; I did not try to enlighten him. I considered, certainly, that it was equal to a bribe in money ; he, perhaps, did not think so ; and I did not explain it to him.

3412. We have gone through the names of those persons you gave us just now in your examination. Are there any other persons to whom you gave bribes, or to whom you made offers of money ?—I have thought of three others which I have just put down ; I have not thought of any more at present ; one is William Wilkes, Hucclecote, a namesake, and perhaps a very slight relative of mine.

3413. What is he ?—A shoemaker. I am not sure whether he is a relative ; if he is, he is a very slight one. And there is a person of the name of Roberts.

3414. What is his Christian name ?—Charles ; and there is Decimus Best, senior, a guard at the station, —a post-office guard ; I think he lives in Barton Street ; he is a freeman.

3415. What have you to say as regards Mr. Wilkes ? —I canvassed him at his residence ; he was not under an obligation to me ; I had done him a little service, not in a pecuniary way, but in a business matter, in which I had pleased him, and I canvassed him for Mr. Monk ; he had voted Conservative before ; in fact he was alleged to have been bribed at the last election, and was examined before the Parliamentary committee ; he denied that he had received any bribe then.

3416. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) That was in 1857 ?—Yes ; he denied that he had been bribed then, and I believe the persons alleged to have bribed him also denied that they had bribed him. I have no knowledge at all as to whether he was bribed or not at that time ; but having done a little business for him in which I had pleased him, and done some little service to him, I canvassed him, and thought that he would oblige me in return by giving me a vote for Mr. Monk, and I went over and canvassed him.

3417. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer him any money for his vote ?—I believe I asked him for his vote for Mr. Monk. I knew he lived among some farmers there who were Conservatives, and I did not think I could ask him for more than a single vote ; I asked him to vote for Mr. Monk, and I believe before I offered him anything he said he would certainly oblige me, but I would not say positively whether what passed about money passed before or after.

3418. What did you offer him ?—My impression is that he promised to vote for Mr. Monk before I offered him anything ; but at any rate I told him if he would do so I would give him 2*l.*

3419. And he said he would ?—He said he would if I had not offered him anything. I said, "I would "rather make you a remuneration than otherwise," and I think I gave him 2*l.* or 1*l.* ; I do not know which. He expressly told me he would give me the vote without my giving him anything. I preferred discharging the obligation, and I believe I gave him 2*l.* ; I will not be sure whether it was 1*l.* or 30*s.* or 2*l.* It was just at the time we thought of having an election. I hardly know whether Parliament was dissolved ; it was very early in the election at any rate.

3420. Did you give him 2*l.* ?—I would not be quite sure whether I gave him 2*l.* or 1*l.* or 1*l.* 10*s.* It was just at the time when Parliament was being dissolved, or that we were thinking about its being dissolved. I cannot charge my memory with it ; my impression is it was 2*l.*

3421. Did he vote ?—He did vote.

3422. For Price and Monk ?—No ; for Carden and Monk, according to what we had arranged.

3423. Was that according to the arrangement you had made with him ?—Yes ; he said he was willing to do so without any money. I asked him also if he could prevail on any of his acquaintances, freemen, to vote.

3424. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he William Wilkes of Clare Street ?—No ; William Wilkes of Hucclecote. I asked him if he could prevail on any of his friends to vote ; I will not be sure whether I said for Price and Monk, or for Monk only. He promised me he would try, and I promised to give him something for his trouble if he did.

3425. And did he secure any votes for you ?—He told me of one name which was Roberts, a person he thought would do what he wished.

3426. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you authorize him to offer any money to Roberts or to any one else if they would vote for Mr. Monk ?—Yes ; I told him that if he could get any friends of his to vote for Mr. Monk I mentioned a sum I was willing to give. I think I said 2*l.* or 30*s.* or 1*l.*, I forget which, and I said I would give him something for his trouble.

3427. You mentioned 1*l.*, 2*l.*, or 30*s.* ?—Yes ; I could not be certain as to the sum, and I said I would give him something for his trouble also. I think I said 10*s.*, but I do not bind myself to that. He mentioned this person, Charles Roberts, as a person he thought he could be likely to prevail on.

3428. And did you afterwards learn from him that Charles Roberts would accept a sum of money ?—He called on me, and showed me a note he had received from Charles Roberts or purporting to have come from Charles Roberts, asking him to meet him up at Kingsholm with reference to his vote ; that was the purport of his letter ; that he would take his advice or something to that effect. Then he came down to me on the evening of the nomination, and said he had seen Roberts, and that if I would give him 4*l.* he thought he could arrange with Roberts to vote for Mr. Monk or Price and Monk, I would not be sure which ; I think it was Monk alone, and he said, "If "you will give me the money I will give you my "I. O. U. for it, and if he does not vote I will pay "you the money back again," or something to that effect.

3429. What was the result of it ?—I think I said I would give him 10*s.* or 1*l.* or something for his trouble if Roberts did vote, and I gave him the 4*l.*, and he gave me the I. O. U.

3430. Did Roberts vote ?—Roberts did not vote.

3431. He did not vote at all ?—He did not vote at all. I saw William Wilkes in the course of the polling day in Westgate Street, because it was understood that he was to vote for Carden and Monk, but he told me he should try and get something of the other side for voting for Carden.

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3432. Wilkes said that ?—Yes, to which I had no objection, because I only asked him to vote for Mr. Monk.

3433. Did he afterwards tell you that he had got anything from the other side ?—No; he said it was too late; that the Liberals were too much ahead; that the vote was of no consequence, and he could not make any draw of them, or something like that. I could not be quite sure of the words; and then he said that if I liked he would go and vote for Price and Monk. I said, "No doubt you will offend some-"body if you do, and it is no use to vote for Price "and Monk; you had better go and vote for Carden "and Monk, as we agreed upon." I gave him nothing more then. He called upon me I think some few days after, or some time after, I would not bind myself exactly to the time, and said he had given the money to Roberts up at Trigg's beerhouse, I think he mentioned, at Kingsholm, where they had been together; and I believe he said he told me certainly that he himself, and I think Roberts with him, had come from there to the "Swan and Falcon" in Longsmith Street or Bull Lane, one or the other; it is partly in one and partly in the other, I think, and that there had stopped all night in a room a lot of the voters who had refreshment as much as they liked; they were locked up, I think he said, or were kept there all night, and had as much as they liked.

3434. Who was it made that communication ?—This William Wilkes, and he said that he lost Roberts, I think; that Roberts had got away in the morning, I think he said, to go and see what he could get to vote for Carden, or something to that effect, and he had not seen any thing more of him.

3435. Who keeps the Swan and Falcon ?—Mr. John Smart, I think his name is. I have heard, or some one has told me, there was a very large account there for refreshments for Sir Robert Walter Carden on that occasion, and that Mr. Smart could not get his money. He had gone away from them, and they had not seen any thing more of him; but he said he had no doubt whatever that he had voted, and of course then I did not claim the 4*l.* back. I think I then gave him 1*l.* or 30*s.*, or something like that, for procuring Roberts's vote, as I supposed he had, and I afterwards found that Roberts did not vote.

3436. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He got the 4*l.* ?—He had the 4*l.* on the I. O. U., and has never paid me back.

3437. Altogether it cost you 5*l.* 10*s.* if you gave him 30*s.* ?—Yes; I would not be sure whether it was 30*s.* or 1*l.*; that was for his trouble in procuring Roberts. He said he would have voted to oblige me, without the money, but I pressed the money, because I would not have an obligation placed upon me without giving something to him to discharge it.

3438. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You gave him 4*l.* in order that he might obtain the vote of Roberts ?—Yes.

3439. And you gave him 1*l.* or 30*s.* afterwards for his trouble in obtaining that vote ?—Yes, on my supposition that Roberts had voted.

3440. Now with regard to Decimus Best ?—I canvassed him at the station. I am sorry to mention his name, but being on my oath I cannot avoid it. I canvassed him for himself and his son, both of whom are freemen.

3441. What offer did you make to him ?—I did not see the son at all at that time.

3442. The father ?—I am not quite clear whether the first time I saw him I made him any offer at all, but I certainly did ask him to vote himself for Price and Monk, and for his son to do so too; I felt an interest in having both of them, for they had always voted Whig before the last election, and I had been at very considerable trouble in getting the father, I would not be sure as to the son, retained on the register, inasmuch as they were mail-guards, and there was a question whether this particular Best was a carrier of letters or not, so as to be disqualified. I had taken considerable interest in getting him on the Liberal side, and I was surprised to find he had voted for Carden at the last election, when I took no interest in it. I thought I had a sort of claim upon him.

3443. Did the son also vote the same way, for Carden, at the former election ?—Yes; and I came to the conclusion that there must have been some malpractices.

3444. What did you offer to Decimus Best ?—I think the first time I saw him—but my recollection is rather imperfect as to these two—I offered him 3*l.* apiece for himself and his son to vote for Price and Monk. My impression is, although my memory is rather defective as to this case, that he said, "If you "will make it 4*l.* it shall be all right," or something like that, and that he would speak to his son.

3445. Four pounds for each ?—Yes; I think that was it, but I would not bind myself exactly to the very words in this case. It was very early in the election.

3446. What did you say upon that ?—Whether I said it should be so, or whether I promised to see him again after he had seen his son, I do not know.

3447. What did you pay him ?—I paid him nothing then; but I did see him again, and he said he had seen his son, and that his son was under some obligations to somebody who had assisted him in a long illness, or something of that kind, and he could not vote otherwise than to oblige that person, and that would be, I think he said, Carden; he did not mention the name of the person to me, and I do not think I pressed it.

3448. He said he was under an obligation to someone who had assisted him in illness ?—In a long illness, and that he supposed he would vote for Carden. He said, "I think I must vote for Carden myself one "vote."

3449. And did he ?—Yes; but something more passed. "I must give him one vote, but the other "vote I am willing to divide," and I think he said, "for either Liberal you like to name." Then he said, at one of the interviews, I will not be sure which it was, "You know I am getting an old man, and my "situation here may cease at a week's notice," or something of that kind, "and I want to have the "Bartlemas" (that is a public charity in the town; it is St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but we call it Bartlemas). He said that if he voted for Carden he had been promised that he could have it. I would not pledge myself whether he said that he was promised, or whether he said that he believed he could get it without saying that he had been promised, but my belief is that he said he had been promised Bartlemas on the first vacancy.

3450. What is your impression on the subject ?—My impression is that he said he was sure of it, though he may have said that he could get it the first vacancy.

3451. If he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—If he would vote for Sir Robert Carden. I am not quite clear whether he did not put it as a view of his own that he could get it, without a promise being made; I am not positive about it, but I think he said he had been promised it, and then he went on to say that if I could promise him the same thing on behalf of my party he would vote for Price and Monk. I told him that I had no connexion or interest whatever with the Charity Trustees, and that I always liked to discharge my obligations at once in money.

3452. Did you pay him any money ?—I gave him, I believe, at that time 2*l.*, and I did not see him again about it; I thought the thing was settled; that he would vote for Carden and Monk. I afterwards heard that he voted for Carden and Price; and perhaps here I had better make a little confession; at the time I did not see any harm in it; I learnt from Mr. Jacobs at the Dustpan, that he had given or lent him 2*l.*, I would not be sure which, on the day of polling; Mr. Best had gone there, and said I had sent him to get it. I believe that is what Mr. Jacobs said, but I do not believe that I did; I have no recollection of having told him anything of the kind, and I do not believe that I did.

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3453. You do not believe that you told Best to go to Jacobs and get another 2*l.*?—No. He also voted for Carden and Price. I saw him, I think, last Saturday night in the street, and told him I had heard of his getting this 2*l.* of Mr. Jacobs, and I asked him if he could give me any information as to what he got to vote for Carden this time and in 1857. He said he could give me no information. As I thought he was not telling the truth, I said if he would I would give him the 2*l.* to take back to Jacobs if it was a loan; but he still hesitated. I was anxious to obtain some information, if I could, against the Conservatives, and I asked him to go with me into Mr. Henley's shop at the Cross, and I and Mr. Henley both asked him if he could give us any information. He said he could not.

3454. This was some time after the election, was it not?—This was last Saturday. I said, "Well, you "had better consider of it, and see Mr. Henley on "Monday morning." He said he would. He saw him, I believe, but not to my knowledge. On Monday morning I saw Henley, and I said, "Here is this "2*l.* for Best, if you can get him to give you any "information; let him go and pay back Mr. Jacobs, "if he borrowed the money of him." He said, "What if he will not tell?" I said, "Well, you "must use your own discretion about the 2*l.*" I afterwards heard that Mr. Henley let him have the 2*l.*, taking Best's I. O. U. for it. Mr. Henley also told me that he still declined to give information, and in fact that he could not give any.

3455. Did you get any information from him?—No; I left it to Mr. Henley. Mr. Henley gave him the 2*l.*, and told him to consider of it; and I believe he took the 2*l.* back to Mr. Jacobs; I do not know of my own knowledge, but it was said to be a loan. I thought that Mr. Jacobs might, under those circumstances, omit to mention Best's name if he was examined. I thought at the time I was doing this there was no harm in it; but I afterwards thought that by letting Best have this 2*l.* to take back to Mr. Jacobs, I might cause Mr. Jacobs to make some mistake in his evidence, so I sent to Mr. Jacobs to tell him to mention the facts, because I began to think there might be something wrong in it, and therefore I wished to be candid, and state the facts at once, instead of waiting for them to be told by some one else.

3456. Did Best make any communication to you besides that which you have now mentioned?—No, he did not. I did not believe him when he said there was nothing done; but he persisted in saying there was not.

3457. Can you mention the name of any other persons whose votes you endeavoured to procure, or did procure, by giving money or by making any promise for the vote?—I do not recollect any at this time. I will not pledge myself that I might not recollect some others on consideration, but I do not at this present time.

3458. It may be that on further consideration you will recollect some other names?—It may be so, and if I do I hope you will not think that I am now keeping them back for any sinister purpose.

3459. I have not got exactly the amount of the various sums that you paid and gave away, but can you tell me what the amount was?—I cannot tell you distinct from some other payments I made.

3460. A sum of 30*l.* to 40*l.*, I understand?—Yes, but that is not the whole; the total amount of my outlay for political purposes at the last election was as near as may be 90*l.*

3461. That money was expended partly in paying different parties the sums you have mentioned, and in what other way?—I advanced 10*l.* to Thomas Brewer Monk on the Saturday evening when he wanted to pay some messengers, and had not either any or enough money. He was short of money to pay his messengers, and I had some money in my pocket, so I said, "I will let you have 10*l.*, if you like," and I did do so. I advanced on two occasions 13*l.* 10*s.* to Henley; one a sum of 3*l.* 10*s.*, and the other 12*l.*

3462. What did you advance that money to him for?—He was engaged in canvassing out-voters, and wanted some money to pay travelling expenses, and perhaps to make some little advances to the out-voters; he had a discretion with respect to it, and will give his own account of what he did with the money. I do not know the particulars.

3463. To whom else did you advance money?—I do not think I advanced any other sum.

3464. What did you pay besides?—I paid 12*l.* for the band that played after the return, and I paid 4*l.* or 4*l.* 4*s.* for bell ringing; I spent in going about 2*l.* or 3*l.*, perhaps, in personal refreshments for myself, or if a person asked me if I would stand a glass, I did; altogether it came as near as may be to 90*l.*

3465. Whose money was that?—My own.

3466. All of it?—Every shilling.

3467. Did any one request you to supply money for these purposes?—No one requested me; in fact I do not believe, till I told it to-day, that anybody knew that I had done so; they know that I must have spent some money, I presume, but I do not think any one knows, except the persons who received and myself, about the bells or the band, for instance.

3468. Was it represented to you that if you made disbursements on account of the Liberal candidates you should be repaid?—It was not.

3469. Have you made any claim upon any person to be reimbursed the amount?—I have not.

3470. Have you any expectation that it will be repaid to you?—I have no such expectation now; I had a general expectation at the time that some how or other I should get the money paid back by somebody if I made a claim for it; but I had no one in particular to look to, nor any one in particular that asked me or requested or authorized me; no one in fact that authorized me.

3471. The expenditure of that money was a voluntary sacrifice in support of Liberal principles?—Yes; and for these reasons: I had read a speech of Sir Robert Walter Carden's at the nomination (which I think I have now about me) several times, and in that speech I saw some statements of his which particularly struck me. I will read you the words which made an impression on my mind. He said, "No; if "I ever get a seat in the House of Commons, it shall "be for my own character and from the free and "unbiassed votes of the electors;" that was one passage; in another passage he said, he was sure his friends around him would not think of bringing him here on bribery principles, when he held that book in his hands, that book being the Report of the Bribery Commissioners at St. Alban's; another passage which particularly struck me was this, "Every "promise he had received had been given by inde-"pendent, honest voters; he pledged his word that "he would not buy a single vote, and he believed "those associated with him had the same honour and "integrity." I believed that by those announcements he had thrown the Liberal party off their guard.

3472. Are those extracts made from some speech made by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, in 1857. I thought that the Liberal party believing him and his friends to be pure determined that they would be pure themselves; whereas, instead of being pure, Sir Robert Carden's party resorted to bribery; that was one reason which induced me to make this voluntary sacrifice; another reason (and that induced me to do what otherwise I should probably not have done) was that I read a leading article in the "Times" newspaper which announced that 100,000*l.* had been subscribed by the premier and by some of the peers for the purpose of its being sent down to the borough constituencies, and being there distributed in bribery, to keep up the Conservative Government; and I thought that if the premier of England and the peers of England subscribed their money for such purposes,

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there was no great sin in a humble individual like myself resorting to similar means; that it was that induced me to do what I should have been otherwise sorry to do, and which I am sorry to confess here to-day I did; there was another thing which biassed my mind at the time, and that was on this particular Saturday, when I believe I committed some of these Acts; I read in the "Times" Sir James Graham's speech at Carlisle, in which he declared positively that the statement about the subscription by the Carlton Club was a fact, and I thought that Sir James would not have made such a statement as that unless he believed it to be true; that being so, I thought there was no great harm in me as a Liberal resorting to illegal acts in order to counteract similar acts on the part of the Conservatives. I have here a little extract which I cut from a newspaper; a Liberal writing to the "Morning Star" positively states that it is a fact that this money has been subscribed; it says that 60,000*l.* had been subscribed to influence the electors, and it mentions several places to which money was to be sent down from the Carlton, and the amounts of money so sent; it says that Sir William Joliffe and Colonel William Taylor can tell all about it; my strong impression is that some portion of that money came here for the purpose of the Gloucester election, and I think I may fairly ask you to have all those persons at the Carlton Club examined before you, so that you may know whether some of that money did not come here for the purpose of obtaining the election of Sir Robert Walter Carden, for I have heard it has been admitted by Mr. Clarke in this court that Mr. Frail was seen here in Gloucester. In the paragraph to which I refer it is said, "If the candidate hesitates to go to the expense, an offer of "500*l.* or 1,000*l.* assistance out of this common fund "is made by the managers." I am not in a situation to prove it, but from what I observe of the Conservative tactics in Gloucester, I believe that some portion of that fund came here.

3473. You state these as reasons which in your judgment warranted you in resorting to bribery?—Yes.

3474. Before you yourself entered upon that course of bribery which you have described, were you aware that bribery was being practised by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—I had not the slightest doubt of it in my own mind, because I had read the evidence in the House of Commons, and had been informed by one voter, at any rate, that he had received money. I had no doubt that it had been done in 1857.

3475. I am referring to the election of 1859?—I could not say that I had at that time any positive information of it, but I suspected their general tactics so much that I believed it.

3476. Did you yourself take an active part in the election of 1857?—I did not.

3477. Have you any information which you are able to afford to the Commissioners with regard to that election?—I think I have.

3478. If you have any information with regard to that election, perhaps you will communicate what you know to my learned friend Mr. Coleridge?—I will take care it shall be done in due time.

3479. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) Had you canvassed Gloucester before this election?—Certainly not in 1857. I have taken an interest in prior elections.

3480. Is this the first election at which you resorted to the practices you have mentioned?—I will not undertake to say that. I will undertake to say that it was to a very small extent, at any rate, and not out of my own means; but if you go back to prior elections, my impression is, with all due respect to you, that it will not be lawful for you to inquire beyond the election of 1855, as that, I believe, was a pure election. You best know whether I am right or not.

3481. I only asked the question generally, because I understood you to say you were induced to resort to bribery for the reasons you have given?—I think you will find that anything I did before was to a very small extent; I can now give you the amount of the different debts in Cox's case. Mr. Cooke's is about 10*l.*

3482. And Hanman?—Hanman is put at 10*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

THOMAS BREWER MONK sworn and examined.

T. B. Monk.

3482. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you keep the Running Horse Inn?—Yes.

3483. In what street is that?—In Barton Street.

3484. You are the agent of the Liberal party in Gloucester?—I am.

3485. Do you attend to the registration for the Liberal party?—I do.

3486. You remember it was proposed that Mr. Monk should stand as a candidate at the last election?—I recollect it was proposed that he should do so.

3487. When that proposal was made were you requested to exert yourself for the return of Mr. Monk and Mr. Price?—I was.

3488. By whom were you requested to act?—By several gentlemen and members of the Reform Club.

3489. Can you mention their names?—When it was first understood that there was likely to be a vacancy, or that there was likely to be a dissolution, a meeting of the members of the Reform Club was called to request a Liberal candidate to stand on the Liberal side; and then it was mooted who should be the second candidate; the Reform Club that evening deputed their committee of management to meet and consult with several gentlemen, or any gentleman that could be thought of to come forward in the Liberal interest; I was present at the meeting of that committee, though not a member of it. Several gentlemen were spoken of, and at last some member of the committee, who I forget, mentioned the name of Mr. Monk.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS sworn and examined.

W. Matthews.

3491. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the under-sheriff for Gloucester?—For the city of Gloucester.

3492. Do you produce the register of voters for the years 1858 and 1859?—I do (*producing it*).

3493. Just look at that (*showing a book to the witness*), and tell me if that is a correct copy of the register?—That is a certified copy; I have the original register here.

3494. You have no doubt that that is accurate?—I have no doubt of it.

T. B. MONK'S examination resumed.

T. B. Monk.

3495. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Will you proceed with your statement, if you please?—There were only two parties there, I believe, that were not members of the Reform Club, and those were myself and William Probert, junior. Those were all who were present that did not belong to the appointed committee of the Reform Club. There were several local gentlemen mentioned first, and after some deliberation Mr. Monk's name was mentioned.

3496. Do you remember that then it was that Mr. Monk was declared to be a candidate with Mr. Price in the Liberal interest?—Yes.

3497. Upon that you then, at the request of the friends of Price and Monk, took part in the conduct and management of the election?—I did.

3498. You were employed a good deal, I believe, at the committee-room in Westgate Street?—Yes, that was my place; that was where I was considered

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to be engaged to attend. I had to attend to the messengers and clerks principally.

3499. I understand you employed all the messengers?—I either employed them, or deputed some one to employ them for me.

3500. And you paid them?—Yes, or ordered some one to pay them.

3501. Did you keep a book containing a list of them?—I kept a copy of them. I had them in a rough book, which I have not by me now, but I have the list that I paid them from (*producing it*).

3502. What is the total number?—Messengers, 112, and of those 70 were voters; clerks, 24, and out of them five were voters.

3503. In appointing those 70 messengers who were voters, did you not appoint them for the purpose of securing their votes?—I did.

3504. You appointed them without expecting that they should render any service for the money they were to receive?—No, I did not; every man, I supposed, would do a fair portion of the work. I never employed any, that I recollect, who were not to do something for it.

3505. What work were they to do?—Anything that was to be done. There were some of them daily appointed to go with the different canvassing parties, delivering bills and notes, and anything that was to be done. I appointed a clerk to attend to them, to keep a daily register of all they did; every man who was employed, and the work they did. He died, unfortunately, about a week ago, or he would have been able to prove that every man did some work.

3506. What portion of the day should you say those 70 men were employed?—I left it entirely to the clerk to look after the messengers, to employ them, and to dispose of the labour equally among them.

3507. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What was the name of the clerk?—Joseph Bickley.

3508. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you think that any of those messengers who were voters were employed as much as three hours a day?—I should not like to be positive about that.

3509. To the best of your belief, was any one of those 70 messengers employed more than three hours a day?—Yes; some less, and others more, and some not at all for all I know. I would not pretend to be positive upon that point.

3510. What was the work of the other 42 messengers who were not voters?—I dare say that they did the greatest portion of the work; it is usual to make the non-voters do the greatest portion of it.

3511. Do you not believe that the 42 who were non-voters were sufficient to do the work which would have to be discharged for the committee-room?—I do.

3512. Do you not know that the greater portion of those messengers who were voters spent the day in eating and drinking at different public-houses?—No, I do not think they did; I will not swear positively they did not; some portion of them may, but not the majority of them; there were a few, perhaps half a dozen, idle fellows that would do such a thing; but that was by no means a regular thing.

3513. Where were the 112 messengers?—They were very large premises. Our committee-rooms were very large. I do not think they were all there together.

3514. Did you not employ those 70 voters as messengers with a view to give them a certain sum of money per day for their votes?—In answer to that I would say that men, generally voters, would come to me, and say, what would I give them for their votes. I said, "I do not understand bribery; we cannot go into that; it is rather too early," because it was a fortnight or three weeks before the election; and they said, "If you do not employ us in some way "we shall go over to the other side;" and rather than let them go over to the other side I employed them as messengers; that is the fact.

3515. You said you did not understand bribery?—Not a fortnight before; it was rather too early; it was three weeks before the election.

3516. Would you have employed any of those 70 if they had not been voters?—I employed non-voters as well.

3517. Would you have employed any of those 70 if they had not been voters?—Their being voters was a great recommendation, no doubt; I employed them with the view of getting their votes; that I admit.

3518. And if they had not been voters you would not have employed them?—I probably should, because, you see, I employed 42 who were not voters.

3519. Were any of those persons engaged as messengers at the request of other parties?—Yes; some of them.

3520. Can you tell me who the persons were who requested you to employ men as messengers?—I received several notes from several people belonging to the party on several occasions saying, "I shall be "glad if you will employ so and so; he is out of "employ, and his family is destitute;" and if they were electors I employed them.

3521. Can you tell me the names of any persons who requested you to employ electors as messengers?—Yes; I recollect receiving a note from the Reverend Mr. Calderbank, recommending a man, a non-voter.

3522. But as to the employment of persons who were voters?—No; I cannot charge my memory. I know I did receive a few such recommendations. But at this period I cannot say who the parties were. I never kept the notes, and cannot call them to mind now.

3523. With regard to those 42 messengers who were non-voters, were those persons the relatives or friends of voters?—Some of them were, no doubt, and some of them were not.

3524. Did you employ those persons in the same manner as you employed persons who were voters, in order to secure the votes of those who were voters?—Some of them were in that position.

3525. Does this list, or do these papers which you have handed in, distinguish between those who were voters and those who were not voters?—I have ticked all that were voters with blacklead pencil.

3526. And have you also put any mark against those who were the relatives of voters?—No, I have not.

3527. I wish you would do that?—I will do so, and give you the list to-morrow, if you will return it to me. (*The list is handed back to the witness.*)

3528. What was the total amount that you paid to messengers up to the close of the election?—I have got it all put together; messengers and clerks altogether was 407*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

3529. You have lumped them together?—Yes.

3530. And how much out of that was for clerks?—£86.

3531. Does that 407*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* include all you have paid from the commencement of the election up to the present time?—For messengers and clerks do you mean?

3532. Yes?—Yes; that includes all I have paid. I have paid no more than that; in fact, I do not think I have paid all that yet.

3533. But that 407*l.* 9*s* .6*d.* covers all you have paid?—Yes.

3534. That will include all the money you have during and since the election?—For messengers and clerks.

3535. I confine my question to that?—I believe that is the whole of it, to the best of my recollection, unless there should be a mistake in the calculation of figures; I never cast it up myself; I do not think there is anything else.

3536. How much a day did you pay to the messengers?—Three shillings and sixpence.

3537. To all the messengers?—Yes; we made no distinction in messengers.

3538. You made no distinction between those who were voters and those who were not voters?—None whatever. I should like to explain, there are two names who appear there as messengers who were made

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doorkeepers, and were paid 1*s.* 6*d.* more each, which is charged in the auditor's account. Truman and Harris were called doorkeepers.

3539. In this account there is a sum of 152*l.* 9*s.* for messengers; is that sum included in the other return?—Yes.

3540. And there is an account of 86*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* for clerks; is that also included in the amount you have just now stated?—Yes, that is included.

3541. When was it that you first began to employ these messengers?—The date will show. I think it was on April the 6th that a few were employed.

3542. And did you then begin to employ the messengers; and did you receive other messengers from that time down to the close of the election?—Yes, I did.

3543. Down to the end of April?—Yes, down to the end of April.

3544. How much did you pay the clerks?—£86 something.

3545. How much a day?—They varied. There were some juveniles among them; some young men who did not get as much as the others.

3546. From what to what did they vary?—5*s.*, 4*s.*, and some 7*s.* 6*d.*; two or three, I think, were paid 7*s.* 6*d.*

3547. Did you undertake the arrangement with the public house keepers in Gloucester?—What for?

3548. For refreshment of various sorts to the voters?—No, never; I had nothing to do with that. I was not aware that there were any orders given for any refreshments to be given to any voters.

3549. Did you make any arrangement with any public house keepers for supplying refreshments for messengers?—I may have ordered some beer to be sent from some neighbouring house for the committee room, but it was a very small quantity; altogether it would not, I should suppose, exceed a sovereign.

3550. Do you not know that messengers in the Liberal interest had the opportunity of going into public houses in Gloucester, and eating and drinking as they thought proper?—No, I do not.

3551. Without paying themselves?—No, I do not. I have no doubt that some of the messengers did go into public houses, and eat and drink, and promise to pay, and never paid at all.

3552. But without promising to pay?—No, I do not think there were any.

3553. Was there a bill for refreshments you had yourself supplied at the Running Horse against the Liberal candidates?—I certainly supplied ever so much refreshment that I never got paid for.

3554. To whom did you supply refreshments that you never got paid for?—The messengers who resorted to my house after they had done their work were supplied with what they required, as far as drink was concerned, but I do not think we supplied them with any food.

3555. You contented yourself with supplying them with beer?—Yes; and when we settled with the messengers ever so many of them paid a certain proportion.

3556. What is the amount you consider you have not been reimbursed, or which is due to you for refreshments supplied to messengers during the election?—I cannot state the amount; I never kept any account; in fact, I could not, not being at home, and my wife neglected it.

3557. Could you form no idea?—I can give a rough guess; I should think I was at least 20*l.* out of pocket. I consider that they drank 20*l.* worth of beer, for which they did not pay.

3558. For which you never got paid?—I do not say I never got paid. I never had an order to supply any refreshments; I did it on my own authority, and having received sums for different purposes, for treating, and that sort of thing, I considered it was the first law of nature to take care of myself.

3559. What money did you receive for the purpose of treating?—I cannot state exactly how much it was, but I know I had at different times from Mr. Wilton several sums of money.

3560. How much money altogether did you receive for purposes of treating?—I cannot say exactly; it may have been 30*l.* or 40*l.*; it may have been more than that; I should suppose so.

3561. For the purpose of treating voters?—Anything I thought proper to do with it. It was left to my discretion to do what I liked with it.

3562. What money did you receive for the purpose of bribery?—I cannot tell that exactly; I will tell you as nearly as I possibly can the parties who I bribed.

3563. Can you tell me, first of all, the gross sum you received for bribery?—No; I cannot form any idea of the definite sum, nor will I undertake to swear to anything like what I did receive. In the hurry and confusion of the polling day I never made any memorandum; I received different sums and at different times, but I cannot undertake to say what money I did spend.

3564. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Wilton stated it was 81*l.* that he paid you for the purpose of buying votes?—He is very likely to be correct.

3565. Was that about the sum?—It may have been that or a trifle more; it was very little more, if it was more. 81*l.* was as much as it was.

3566. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From Mr. Wilton?—From Mr. Wilton.

3567. Now give me the names of the persons you bribed?—I advanced to Mr. James Fletcher for the purpose of bribery, not as bribing him, 12*l.* 10*s.*

3568. Who is James Fletcher?—He lives in Alvin Street.

3569. What is he?—He keeps a grocer's shop, I think, and he is a boot and shoe maker, I think, as well. I paid Mr. Henry Gardiner for Mr. Bosham's travelling expenses, 2*l.* 10*s.*

3570. Who is Henry Gardiner?—He is the father-in-law of Bossam; he fetched him from up the country, and said the expenses would be 2*l.* 10*s.*, and I advanced him,—in fact I advanced them 4*l.* He said the other party had advanced him a portion of the travelling expenses, and he returned me 30*s.*

3571. Do you know where Mr. Bossam came from?—Not exactly; it was a place I did not know. I advanced William Probert, junior, 5*l.*; that was for bribing some one, I do not know who.

3572. For what purpose?—For the purpose of bribing some one, but I do not know who it was. William Lee, Francis Ewers, and Samuel Lee; they came out of Staffordshire; I gave them 6*l.* each; they said they had come out of Staffordshire.

3573. What are they?—Boatmen.

3574. And they came from Staffordshire?—Yes.

3575. What did you advance that for?—They said they had come out of Staffordshire, and that their travelling expenses were very large; they had lost a good deal of money, they said, or something of that sort; but I considered it was for their votes.

3576. Six pounds each?—Yes. I advanced Thomas Miles 5*l.* or more; I am not positive.

3577. Who is Thomas Miles?—I think he is living at Stonehouse now.

3578. What is he?—I think he is something at the railway.

3579. Employed at the railway?—I think he is.

3580. How much to him?—£5 or more; I am not positive.

3581. For what?—For his vote; I paid William Tinkler 5*l.*

3582. Who is he?—He lives in Westgate Street; he is a basket maker.

3583. You paid him 5*l.*?—Yes.

3584. For what purpose?—For his vote. I paid William Harris, through Hewlett, his expenses from Birmingham with his family, 7*l.*, ; he had his brother-in-law with him.

3585. He came from Birmingham, did he?—Yes.

3586. How much?—£7 for his vote and travelling expenses. I paid Arthur Alloway 5*l.*; my wife gave it to him.

3587. What is he?—A tailor, I believe.

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3588. Where ?—He lives in Dragon Lane ; I think his residence is there.

3589. Your wife paid it to him for his vote ?—Yes. James Alloway, the brother of Arthur Alloway, the same by my wife.

3590. By your direction ?—Yes.

3591. For his vote ?—Yes.

3592. Five pounds ?—Yes. I gave George Lane for Henry Lane 5*l.*

3593. Was that to purchase Henry Lane's vote ?—Yes, to purchase his vote. William Peer, travelling expenses from Swansea, and for his vote, 7*l.*

3594. Does he live at Swansea ?—I do not know that he does now ; I do not know where his residence is now ; he does not live in Gloucester. I advanced to William Wilkes, of Llanthony, 4*l.*

3595. Was that for his vote ?—I never had it repaid ; I advanced it to him. I considered it was for his vote.

3596. Where is Llanthony ?—In the neighbourhood of this city.

3597. How much was it you paid him ?—£4.

3598. For what purpose ?—For his vote.

3599. What was William Wilkes ?—A labourer. I advanced to Mr. William Withers, for the purchase of votes, from 12*l.* to 18*l.* ; but I cannot charge my memory with their names now.

3600. Who is William Withers ?—He keeps a beer-house in Quay Street. I cannot charge my memory with the exact sum, but it was from 12*l.* to 18*l.*

3601. Is he the person who keeps the Lamb and Lark ?—It was formerly called the Lamb and Lark ; it is now called the Anchor.

3602. Was that for the purchase of votes ?—Yes. I advanced to a person named James Williams, a non-elector, for the purchase of a vote, I do not know the name ; this has struck me within the last hour. I have added daily some names that occur to me, and may do so to the close of the Commission.

3603. What is James Williams ?—A labourer.

3604. Where does he live ?—I do not know what you would call it ; it is near the Canal.

3605. How much did you give to him ?—£5.

3606. (*Mr. Welford.*) You do not know the name of the voter ?—No ; but I could ascertain and let you know. Those are the whole of the parties I know of at present.

3607. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Those are all the sums you have paid away ?—To the best of my recollection. If anything else should occur to my mind (I want to tell the truth about it as far as I can) I will tell you. I have given all the names, to the best of my recollection.

3608. From whom did you receive those monies that you advanced to the parties you have named ?—From Mr. Wilton, the greatest portion of it.

3609. How much did you receive from Mr. Wilton ?—Mr. Wilton says I received 81*l.* from him, and I have no right to doubt what he says.

3610. Did you receive from Mr. Wilton the various amounts of money you have stated here as the amounts you either advanced or paid to parties for their votes ?—No, I do not think I did. I recollect receiving other sums of money besides.

3611. You received from Mr. Wilton 81*l.* ?—Yes, that I dare say is the sum.

3612. About 81*l.* ?—About 81*l.* it may have been.

3613. Did you receive any other money ?—I received from Mr. Robinson on the morning of the polling some money, but I cannot tell, owing to the hurry of polling, what the amount was.

3614. About how much ?—I cannot tell ; it may have been 15*l.*, 20*l.*, or 25*l.*, but I should not think it would exceed 30*l.* I would not swear it, but I believe it was not more than that. It is impossible for me, not having made any memorandum in the hurry and confusion, to tell the amount.

3615. Who is Mr. Robinson ?—A merchant at the docks ; Mr. Thomas Robinson.

3616. Is he a corn-merchant ?—Yes,

3617. Did you receive any money from any other person ?—For the purpose of bribery ?

3618. Yes.—Not that I recollect ; I do not think I did of any one.

3619. From whom did you receive the money which you employed in treating ?—From Mr. Wilton 30*l.* or perhaps 40*l.*, or it may have been more.

3620. Was that in addition to the sum of 81*l.* you have now mentioned ?—Yes.

3621. In addition to it ?—Yes, in addition to it.

3622. And that sum you stated just now was 30*l.*, perhaps 40*l.*, or it may have been more ?—Yes.

3623. For the purpose of treating ?—Yes.

3624. That you say you had from Mr. Wilton ?—Yes ; it was during the election ; they usually met in the evening, and if there were voters there we would treat them ; if they were voters. That was the way the money was expended ; the amount I never kept any account of.

3625. I understand you to say that that money you received from Mr. Wilton in addition to the sum of 81*l.* ?—Yes, in addition to the sum of 81*l.*

3626. From whom did you receive the money which you paid for the messengers and clerks ?—I received some from different parties during the time the election was going on, to the best of my recollection. I have nothing to tell me only my recollection. I remember having received money on one occasion from Mr. Wilkes, on another occasion from Mr. Innell, and at another time from Mr. Jordan. I was glad to receive it from anybody, as there was no money to be got from the regular agents.

3627. From Mr. Wilkes ?—Yes ; I think I borrowed 10*l.* from him.

3628. And how much from Mr. Innell ?—I think I got 10*l.* from him. I beg to remark that I have charged all this to Mr. Wilton, inasmuch as he said he would settle with Mr. Innell, and I have said this money was paid by Mr. Wilton.

3629. I am now confining your attention to the money paid to the messengers and clerks ?—That is the very thing I mean.

3630. The total amount for messengers and clerks you told us just now was 407*l.* ?—Yes.

3631. How do you make up that 407*l.* with respect to the different persons from whom you received money ?—The way I reckon it is this, I was paid by Mr. Bretherton and Mr. Jordan on the part of the candidates 208*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* ; that was the amount as nearly as I can recollect.

3632. Where did you get the money from ?—Mr. Wilton paid me, taking into consideration the sums I had had of Mr. Innell, which he said he had repaid, 188*l.* 11*s.*

3633. Then Mr. Innell had advanced you 10*l.* ?—Mr. Wilkes advanced me 10*l.* I would explain that Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Innell advanced me 10*l.*, and Mr. Wilton told me I was not to take any notice of that, as when he had a remittance down he would pay Mr. Innell the money back, because Mr. Innell only made a temporary advance to me.

3634. You mean to say that that was included in the 188*l.* ?—Yes ; I included Mr. Innell's amount in the 188*l.*

3635. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you quite sure you got 10*l.* from Mr. Innell ?—Yes ; more than 10*l.* I had altogether. I had 4*l.* on one occasion ; that is, he paid in my absence to some messengers and clerks, on the eve of Good Friday, 4*l.* 4*s.*

3636. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you to say you included in that 188*l.* the money you received from Mr. Innell ?—The money paid me by Mr. Innell I gave Mr. Wilton credit for.

3637. And how much did you get from Mr. Wilkes ?—£10.

3638. Mr. Innell's advance to you was only temporary ?—Only temporary.

3639. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Innell speaks of advancing 40*l.* ?—I think he advanced me 40*l.* for the purpose of paying messengers altogether, at different times.

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3640. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are those sums you have stated to us the total sums which passed through your hands during the election?—For messengers and clerks, or altogether.

3641. Altogether?—I would not positively swear; as I have stated before, if anything else should occur to me, I will tell you, but as far as I recollect at present, that is all the money I received.

3642. As far as you recollect, that was the whole of the money you paid for messengers, clerks, refreshments, and the purchases of votes?—I think I spent rather more money than you have said for refreshments; I think it was more than 40*l*.

3643. I have only put down what you have said?—I should say 50*l*. would be nearer than 40*l*. I tell you as nearly as I possibly can.

3644. Are you well acquainted with the constituency of Gloucester?—I have been a registration agent now nearly four years, and I know something about it.

3645. Did you know the politics of the greater portion of the voters?—I did; I thought I did.

3646. Did you know how they had voted in 1857?—I did.

3647. Did you find that, with respect to the poll in 1859, there has been a considerable change of opinion among the voters?—Yes, I did.

3648. Did you find that amongst those who voted for the Liberal candidates in 1857 there were some who voted in 1859 for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

3649. You did find some who voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1859?—There were some, no doubt, but there were very few, I should imagine.

3650. You think there were very few?—Very few indeed.

3651. Were there many who voted in 1857 for Sir Robert Carden who voted in 1859 for the Liberal candidates?—There were.

3652. Do you consider that that change in their mode of voting was attributable to bribery?—Not altogether; it was in a measure, but not altogether. I considered the reason for the change was that Sir Robert Carden made himself very unpopular, both in his mayoralty, his conduct to the city of Gloucester, and in the promises he had not performed; he made himself so unpopular that the cry was against him altogether. I think that was one cause of his defeat. I think the money which we used, as well as them, contributed to make the defeat so very severe. That is all the effect it had,—making the majority so very large. I believe it would have been possible to have won without money; I think it would. The majority was larger than it had been for many many years in this town.

3653. Have you made any calculation as to the number of persons altogether who were bribed to vote for the Liberal candidates?—No, I never have; I could not tell that.

3654. But your majority was very large, and you think the Liberal candidates might have been returned without resorting to bribery?—I think they might.

3655. In what way could you arrive at that conclusion if you had not yourself considered what the numbers were?—From the increase of Liberal voters on the register. In 1857 Sir Robert Carden won, I think, by a majority of 33, or something like that. On their side they resorted to bribery on that occasion, and we did nothing; and now on this occasion when we did a little along with them, the result is plainly seen.

3656. When you say that in 1857 the party of Sir Robert Carden resorted to bribery, do you speak from mere rumour or from actual knowledge?—From actual knowledge.

3657. Had you any reason to believe that bribery was being practised at the last election before you began to take steps for bribing voters yourself?—We knew that they would resort to those means, because we knew there was no chance for them unless they did, consequently we were prepared to meet them.

3658. Did you expect that your majority would have been so large as it was when you began to take steps for securing votes by bribery?—We did not expect so large a majority, nor should we have had so large a majority only the other side ceased to spend their money after a certain hour, seeing that we ran off with the lead so fast.

3659. Would you not attribute the fact of that large majority to the circumstance that Sir Robert Carden's friends did not bribe so extensively as the friends of the Liberal party did?—No; I should not attribute it to that; they did not continue to bribe as long, but they were quite as fierce while they were at it, and rather more, I think, two or three days previously.

3660. From your knowledge upon the subject are you enabled to say that they began to bribe as early as you did?—Yes; there was scarcely an elector that I canvassed privately but told me that he had been offered money by Sir Robert Carden's friends.

3661. Shall you be able to furnish the Commissioners with the names of the electors who told you that money had been offered to them by Sir Robert Carden's friends?—I shall.

3662. Was there any transaction at all that you yourself and Jefferson Bryon were concerned in?—I do not think there was any whatever further than going in and having something to take as we passed by during the canvass. I had no dealings with him in money matters or anything of that sort, to the best of my recollection.

3663. Jefferson Bryon, I believe, keeps the Berkeley Arms, does he not?—Yes, he does.

3664. You were in that house from time to time during the election, were you not?—I occasionally called in.

3665. Were you not there very frequently?—No; my business was in the committee-room. I canvassed all day with the candidates, and I had something to do in the evening at the committee-room. I occasionally dropped in there, but not very often.

3666. Where did the Reform Association hold its meetings?—At the Fountain Inn.

3667. During the election?—I do not think they had above one or two meetings; I forget now; I would not be positive.

3668. Was the Fountain Inn open for the gratuitous supply of refreshments?—Oh dear no; at least I never heard of anything of the sort.

3669. Are you aware what claims have been sent in by the keepers of public-houses or inns in Gloucester?—I never had any, and I did not know that any were sent in.

3670. You never heard of any?—I think I heard a man named Perris who told me he was owed a little amount for beer, but he never told me who authorized him to draw it, and consequently I said I could not undertake to pay it.

3671. With the exception of Perris you do not recollect any person who has made any claim in respect of refreshments supplied by him or in his house on behalf of the Liberal candidates?—I do not recollect anybody. I forgot to mention one circumstance; I have had a claim sent to me by a person named Harris, living at the back of the Shire Hall, for a certain quantity of beer supplied to the messengers, which has never been paid for yet; a portion of it is disputed, as there was no authority from me to let the messengers have beer without my orders; some portion of this beer was ordered by me.

3672. What is the amount?—I forget now; it is 4*l*. some odd shillings.

3673. The claim is for beer supplied to messengers?—Yes; and there is a man named Withers in the same predicament, but I do not consider the party is liable for the payment of those things.

3674. I do not ask as to the liability?—He did show me his bill, and he asked me to stop it from the messengers, but the messengers told me I had no authority to stop their money, and I did not do so.

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3675. What Withers is that; William Withers?—Yes.

3676. Do you know how much his claim was?—No; I forget the amount; it was something like 4*l.* or 5*l.*, I believe. He will tell you when he comes to be examined.

3677. That was also for refreshments to messengers?—Yes.

3678. Then there are refreshments that were supplied to messengers at your house?—Yes; a portion of that money I got, and there is a portion unpaid now.

3679. The total amount, including that which you have received, amounts to how much?—I cannot tell; I would not undertake to say at present; I will endeavour to get near it another time, but I could not undertake to say now.

3680. Those refreshments which were supplied at your house were supplied to messengers, were they not?—Yes; there were sometimes other parties who came with the messengers and had part with them.

3681. I suppose the messengers had authority from you to go there and have what they wanted?—Yes; but of course it was considered that they had to pay out of their wages for what they had.

3682. Did you deduct the money from the messengers?—I did.

3683. From the wages of the messengers?—I did, according to what my wife told me each had had; I deducted the money from their pay.

3684. How much did you deduct?—Whatever my wife said they had drank.

3685. Do you not know how much you deducted?—From all the lot?

3686. Yes?—I cannot tell you; some would have five shillings, and some would have none.

3687. How much in the gross did you deduct from the amount paid to the messengers?—I do not know in the gross; I never put down one sum.

3688. Can you undertake to say that the messengers were not told that they could go to other public houses and get refreshments as they wanted?—Never; not by my authority.

3689. Not to that house of Harris's?—No. What I did there was to send for the beer, and let them have it in the rooms; I gave Harris special orders for that, and am liable to pay for it.

3690. Did you not tell Withers that they might go to his house and get refreshments?—No; I told Withers to let them have a certain quantity in the rooms, but I never told them to go and get it.

3691. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you consider that you are liable to Withers?—For the amount I ordered, which would be very trifling.

3692. (*Mr. Welford*). Did you canvass the electors separately from the candidates?—I have canvassed the electors of an evening.

3693. On what occasions were you told by the electors that they had refused offers of money from Sir Robert Carden's friends?—I have gone and asked them for their votes, and their answer would be, "What can you give me?" I said, "What do you "want?" "Well, I have been offered so and so by "Mr. So and So of Sir Robert Carden's party;" that was the way I was met invariably.

3694. You were known among the electors as a person likely to give money if money was to be given?—Exactly; I suppose that is what they thought.

3695. You would be more likely to have that observation made to you than most other canvassers on your side?—Yes, I should; but there are other people who have had the same observations made to them besides me.

3696. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) From your experience in Gloucester, can you make any estimate as to the number of voters on the other side who usually take money for their votes? First of all, give us the number on your own side?—I do not consider a venal voter to be on anybody's side, except the side where the money is.

3697. How many voters do you suppose there are in Gloucester who would, if they could, take bribes?—I do not know I have heard a very celebrated man say, he believes that everybody might be had if one went to his price.

3698. I am asking, from your own experience, how many men are likely men to take bribes?—I can give you a rough guess; I could not give it you now. I will hand in to-morrow or Saturday, or any other time, what I consider to be the probable number.

3699. Can you give me the probable number on your own side?—I could not undertake to say on my own side; I could give you the whole number. You can have them on any side if you have the money to give them, so that I cannot separate them.

3700. (*Mr. Welford.*) But you can give us on another day an estimate?—Yes; I can give you the number of those who I consider would go on either side.

3701. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you told us as nearly as you can the whole of the money you have received?—Yes, to the best of my recollection.

3702. Can you give us any information which would lead us to a knowledge whether any more money was expended in bribery than we have heard from Mr. Wilton?—No, I cannot.

3703. You have heard Mr. Wilton's statement, have you not?—A portion of it. I have not been in court most of the time. I saw it in the "Times," most of it.

3704. Are you at all aware of any more money having been spent in Gloucester than he has accounted for?—No.

3705. Is it your belief that the 700*l.* or 800*l.*, of which he has given evidence, is all that was spent on the Liberal side at the last election?—I really believe it is, to the best of my knowledge; I do not know of any more being spent.

3706. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know a man of the name of William Merrett?—I do know him.

3707. Did you offer him any money?—Never.

3708. Not at all?—Never in my life a penny.

3709. Do you remember treating him?—Not previous to the election, I do not; I never remember doing so previous to the election.

3710. Do you remember seeing him at the Berkeley Arms?—Subsequent to the election?

3711. No; before the election?—No; I am almost positive that I was not in the Berkeley Arms with him.

3712. Can you undertake to say that you were not in the Berkeley Arms with Merrett before the election?—To the best of my recollection I was not. I have no recollection of such a thing.

3713. Were you in the habit of going with different voters to public houses and treating them?—No; I was not much in the habit of doing that. I have gone into a public house while I was on the canvass, and if there have been any voters there I have put my hand in my pocket and paid for a gallon of ale, and gone on my canvass, whether they were voters or not.

3714. Were you so liberal as to give people beer whether they were voters or not?—Yes; because the landlord has got to be conciliated as much as the voters sometimes.

3715. If the landlord was not a voter, and if there were no voters in his house, you would not have dispensed any beer?—I should not have gone in.

3716. Do you remember a man of the name of James Vaile?—I do.

3717. Did you offer him any money?—Never a shilling.

3718. Did you treat him?—Yes; we had some cider together; he partook of cider and tobacco. That was all we drank, I think.

3719. Did you see him more than once?—No; that was the only time I saw him.

3720. Was it at Westbury you saw him?—Yes; I went up on purpose to see him, having known him for twenty years or more.

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3721. You say you had something there to drink, and whatever was drunk you paid for?—I did.

3722. Do you remember a man named Greening?—Yes, I know him very well.

3723. He was one of the messengers, was he not?—Yes, he was.

3724. Do you know altogether how much Greening got?—I think it was 3*l.* 13*s.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*; I would not be positive.

3725. Have you ever heard that he received altogether as much as 13*l.*?—No; I never heard such a thing, unless he was paid for going up to London on the petition, and that made up the amount; he was not paid that for his vote; he never had that sum for his vote.

3726. I am asking whether or not you know or have any belief as to his receiving 13*l.* for voting for Price and Monk?—I do not believe, solemnly, that he ever received thirteen pence over and above what I have stated on that sheet of paper which I have handed in, to the best of my knowledge; he did not receive it from me.

3727. Was he not in the habit of going to your house, the "Running Horse," and having beer there without paying for it?—Yes; I have no doubt he had more beer than he ever paid for; he paid for a portion of it. If I had charged for all he had I should have taken all his money.

3728. But there were a good many persons in the same position as Greening, were there not?—No, not like him; he was a very greedy bad old fellow, and of a very bad lot.

3729. Did you ever give anything to a man named Beard, at the station?—Not a shilling; I never spoke to the man; I never asked him for his vote in my life.

3730. Do you know a person of the name of Wingate?—Yes; he was employed a portion of the time; there were two or three Wingates appointed a portion of the time as messengers, but they only came for a portion of their pay; they polled for Sir Robert Carden, and I suppose they were ashamed to come for the remainder. I employed them as messengers to the committee.

3731. Your messengers you consider committee men, do you?—No, they are only servants to the committee; they are there to deliver messages.

3732. What do you say about Henry Brooks Wingate and Frederick Wingate?—They were both on a portion of the time.

3733. One pound fifteen shillings is charged for each?—Yes; they would have had considerably more, only they polled for Sir Robert Carden; they never were paid the rest.

3734. Why did they not come to receive their money?—They never came after the remainder of their money, because they polled for Sir Robert Carden; they never came near the committee-room for the remainder of their money,

3735. How many persons who were employed by you as messengers, and received a portion of the money, afterwards went and voted for Sir Robert Carden?—I do not know from my memory; I could tell you by looking through the list. (*The list is handed to the witness, who examines it.*) There were about nine of that sort, as near as possible.

3736. Were you, during the election, at the room in the house of Hutton, the hairdresser?—Never during the election. I was at the door.

3737. You were never at Hutton's at all?—I never was up in his room where the committee sat, and never met the committee there.

3738. Hutton, a hairdresser?—Yes; I never was in his room.

3739. Have you seen people go in and out there?—Yes; I stood there on one occasion, talking to Mr. Herbert, the solicitor, for half an hour or more, and then I saw people going in and out, people living in the neighbourhood that I had nothing to do with; that is the only occasion when I was at the house when the committee was meeting.

3740. Did you ever see Mr. Innell go in there?—Never.

CHARLES FREDERICK COOKSEY sworn and examined.

C. F. Cooksey.

3741. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A wholesale grocer and cheese-factor.

3742. You were a partizan, I believe, of the Liberal candidates at the last election?—I profess Liberal principles.

3743. You were a supporter of the Liberal candidates?—Yes.

3744. Did you take an active part in their return?—Not in the last election.

3745. Did you in the election in 1857?—I did.

3746. You advanced some money at the last election, did you not?—I lent Mr. John Wilton, junior, a sum of 40*l.* on the morning of the election.

3747. Did he tell you for what purpose he required it?—He came to me at seven in the morning. I came down. He said, "I wish you would let me have some "money." I said, "I am not very sweet on lending "money on election matters." He said, "I want "same very bad, and you must let me have it;" and good-naturedly I advanced him 40*l.*

3748. Did he tell you for what purpose he wanted the money?—No.

3749. Did he tell you that it was for the purchase of votes?—No.

3750. Had you any reason to believe that at the time you let him have that money it was to be employed in that way?—I knew the election was about, and I presumed it was for election purposes; no doubt that was the impression on my mind; but I took no part in the election, and knew nothing of the way the thing was going.

3751. Is that the only sum you advanced to Mr. Wilton?—Yes, the only sum I advanced to Mr. Wilton or any one else.

2752. Did you take any part in canvassing?—No, not to my knowledge; I do not believe I canvassed a single voter.

3753. You did not offer any money to any person for his vote?—No.

3754. You did not offer any inducement to any person?—Not in the least; not in any way whatever.

3755. Have you had any conversation with persons during or since the election from which you are able to disclose any circumstances relating to bribery?—No; no more than I heard in this court, and all I have heard in this court was quite new to me.

3756. Have you been repaid that 40*l.*?—No; there is the acknowledgment for it (*handing an I.O.U. to the Commissioners*), and I have not been repaid it.

3757. To whom did you look for payment of that money?—Mr. John Wilton, most certainly.

3758. Does the part that you took in the election of 1857 enable you to afford any information as to the nature of that contest?—No; the 1857 election was closed in such a discreditable manner, my name was so roughly handled, and I was so shamefully treated in the committee of the House of Commons, where I was accused of a crime I was as innocent of as your Lordships on that bench, that I became perfectly disgusted. I repudiate the charge here in the face of God and man as being wholly false.

3759. There was some allegation made against you before the committee of the House of Commons?—Yes; it was said that I had offered Thomas Mills, a tenant of mine in those days, 5*l.* for his vote; I had taken no part in the election whatever; I am prepared to state that.

3760. That was stated by some witness, I suppose, in the evidence?—It was stated by a poor decrepit imbecile man. I have been told he was quite delirious all the time he was there, and that he was kept up by strong drink, and they made that poor man state that which he has often since admitted to be false. I am

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C. F. Cooksey.
29 Sept. 1859.

prepared now to give to his statement my most distinct contradiction, and I am very pleased to have the opportunity of doing so.

3761. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were not called before the committee?—No.

3762. Is Mills living?—I am not aware of his being dead. He is still alive, I have no doubt, but he is a very old decrepit man.

3763. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you requested to go to London on the petition in 1857?—Yes.

3764. Did you go?—Yes; I was requested by Mr. Ellis to go.

3765. But you were not called as a witness?—I was not called as a witness; I was prepared to go as a witness.

3766. But you deny that there was any truth in the statement which was made with regard to you?—deny it most emphatically as being a base falsehood.

3767. Is there any other statement you have to make with regard to that election?—No, nothing.

3768. Have you any knowledge of your own as to whether or not bribery existed at that election to any extent?—I am not prepared to say there was; I know nothing of any case of bribery at all. I am one of the trustees of the Reform Club; I think it right to say that; I mean the Gloucester Reform Club. I am prepared to tell the Commissioners that the funds of that club have been all through my hands, and I do not believe that one farthing of the funds of the Gloucester Reform Club have been appropriated to any purpose but strictly for the benefit of the society.

3769. If any of the money belonging to that club had been applied to political purposes you must have known of it?—Most certainly I should.

3770. And your knowledge enables you to say that none has been so applied?—Yes; and I speak not only from my own knowledge, but I am in a position to show it by figures.

3771. We have not heard that any money has been so applied?—I merely make that observation in case anything of the kind should be said.

3772. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How came you to conclude that Mr. Wilton wanted the money he borrowed of you for election purposes?—Because it was at the time of the election.

3773. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Mr. Wilton tell you he had been applying money for the purposes of the election?—No.

3774. How was it that Mr. Wilton came to you to ask for money?—I do not know; he came to me about seven in the morning, and I was not up.

3775. Did he tell you he wanted it for any purpose?—He said that he wanted money very badly.

3776. You said you refused it at first?—I refused it once or twice.

3777. You did not let him go away without it?—No; I let him have the 40*l.* I happened to have had 40*l.* in silver which I had taken from a customer, and I took his own personal acknowledgment for it.

J. Fletcher.

JAMES FLETCHER sworn and examined.

3778. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a grocer?—Yes.

3779. Living in Alvin Street?—Yes.

3780. Did you receive some money from Thomas Brewer Monk?—I did.

3781. Was that a sum of 12*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

3782. To what purpose did you apply that money?—I bought a couple of votes with it.

3783. What were the names of the voters?—John Llewellyn was one.

3784. Of where?—In Worcester Parade, I believe he lives.

3785. What is he?—A carpenter.

3786. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what parish?—St. John's.

3787. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him?—£5.

3788. To vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

3789. Did he vote for them?—Yes.

3790. Who was the other?—Edmund Harris, or Edwin, I do not know which, I am sure; he is a gentleman well known as one of those that went to London against the Liberals.

3791. What is he?—He is a butcher.

3792. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where does he live?—At the corner of Alvin Street, London Road, St. John's parish.

3793. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you give to him?—£5; they both wanted 6*l.*, but I told them the figure did not run so high.

3794. That was 5*l.* to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

3795. And did he vote?—Yes.

3796. What became of the balance?—That went into the sinking fund.

3797. What fund was that?—Drink and tobacco amongst the voters.

3798. At different public houses?—Yes.

3799. You accompanied the voters, and paid the money, did you?—Yes, on account of the victory we had had that day. I got rather beyond myself.

3800. That was after the election, was it?—Yes.

3801. Not before the election?—No. I will tell you, if you will be kind enough to hear me, why I drew the money, and who I drew it for. I did not draw it for these two voters, but I drew it for three parties who had promised me, previous to the day of the polling; one was Giles Taylor, a butcher.

3802. Where does he live?—He lives in Sweet Briar Street; and the next was for Thomas Taylor, a brother to Giles.

3803. Where does he live?—He lives in Columbia Street; and the next was Henry Lane, a costermonger. I was to give him 2*l.* 10*s.* to poll for Mr. Monk.

3804. Who is Henry Lane?—A costermonger.

3805. Living where?—He is living in St. Catherine's parish somewhere; in St. Catherine Street, I believe.

3806. You did not give the money to those persons?—No. Most naturally you would like to know how I lost those for whom I had drawn the money.

3807. Yes, I should very much?—On the morning of polling I went, as a matter of course, for my men. I went to Giles Taylor first, and he told me to wait till he had had a cup of tea. I said, "Perhaps your "tea is not sweet enough this morning; will a little "sugar do it any good, do you think?" He asked me the amount of it, and I told him 5*l.* was the outside figure. I was satisfied they were having more from the other party, consequently I did not attempt to stint him to what I had drawn for him. He said, that would not do for him. I asked him why, and he said it was not enough, he could have more than that. I told him I was very sorry to lose him, but I was not in a position to give him any more.

3808. He said he could have more from whom?—He said he could have more than that; he did not say from whom, but I can tell you who I suppose it must have been from, for in dropped Mr. Butt.

3809. Who is he?—He carries on the large works at the iron foundry.

3810. Did he come in while you were there?—I have rather overrun my tale, and I beg your pardon for it. I had not got the money with me then when I promised him this 5*l.*; and I said, "During "the time you are taking your cup of tea I will go "and fetch it." Consequently, I believe the man would have come and polled for me for the 5*l.* had it not been for the interruption of Mr. Butt. When I got back Mr. Butt was about the neighbourhood, and saw me go in, and he followed.

3811. When you went in Butt followed?—He had come out then when I came the second time, and Butt met him at the end of the passage, and I said, "Come on;" and he was absolutely coming with me then. I have entirely omitted giving it you in regularity, but you will excuse me for that if you

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please. I met him at the passage, and I said, "Come on, Giles" (I could see the danger); so Mr. Butt called him, and of course Giles went to him, and ultimately it turned out that he would not come with me at all. As a matter of course I asked, would he come, several times, and he said "No;" and at the out of it there was a man of the name of Leach, a fighting man, who was put in possession of this man, and of course a poor minor character like me was bound then to give up.

3812. Mr. Butt handed over Giles Taylor to Leach?—Yes; or put Leach in charge of him.

3813. And did they go off to the poll together?—I suppose so; I lost him in consequence of it. I ran away from him to his brother directly, up in the market.

3814. At what time was this?—It was very soon after eight o'clock; I went to his brother in the market from there, for I could see I had lost him.

3815. Mr. Butt, you say, is an ironmonger?—He is the master at the iron-foundry.

3816. When you found you had lost Giles Taylor, you went off to the brother?—Yes; I thought to work a little stratagem there. I ran over to Thomas at the market, and I said, "Now, Thomas, I have been and polled your brother;" and he says, "You have?" and I says, "Yes, and you will come and do the same," says I, "for the same sum."

3817. Had you before seen the brother, Thomas Taylor, about it?—Yes; they had both promised me.

3818. And they had both agreed?—Yes; not for the money. They promised me under the circumstances, that they depended on my doing as well for them as they could be done by.

3819. Although no fixed sum was mentioned, was it understood between you and them that they were to have something for their votes?—Yes, decidedly.

3820. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) They were to be paid the market price?—Yes; I told them I would do as well by them as they could be done by, and at that they agreed, and they promised me, and would have come and voted for me, I dare say, if I could have found as much as they had from the other party. I said to Thomas Taylor, Giles had had *5l.*, and that there was the same for him. He exclaimed against that, and said he had made an oath that he would not go under 10*l.* I told him I could not give him any such money, and consequently I left him; and in about a quarter of an hour after I saw him going down Westgate-street with Mr. Maysey, and, I think, Mr. Franklin and others. I cannot exactly say what others, but those were the men I firmly believe.

3821. What is Mr. Maysey?—A hairdresser. I believe it was Maysey and Franklin who were with him; I would not swear to it, but I believe they were the persons.

3822. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have only a belief as to either of them?—As to either of them.

3823. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How near were you to them?—Only on the other side of the street; my memory does not serve me sometimes so well as it should do, but my conviction is that they were the parties.

3824. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It is a question of eyesight, not of memory, is it not?—No, I knew them very well when I saw them, both of them; it is memory, and not sight, that prevents my swearing positively.

3825. Who is Maysey?—A hairdresser.

3826. And who is Franklin?—A cordwainer.

3827. What have you to say with regard to the third person, Henry Lane?—I went after him, and he came down stairs to me; it was in Quay Lane where I met with him.

3828. Does he live there?—No, I believe not; it was at his daughter's; it was in the morning; he was there to be accessible. I took him into the back place, and I pulled out some gold, and I said, "Now, "Harry, will you perform your promise?" And she runs down stairs (that is, his daughter,) and says, "Father, no, you shall not go along with any of them "without you have the money first," and she was for keeping him. I said, "I have the money in "my pocket." She swore in London that she saw the money, but, however, she never did.

3829. You were willing to give the money?—I should have given him his 2*l.* 10*s.* after he polled, but not before: if they are unprincipled enough to take money for their votes I should never trust them to have it first.

3830. Did you offer him the money?—Yes; I intended to give it him too, if he had come and polled and given Mr. Monk half. I shewed him the money as a temptation, to shew I was in reality; that was the reason that I showed him the money.

3831. Two pounds ten shillings?—Yes.

3832. Did he say anything about accepting or not accepting it?—He said I was to come for him again by and by. I promised him I would go there again in an hour. During that time I disposed of 10*l.* out of this 12*l.* 10*s.* to those other men that I mentioned to you, Llewellyn and Harris. Then I asked Thomas Brewer Monk, because it was getting on close to eleven o'clock, whether he felt Henry Lane was worth his 2*l.* 10*s.* or not, and Monk said, if he had not got it I was not to let him have it, consequently I never went near him any more.

3833. Did he poll?—I dare say he did.

3834. You do not know whether he did or not?—I have no doubt that he polled. I never went to interfere with him again.

3835. Was he to have more than 2*l.* 10*s.* if he voted for both candidates?—I promised him at the time you are speaking of, when I solicited him, that if he would vote for the two Liberal members, he should have as much again, that was *5l.*

3836. And did he agree to that?—He agreed to accept the 2*l.* 10*s.* and brought his God to witness it in his language.

3837. Besides that 12*l.* 10*s.* did you receive any money from any other person for votes?—No.

3838. Did you pay any money yourself out of your own pocket for votes?—No.

3839. None at all?—No, none whatever.

3840. You did not provide any money out of your own pocket to purchase any votes?—No. It cost me a good deal of money one way and another, but not for voters or men to vote. I lost a deal of time.

3841. Did you receive any money at all for your own services?—No.

3842. From any one?—No, I am not in the habit of doing it.

3843. Did Brewer Monk come to you and give you the 12*l.* 10*s.* or did you go to him?—I went to him.

3844. How came you to go him?—I went to the committee room. It was not to him particularly I went for the money, but he happened to be a man in possession of money at the time, and he gave it to me.

3845. Were you directed to apply to him for the money?—No, I had a pretty clear understanding where to go to for money.

3846. It was entirely your own doing that you went to Brewer Monk and received from him that money?—It was entirely my own doing; I went to the head committee room. Brewer Monk was there and had the money and disposed of the money 12*l.* 10*s.* to me.

3847. What is Henry Lane?—A costermonger; he sells oysters at night and things of that sort.

3848. You saw him in Quay Lane that morning, but where does he live?—He lives in St. Catherine Street.

3849. Is that all you know of the bribery existing at the last election?—Yes, that is all that I was implicated in.

3850. Have you received any information from any person as to other cases?—No.

3851. Neither on one side nor the other?—No, I did not look after other people's affairs.

3852. Did you take any part in the election of 1857?—No, nor I should not have taken any part in this election. I have heard so much of bribery that I have got quite annoyed at the very word bribery;

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J. Fletcher.
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and the reason I took an active part this time was because we should have two substantial friends for the ballot, that was Price and Monk, otherwise I never bribed any one before, and never canvassed any one before, and never had anything to do with electioneering before. My object in taking the active part I did was I thought it would be perhaps something in furtherance of the ballot, and so crush the bribery beneath one's feet.

3853. Do you mean you had heard of bribery which had prevailed at former elections?—Yes.

3854. Was it within your own knowledge that it had?—No, but I have heard people in public houses, for instance, this very Giles Taylor, say so, and that was the reason why I was not in any way afraid of dealing with him; he is that firm in his mouth there is no getting it open at all; what he receives he keeps to himself. I do not know what he will do if he is put on his oath.

3855. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I do not think you have told us who were the parties who partook of the treating to the amount of 2*l.* 10*s.*?—It was at the close of the poll when the party I was friendly towards were declared victors, consequently I was not particular who had a share of it.

3856. Were you in London before the Committee?—No.

3857. Did you know that Henry Lane had been there?—Yes.

3858. He does not seem to have told this story of you?—He did though.

3859. Is not the Henry Lane you have been speaking of the man who was before the Committee?—Yes.

3860. It seems he was bribed by his brother or cousin?—That is a different one; this is Henry Lane, senior.

3861. Who did this Henry Lane vote for?—For Sir Robert Carden.

3861*a*. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is the man about whom you have spoken the man who voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; the man I offered the 2*l.* 10*s.* to is the man who voted for Sir Robert Carden.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

Fifth Day.—30th September 1859.

R. Wilton.
30 Sept. 1859.

ROBERT WILTON sworn and examined.

3862. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor in Gloucester?—I am.

3863. And the uncle, we understand, of Mr. John Pleydell Wilton?—Yes.

3864. We understand that you were applied to to become the agent of Mr. Monk at the last election?—I was, by Mr. Monk.

3865. By Mr. Monk, the candidate?—The candidate.

3866. When was the application made to you by Mr. Monk?—It was made first by letter.

3867. When was that?—Very soon after he announced himself as a candidate.

3868. And afterwards?—And afterwards in person, when he came to Gloucester.

3869. Did you decline to become the agent?—I did.

3870. Had you any reason for doing so?—None at all, excepting that I had acted as agent before for Sir Maurice Berkeley, and had made up my mind that I would never act again for any other individual; that was my only reason.

3871. You had made up your mind not to act for any candidate long before the commencement of the last election?—Decidedly, excepting for any member of the Berkeley family.

3872. We hear that the sum of 200*l.* was sent to you by Mr. Moffatt?—I do not know who it was sent by; I did receive from a friend, I suppose, of Mr. Monk's a sum of 200*l.*

3873. Do you not know from whom that came?—I do not.

3874. Did it come to you by letter?—No; I had an application very soon after the election commenced, or rather previous to the election, by Brewer Monk, for some money for preliminary expenses. He stated that there was no one to whom he could apply, and that it was absolutely necessary to have it. I then told him to call upon Mr. Jordan (who had been then, or soon afterwards, appointed committee clerk) upon the subject, and said I would see him.

3875. You would see Mr. Jordan?—I would see Mr. Jordan. I called upon Mr. Jordan and told him of the application that had been made, and that as there was nobody to represent, in any shape, Mr. Monk at that time, and as it was absolutely necessary to have some money for preliminary expenses, I would give him 25*l.*, which I requested he would give me credit for, and render me an account of afterwards. Mr. Jordan, a short time afterwards, a fortnight or three weeks, rendered me an account of it, and returned me, I think it was, 13*l.* 4*s.*, having given an account of the 11*l.* 16*s.* which he had expended.

3876. You did advance the 25*l.*?—Yes, I did, out of my own pocket, and requested him to keep an account and render it to me, which he did; about a fortnight after that, or about a week before the nomination, Brewer Monk applied to me for money to pay messengers; he said that they were becoming very dissatisfied, he did not know what would be the result; that they had not been paid. I asked him what sum would be necessary; he said 50*l.*; I then said, "If Mr. Price's agent, Mr. Ellis, will give 25*l.* I will "advance 25*l.* out of my own pocket; it is a legiti- "mate payment, and I shall not hesitate to do it." I saw Mr. Swann, the partner of Mr. Ellis; I applied to him for the 25*l.*, I received the amount, and that sum with my 25*l.*, making 50*l.*, I think I delivered to my nephew, Mr. John Wilton; I am not quite sure, but I think he was the individual who received it, to give to Monk to pay to the messengers. Finding these applications coming, I called upon Mr. David Walker, or Mr. Walker happened to call upon me.

3877. Who is Mr. David Walker?—Of Gloucester, a printer. I stated how necessary it was that there should be some individual in Gloucester who might have the command of some money for legitimate purposes; that I had had these applications made to me, and that it was absolutely necessary, from my experience in electioneering matters before, that something of the sort should be done, and that if he could arrange that a sum of 200*l.* should be paid to my credit at the bank, I would take charge of it.

3878. Did you say what bank?—The county of Gloucester bank. In two or three days afterwards that sum was paid to my credit. On the morning, I think, of the polling day I was going to my office, I was stopped by Mr. Powell Chandler of this city, a currier, who stated he wanted 50*l.* for electioneering purposes; I gave it to him; a short time afterwards he told me I should receive it back again; that was a short time afterwards; it might have been a week afterwards; but I am sorry to say it has not been forthcoming. I think it was on the 4th of August last Mr. Monk (the late member) called upon me, and asked me for an account of the 200*l.*; I told him what

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I had expended, that is to say, the 13*l.* 4*s.* or 11*l.* 16*s.* to Jordan, the 25*l.* for messengers, and the 50*l.* for Mr. Chandler, leaving a balance of, I think, 113*l.* 4*s.*, which I paid over to him.

3879. The money was lodged to your credit at the bank in the election week. I gather from you?—No, it was on the 25th of April that I received the 200*l.*

3880. That was in the week of the election?—Yes, the same week as the election; the election was on the 30th. I can give you the other dates of the payments exactly, by reference to my memorandums.

3881. Can you tell me the day on which that money was paid in to your credit?—The 25th; I can give you the exact dates of all the payments if you will allow me.

3882. When was the 25*l.* to the messengers paid?—That was on the 23d of April.

3883. And the 50*l.* that you paid to your nephew?—That was the 25*l.* I received of Mr. Swann, and the 25*l.* of my own.

3884. On what day was that?—That was the 23rd.

3885. On the 23rd you paid 25*l.* to Monk, and on the same day you paid 25*l.* to your nephew?—No, my first payment was to Jordan of 25*l.*

3886. You applied to, and received 25*l.* from Mr. Swann?—Yes, and there was 25*l.* of my own money.

3887. What was the date of that?—The 23rd.

3888. And what was the day on which you delivered the money to Jordan?—On the 7th of April.

3889. Was there no payment made by you between the 7th of April and the 23rd?—Certainly not.

3890. You called on Mr. David Walker and told him that if 200*l.* was placed to your credit at the bank you would take charge of it?—Yes.

3891. For what purpose were you to take charge of that money?—I intended to take charge of it for the legitimate expenses of the election, and to repay myself for those sums which I had already advanced.

3892. Did you communicate to any person that 200*l.* was standing to your credit at the bank?—I do not think I did. Mr. Walker was the only person who knew of it, to my knowledge.

3893. Having consented to take charge of the 200*l.* for the purposes of the election, when that was placed to your credit at the bank, why did you not communicate that fact to some person connected with the election?—I did not think I was called upon to do so. I received it to use it in such way as I thought fit, I being known to have taken an interest in electioneering matters. If there had been an agent appointed at that time I should not have interfered; but the thing was left entirely without anybody on the part of Mr. Monk to represent him, and therefore I thought it a pity there should not be somebody who should have the command of money for legitimate purposes.

3894. There was an agent appointed?—That was afterwards.

3895. But it was before the election?—There was no agent appointed on the 23rd.

3896. But there was an agent appointed before the election took place?—I do not think there was an agent appointed when I saw Mr. Walker, and suggested the 200*l.* should be paid; I am sure there was not.

3897. But when an agent was appointed, did you not tell that agent you had that money standing to your credit at the bank?—It did not occur to me that it was desirable to do so; it originated with myself, and I did not wish to communicate it to any one.

3898. Did you not know there was considerable pressure for money among the friends of the Liberal interest?—Yes; but if they had applied to me they should not have had it.

3899. Why not?—If Mr. Jones had come to me for it I should not have given it to him; I should have retained it and given it to Mr. Monk, as I did.

3900. Did you take any part in the election?—None at all.

3901. You not having taken any part in the election, is it not the fact that that money remaining at the bank was useless for all the purposes of the election?—I did not consider it useless, because I had previously paid a sum to Jordan and the messengers, which I deducted from the 200*l.*, and 50*l.* I gave to Mr. Chandler I did not consider useless.

3902. So far as regards 113*l.* 4*s.* there was that sum lying at the bank to your credit, placed there for the purposes of the election, which you did not use; and the fact of its being there you did not communicate to any person, is that so?—Yes.

3903. Why did you not?—I can give no reason, except that I did not wish to communicate to any one the circumstance of my having received this 200*l.*

3904. I cannot understand why you should have wished to conceal it?—There was no agent to communicate it to, and if I had told everybody I had 200*l.* I should have been pestered to death for the amount. I do not know that I had any reason for concealing it, except that I considered it a private transaction.

3905. Had you no communication with your nephew upon the subject of the election?—None at all, except with regard to the 50*l.* which he received from me.

3906. Did he not tell you from time to time that he was very hard pressed for money?—No, he did not.

3907. Was it not represented to you, in the course of the election, that money was very much wanted?—No, certainly not.

3908. Was no communication made to you by any of those persons who were taking an active part in the election, on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk, that money was very badly wanted for the purpose of Mr. Monk's election?—A representation was made to me on one occasion, I think by Mr. Kendall and Mr. Robinson, that they wanted money for the out-voters.

3909. Is Mr. Robinson a corn merchant?—Yes.

3910. What is Mr. Kendall?—A merchant.

3911. What did they say they wanted the money for?—They said they wanted some money for the out-voters.

3912. Did they say why they wanted it for the out-voters?—No; it was put in those general terms, and I said, "I can make no advance unless it is for "legitimate purposes, and you must render me an "account, if I do, of every shilling you spend." I believe those were the only parties that applied to me.

3913. Did Mr. Kendall, or Mr. Robinson, or either of them, represent to you that they wanted that money for illegal expenses?—No, they did not.

3914. Why did you say you could make no advance except for legitimate purposes?—Because I had a suspicion that it might be used for other than legitimate purposes, and therefore I would not let it go; that was the suspicion on my mind.

3915. Not from anything they said to you?—Certainly not.

3916. You told them you should require an account of every farthing that was expended?—I did.

3917. Did they receive any money from you after that?—No, certainly not.

3918. (*Mr. Welford.*) Having received that answer from you, they withdrew their application?—Yes, they did; it was not renewed. I think it was Mr. Robinson, but I am not sure. I am certain, however, as to Mr. Kendall.

3919. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you of opinion at that time that if money was advanced by yourself to any of the partizans of the candidates, it would be expended in bribery?—I think it is most likely it would.

3920. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was your reason for being so careful?—Because I received this sum of money with a view to expend it for legitimate purposes, and no other. I should not have troubled myself at all in the matter, if there had been anybody to represent Mr. Monk. I thought it was very desir-

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able I should be a stakeholder for this sum until an agent was appointed.

3921. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do I understand you to say that your fear as to the mode in which the money would be expended was the reason which induced you to conceal from other persons the fact that you had that money?—I do not know that that was my reason; I wished to keep it entirely private. I cannot say I had any particular motive in it, but I wished to keep this as a private fund, to use for such purposes as I thought fit.

3922. What purposes should you have thought fit?—I think the sum for messengers was perfectly legitimate, and also that which I paid to Mr. Jordan and Chandler. The payment to Chandler was done at the moment, and I thought no more about it; it was on the morning of the polling; there was a great deal of excitement, and I gave it to him, and was to have it back again. If I had at all known it was to be used for purposes of bribery, I should not have done it. I should like to correct one answer that I gave. I do now recollect that my nephew did call upon me on one occasion; and I think it was with Mr. Robinson, on the morning of the polling day, and applied for money; I declined to give it. I believe that is the only occasion on which I saw him, except the one about the messengers, which I have already spoken about.

3923. Why did you not give it to him?—Because I thought it would be used improperly.

3924. Are we to understand that you did not take any part whatever in the election, except in making the advance of the monies, of which you have given us an account?—Exactly so; I did not.

3925. Were you aware of the existence of bribery at all at that time?—Nothing more than suspicion. I had a very strong suspicion that it was carried on to a great extent, but it was only a suspicion.

3926. Was that strong suspicion excited by any facts that came under your observation?—No, none at all; one great reason for supposing it was this: that there was no organization to represent the parties. Everybody appeared to be acting as an agent, and without any discretion whatever, and I thought the probability was, that it would take the course it did take.

3927. Have any facts, or has any evidence of bribery come under your notice or knowledge since the election?—Not one, except what I have heard in this court.

3928. You, I believe, did take an active part in the election for 1857?—Oh, yes, I was Sir Maurice Berkeley's agent.

3929. And did you prosecute the petition which was afterwards presented against Sir Robert Carden's return?—Yes.

3930. Did you hear the evidence given by your nephew, as to the cause which produced the failure in part of that petition?—I have read it in the newspapers; I was not in court.

3931. Are you of opinion that the statement which has been made by your nephew is a correct one?—I am.

3932. Did you see the evidence which he had collected?—I did not see it: I think that he brought it to me one day at my office, and I think he had it in his hand, but I declined to take any legal proceedings, and therefore I did not read it.

3933. You did not read the evidence he had collected?—No.

3934. Or form any opinion as to its value?—Yes, I did, because it was represented to me that they had four or five witnesses who could, in point of fact, prove the perjury of a party.

3935. Are you of opinion that extensive bribery existed at the election of 1857?—Oh yes.

3936. On both sides?—No; there may have been, but I am not aware of it.

3937. On which side do you believe it existed?—On Sir Robert Carden's side, or I should not have presented the petition.

3938. Did you collect the evidence in support of the charge of bribery against Sir Robert Carden at that election?—I did.

3939. Are you prepared to lay that evidence before the Commissioners?—The Commissioners have it; they have my brief.

3940. Does that brief contain all the evidence which you were in possession of at that time?—No, I think there might be a great mass of evidence, but the brief contains only such evidence as I thought I could prove, and trace it to agency; it was condensed for the purpose of making my case concise and effective.

3941. The evidence that appears in the brief was evidence which had reference to the proof of agency?—To agency and bribery, connecting the two together; there were many other cases of bribery, but then I could not prove the agency, and therefore I did not embrace them in the brief.

3942. Should you be able to supply the Commissioners with supplementary cases of bribery which do not appear in that brief?—I think it is very likely I may be able to do so; I will go through my memorandums.

3943. Will you endeavour to do so, and furnish our secretary with the information?—Certainly.

3944. (*Mr. Welford.*) What day was it that you spoke to Mr. Walker about the 200*l.*?—I think it must have been about three days before I received the amount; I received the amount on the 25th of April.

3945. Did you lend your nephew any other sum than that which you have mentioned?—Not one shilling.

3946. When you paid him the two 25*l.*, did you take any memorandum from him?—None at all; it was given to him that he might give it to Brewer Monk, who had applied for some money.

3947. You did not consider it as a loan to him?—No; he was to hand it over to Monk for messengers.

3948. And have you retained that sum out of the 200*l.*?—I have.

3949. Have you considerable knowledge of the constituency of Gloucester?—Yes.

3950. Has it at all entered into your mind to make an estimate of the number of the constituency that may be considered open to corrupt motives?—I have taken some little trouble to inquire of parties more conversant with them than myself; I have asked Mr. Brewer Monk, a party more competent than myself to form an opinion, and from information he has given to me, I should think that there are from 250 to 300; that is from representations made to me, not from my own knowledge.

3951. Have you yourself been concerned in any acts of bribery at former elections?—Never in my life.

3952. But from facts which came to your knowledge, you had a suspicion that bribery would be employed?—Certainly; that was quite apparent.

3953. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You do not speak from your own knowledge at all as to the number you consider open to bribery, but only from information from Mr. Brewer Monk and others?—Certainly.

3954. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) From your knowledge of the constituency, did you think that the Liberal party had a chance of returning two members at this last election?—I was decidedly of opinion that if bribery did not exist on either side, the Liberal side would have a considerable majority.

3955. Did you think that your own, the Liberal party, was stronger in 1859 than it was in 1857, supposing no bribery existed?—I have no means of coming to an opinion; I should think there was not much difference, that is my own opinion.

3956. (*Mr. Welford.*) But do you believe, if bribery were not employed on the one side or the other, the Liberal party would have a majority of votes?—I have always entertained that opinion.

3957. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Your nephew stated that his justification for, as he called it, "disturbing the "peace of the town," was, that he and his friends had good reason to believe, since the election of 1857,

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that the Liberal party had become a good deal stronger than they were before?—That might be because he took an active part in politics, and I had not interfered in any way whatever. I knew nothing of the registration, or of anything connected with it.

3958. (*Mr. Welford.*) Would it be possible to make any estimate of the probable chances of success of any candidate in Gloucester, without taking into account the great amount of venal voters that existed; must not the great number of venal voters in Gloucester enter into the consideration of any man who is about to invite a candidate?—Decidedly.

3959. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you aware that your nephew was acting as the agent for Mr. Monk?—No; I was aware of his having gone to London with Mr. Innell; I heard of that.

3960. Were you not aware afterwards that he was the person designated to receive money for Mr. Monk?—No, except what I have perceived from the evidence since.

3961. I suppose you are acquainted with Mr. Price?—Yes.

3962. Had you any communication with Mr. Price with reference to the election, or the expenses of the election?—No, the arrangements were made with other parties. I had nothing to do with it; I did not represent anybody.

3963. You were aware that there was no agent appointed for Mr. Monk, money or not?—Yes.

3964. Were you aware that Mr. Price had directed that your nephew, Mr. John Wilton, should be considered an agent for the purpose of receiving money?—I was not aware of it.

3965. You were not aware of that when you let him have the 50*l.* of which you have spoken?—No; I knew my nephew was actively engaged, and I think he came to my office for the 50*l.*, I having previously been applied to by Brewer Monk.

3966. You do not conceive that your nephew is indebted to you?—Certainly not.

3967. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Among what class are the venal electors principally to be found?—There are a great many, I think, of the freemen.

3968. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know whether the 25*l.* which was advanced by you came into the auditor's account of expenses?—I do not know; I think that nearly all the freemen who are out-voters, except the higher class, of which there are a few, are open to bribes; very nearly all.

3969. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are they for the most part people in very poor circumstances?—Rather so; a few are not.

3970. Are those freemen who reside in the city subject to the same influences?—I have no doubt there are many who are, because they have been accustomed to receive it; in fact, before my time, I believe, they received what was called "head-money." I have heard so; and no doubt that continues.

3971. Was there a custom that you knew of, of paying freemen, existing before the passing of the Reform Act?—Yes, I believe it was before that; I am only speaking from hearsay; Mr. Carter can give you that information.

3972. Do you think that to that traditional system of paying voters the bribery existing among the freemen is largely to be attributed?—Yes.

3973. And from that charge do you except those electors who are householders?—No; I think that of the lower class of householders in Gloucester a great many are subject to it. I am now giving my own opinion only.

3974. But they are not so numerous as the corrupt freemen?—No; I think not.

3975. (*Mr. Welford.*) Supposing the Conservative party to bribe, would there be any hope of a Liberal candidate succeeding in Gloucester without resorting to the same means?—Certainly not; I do not think there would be any chance at all.

3976. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are aware, are you not, that the borough was represented for a considerable time by a Conservative candidate?—Yes, one.

3977. Are you of opinion that the return of that one member was always procured by bribery?—My opinion is, that bribery has been carried on in Gloucester ever since I have known it.

3978. On both sides?—On both sides, more or less.

3979. (*Mr. Welford.*) How long have you known Gloucester?—All my life.

3980. How long have you taken an active part in elections?—I think it was in 1852 that I became an agent, or took an active part.

3981. Is there any other information you would wish to give to the Commissioners in reference to the subject of our inquiry?—I think not; if anything occurs to me at a future time I shall be very happy to give you any information in my power.

GEORGE MUTLOW ABELL sworn and examined.

G. M. Abell.

3982. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A solicitor.

3983. Living in Gloucester?—Yes.

3984. You were employed, I believe, by the Liberal candidates at the last election?—I was.

3985. Did you take an active part in the election?—I did.

3986. What money passed through your hands during the election?—I advanced jointly with another party 50*l.*

3987. Who was that other party?—Mr. Herbert.

3988. Mr. Herbert, the solicitor?—Yes.

3989. To whom did you advance it?—To Mr. Robinson, a merchant.

3990. A corn merchant?—Yes.

3991. For what purpose?—That I cannot say; I had my suspicions, but I did not see in what way the money was applied, neither do I know.

3992. Did Mr. Robinson tell you for what purpose he required the 50*l.*?—No.

3993. When was it that you advanced the money to him?—The morning of the poll.

3994. You had your suspicions?—Yes.

3995. Were no names communicated by Mr. Robinson to you at the time he obtained the money?—None whatever.

3996. What were your suspicions?—My suspicions were that it was for the purpose of bribery.

3997. Was Mr. Herbert with you at the time?—Yes.

3998. Where was the money advanced?—In the committee room, at least one of the rooms in the same building.

3999. Mr. Robinson came and said he wanted 50*l.*, whereupon you let him have the money?—Yes; I am not sure whether Mr. Robinson asked me for it; but I paid him the 50*l.*

4000. What other money passed through your hands?—None whatever.

4001. Did you receive any money from any person during the election?—I received 25*l.* for my professional services.

4002. That was after the election?—Yes.

4003. I am speaking of before the election?—None at all.

4004. You received no money from any person?—From no person whatever.

4005. You advanced no money and paid no money, except this 50*l.* to Mr. Robinson?—None at all.

4006. 25*l.* for your professional services is the sum mentioned in the election agent's accounts, is it not?—I have not seen the account; I believe it to be so.

4007. Did you offer any inducement to any person during the election to vote for the Liberal candidates?—None that I am aware of.

4008. Did you make any promise to any one?—None.

4009. Recollect yourself; will you undertake to say you did not promise or offer any inducement to

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G. M. Abell.
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any elector which should operate on his mind to make him vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I strictly avoided doing anything of the kind; I would mention that there was one party that I canvassed; at least he was from home, but his wife was at home with two children very ill; and the party with me stated that they were suffering from diphtheria, and that some brandy, perhaps, might relieve them; her husband was away from home, and I gave her half-a-crown to go and get some brandy for the children. With the exception of that, I applied no money whatever that I am aware of.

4010. Who was that person?—His name is Vaile.

4011. What is his Christian name?—I cannot say whether his name is William or James; he is a son of one of the James Vailes.

4012. Where does he live?—He lives at the Flat. I may have advanced a few shillings to the messenger who went with me canvassing.

4013. You gave the 2*s.* 6*d.* only as charity?—Only as charity; these poor children were at the point of death, and they died shortly after; the messenger said he thought brandy was a good thing; he had lost two children in a similar way.

4014. Would you have advanced that 2*s.* 6*d.* if no election had been proceeding?—Certainly I should.

4015. You say you gave a few shillings to the messenger who was with you canvassing; for beer I suppose?—Yes, for beer; it may have been 15*s.* or 16*s.* altogether at different times.

4016. You knew that those messengers were paid 3*s.* 6*d.* a day, did you not?—I did not think of it.

4017. Were those messengers with whom you were canvassing and to whom you paid 15*s.* or 16*s.*, electors?—They were.

4018. What are their names?—There was but one, I believe.

4019. You gave 15*s.* or 16*s.* to one messenger?—That would include my own expenses along with it.

4020. What was the name of the messenger?—Allen.

4021. What is his Christian name?—George, I believe; I do not think it was quite so much as 15*s.* or 16*s.*

4022. I may say about 15*s.* or 16*s.*?—Somewhere about that.

4023. Where does he live?—At Tredworth, I think, near Gloucester: I will not be certain.

4024. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a voter?—I believe he is; he was appointed to go round with me.

4025. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any instances of bribery come within your knowledge during the election?—None whatever; in fact I did not know where the money was to come from.

4026. Were you an extensive canvasser? Did you canvass largely?—I canvassed a good many of the out-voters.

4027. The freemen?—Yes, the freemen.

4028. With what success?—I could never get any definite answer from them.

4029. They refused to promise you?—They refused to promise me; I saw them several times.

4030. How many of the freemen who were voters did you canvass?—Not very many of the freemen; I took one district.

4031. Which was that?—The Westbury district.

4032. What did they say when they declined to promise you?—That they had not made up their minds; that was the general answer I got from them.

4033. Was anything at all said at that time, either by them to you or by you to them, about money?—No, nothing was mentioned about money, not by them; but I was aware what they wanted.

4034. What did they say?—That they had not made up their minds; that they should consider of it; and so on.

4035. You knew what would cause them to "make "up their minds?"—Exactly.

4036. Were any of those persons who promised to vote for Price and Monk, and who afterwards voted for Sir Robert Carden?—I think not.

4037. Is the "Pheasant" inn a place in the Westgate-street?—The "Bird in the hand" perhaps you mean?

4038. Did you allow any publicans to give refreshments or entertainment to persons gratuitously on behalf of the Liberal candidates?—I believe the messenger I was with paid for some refreshment.

4039. Out of his own pocket, or with money supplied by you?—With money supplied by me, which would account for the 15*s.* or 16*s.* I have mentioned.

4040. Besides that money was there any money you allowed to be expended for refreshment in public-houses?—None whatever.

4041. And you did not authorize any publican to give refreshment to any person?—Certainly not.

4042. Did you take any part in the appointment of messengers?—None.

4043. Did you take any part in the election of 1857?—Yes.

4044. Were you an agent then?—Yes.

4045. Have you heard Mr. Robert Wilton's evidence here to-day?—I have.

4046. Do you concur with him that great bribery did exist at that election?—I do.

4047. Is that an opinion formed from facts within your own knowledge?—I cannot say that it is; it is from what has been represented to me by others.

4048. Simply from rumour?—From rumour.

4049. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did you let Mr. Robinson have the 50*l.*?—On the morning of the polling.

4050. At the committee room?—In the building.

4051. But a private room?—I do not know that it was a private room.

4052. Was it the room in which Mr. Jordan was?—No, it was not.

4053. An inner room?—Yes.

4054. What was the nature of Mr. Robinson's application for money?—I will not be positive whether Mr. Robinson applied directly to me, or whether Mr. Herbert spoke to me about it.

4055. But Mr. Robinson was present?—Mr. Robinson was present when I paid the money.

4056. What reason did they give you for wanting the money?—He represented to me that he had no money, or Mr. Herbert represented that he had none.

4057. Did he say for what purpose he wanted the money?—No, he did not; of course I suspected what it was wanted for.

4058. But nothing was said?—Nothing was said whatever; I put the 50*l.* on the mantelpiece.

4059. And he took it up?—He took it up.

4060. Were you authorized by anybody to advance money for election purposes?—No.

4061. It was a voluntary act?—It was a voluntary act.

4062. Did you take any memorandum from Mr. Robinson?—I did, his I. O. U.

4063. Have you since been repaid the money?—I have not.

4064. It is still due to you?—It is still due to me.

4065. And you still hold the memorandum?—I still hold the memorandum.

4066. Did you ever know how that money was applied?—Never.

4067. You say you canvassed the Westbury outdistrict; did you canvass all the freemen?—Oh, dear, no; perhaps I might have canvassed a dozen.

4068. As many as you could find at home, I suppose?—As many as I could find at home. They were canvassed by others as well as myself. I went round several times, and found others who the same party had been to.

4069. Did you make any return of the results of your canvass to Mr. Jordan?—Yes.

4070. A return of your promises?—Yes; there was one man of the name of Vaile, James Vaile, that promised me to vote for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk,

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and I said, "Well, I am afraid I cannot depend upon "him."

4071. You told Mr. Jordan this when you made your return?—Yes; the elector told me that he should not vote for the other party this time, and that he should have voted at the last election in 1857 for Mr. Price and Berkeley, had it not been that his landlord, Mr. Jones, had sent him a letter before going to poll, insisting on his going and polling for Sir Robert Carden.

4072. He promised to vote for Price and Monk?—He promised to vote for Price and Monk.

4073. Did you promise him anything for so doing?—Nothing whatever.

4074. Did he intimate that he expected anything for so doing?—Well, I cannot say that he did, and I cannot say that he did not. I could tell from his manner what he was expecting.

4075. What did he say?—"He should be all right "this time," or something of that sort; but I held out no inducement to him whatever.

4076. How did he vote?—He voted for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

4077. Did you mention, when you made your returns, that some of the men who would not promise expected bribes?—Yes, I believe I did.

4078. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you ever seen the account which was sent in to the auditor?—Never.

4079. You did not know that the sum paid to you for professional services had been left out of that account?—Certainly not. I was not aware of it. I thought that all professional men ought to see them.

4080. Did you express that opinion?—I have done so many times.

4081. Do you know of Mr. Robinson having received money for the purpose of the election from anybody else?—No, I do not.

4082. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Mr. Jones? was he the landlord of James Vaile?—I believe he lives at Witleigh Court, but I am not certain. Mr. Lovegrove knows where he lives.

4083. Is he a private gentleman?—Yes.

SAMUEL HERBERT sworn and examined.

S. Herbert.

4084. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

4085. You were an agent for the Liberal party at the last election?—I was.

4086. Did you take an active part in the election?—I did.

4087. What money passed through your hands?—I received no money from any party during the election.

4088. Have you received any money at all, excepting your professional fee?—None.

4089. What was the amount of that?—25*l.*, to include 6*l.* 15*s.* paid out of pocket.

4090. For what purpose was that 6*l.* 15*s.* paid?—It was paid for refreshments and travelling expenses, and for the men and bills at inns.

4091. To whom was that money paid?—It was paid to different parties who were out canvassing with me, paying the expenses.

4092. Can you give me the names?—No; I had different parties with me. Some days I was canvassing with Mr. Abell, and on other days with Mr. Davis, and other gentlemen who were sent with me.

4093. Do you mean to say that 6*l.* 15*s.* was spent in disbursements while you were out canvassing?—Yes, for nearly a month; it included turnpikes, and dinners where we stopped.

4094. Not travelling expenses for voters at all?—No, travelling expenses for canvassers.

4095. Were you accompanied in your canvass by messengers?—Yes, two, I think.

4096. Were those messengers voters?—One, I think, was, at least I do not think he was a messenger, it was a Mr. Davis; I believe he is a voter.

4097. Can you say what amount of that money was paid at inns or public-houses?—I should think perhaps 3*l.* of it, or more.

4098. What were the inns that you frequented?—We called at roadside inns and at various places in Gloucester.

4099. Were the inns that you frequented kept by voters?—Some were kept, perhaps, by voters, and others not.

4100. What were those that were kept by voters?—I went into nearly every inn, I should say, in Gloucester during the election, at least into a great number of them.

4101. But what were the inns at which you paid any money for refreshments?—I paid money at a great number of inns.

4102. Can you give us the names?—I paid for some luncheon, I think, the first day of the canvass, at the Horse and Groom or the Kingsholm Inn, that is on the Worcester road.

4103. Have you any account of the money you expended in different places?—No, I have not.

4104. Could you furnish us with any account?—No, I could not from memory.

4105. Will you consider and let us have a list of the public-houses you went to where you spent money for refreshments, either for yourself or your friends?—Yes.

4106. You say you did not receive any money except the sum you have stated; what money did you advance or pay?—I advanced 50*l.* in addition to the money I expended during the election in expenses to Mr. Robinson. Mr. Abell and myself I may say advanced the money.

4107. You advanced 50*l.* conjointly with Mr. Abell?—Yes. I and Mr. Abell were working together during the election, and Mr. Robinson said he wanted 50*l.*

4108. Did Mr. Robinson made that statement to you; was it to you that he applied for the advance of the money?—I think it was; we were, I fancy, all three together.

4109. What did he say to you?—He said "Can "you lend me 50*l.*"

4110. For what purpose did he say he required the money?—He did not state any purpose.

4111. We understand this took place in a room adjoining the committee room?—It took place out of doors, in the court belonging to the committee room.

4112. Was it an understood thing among the supporters of the liberal candidates, that sums of money would be required for the purchase of votes?—I think it was; that there would be a certain number of voters that would require to be bought.

4113. Had you any doubt in your mind as to the purposes to which that 50*l.* was to be applied?—I thought it was to be applied for the purposes of the election.

4114. Did you think it was to be applied for the purpose of bribery?—I could not say how Mr. Robinson intended to apply it.

4115. I asked what you yourself thought upon the subject?—I thought it very probable that it might. I did not ask Mr. Robinson.

4116. This was on the morning of the polling day, we understand?—Yes, it was before banking hours, about nine o'clock.

4117. Did you think that that 50*l.* could be required for any other purpose but for the purchase of votes?—I cannot say that Mr. Robinson intended to apply it to the purchase of votes; I never asked him; but being on election business I thought it was to be used in connexion with the election.

4118. What was your belief as to the employment of that money?—That it was to be employed for the election.

4119. What part of the election?—I scarcely know the part Mr. Robinson was taking; I was not in the

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S. Herbert.
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committee room much in the day, I was out with Mr. Abell.

4120. Have you any doubt how that money was to be employed by Mr. Robinson, and that it was wanted to purchase votes?—I did not know that Mr. Robinson was purchasing votes.

4121. Did you think that that 50*l.* was required for legal expenses?—No.

4122. Did you consider that it was required for illegal expenses?—Yes, I thought he might be, but I had no idea that Mr. Robinson was going to purchase any votes.

4123. Had you any doubt that it was to be employed by some person or another for the purchase of votes?—I thought it was.

4124. Do you mean to say you did not advance any other sum of money besides that?—No other.

4125. Did you yourself take any part in bribing voters?—None.

4126. You canvassed, did you not?—I canvassed from the commencement until the day of the election.

4127. Did you make any promise to any voter?—No, I think not.

4128. Are you sure you made no promise of any sort to any voter if he would vote for Price and Monk?—I might have said to a man that his day's work would be paid, that he should not lose his time, or something of that sort; but I made no promise of a bribe further than paying for his time.

4129. Your promise only extended so far as this, that he should not lose his time?—That he should not lose his time.

4130. Were there several persons to whom you held out that inducement?—No, very few; it was only a few that would be satisfied with that.

4131. Who were satisfied with it?—I am not aware of any one; a day or two before the election, when they found they could have more money, they were not satisfied with being paid for their time.

4132. To whom did you hold out that limited promise?—I might have said it to two or three voters, but I cannot recollect any in particular; I think I said so to a man I employed, of the name of Edwards, I canvassed him for his vote, and he said he could give a half of his vote; and I said, "Would you give it then to Mr. Monk?" and he said "Yes;" but he said he should hope not to lose his time, that he should be remunerated for his time; and I said, "Oh, certainly."

4133. What did you pay him?—I did not pay him anything.

4134. Was he remunerated?—Yes; he received some money afterwards, I believe, for voting.

4135. How much?—I do not know.

4136. What is his Christian name?—I think it is Peter.

4137. He is a freeman, is he?—I believe he is.

4138. Were there any other persons to whom you made a similar promise?—No, I do not recollect any one at the moment.

4139. You say there were two or three; cannot you mention the names of the others?—No, I cannot just now.

4140. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where is Mr. Peter Edwards living?—It is near Worcester Street, in Alvin Street.

4141. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know of any money having been paid during the election for the purposes of the election, besides that which you have stated?—No, not of my own knowledge.

4142. Have you heard of it?—Yes.

4143. Of what money?—I have heard generally that money was expended during the election. I was not aware from what source the money came, or who had the applying of it, until after the petition.

4144. During the election itself, do I understand you to say, you did not know of any money being paid or expended, except that which you have stated?—No; I knew that money was being paid, and that votes were being bought, but I did not know from what source the money came, or who was buying the votes.

4145. Who told you that money was being expended, and that votes were being bought?—It was the general topic of conversation.

4146. The general topic of conversation in the committee room?—I do not know. There were several rooms in different parts of the town.

4147. Was it a general topic of conversation among those persons you were in the habit of meeting upon the business of the election?—Yes.

4148. Were those persons you were in the habit of meeting in the committee room persons who were engaged in conducting the election?—There were a great many conducting the election.

4149. But were they amongst whom this was a common subject of conversation, persons you were in the habit of meeting in the committee rooms?—Yes.

4150. Did you hear at that time of persons who were promised bribes?—No, I did not know who they were. I did not inquire.

4151. Do you know of any money having been expended by any person, excepting what you have mentioned?—Not of my own knowledge.

4152. I do not ask as to your own knowledge, but what information have you upon the subject?—I have heard that money was expended in the purchase of votes, and that sums of money would be required to buy voters.

4153. You heard that during the election?—Yes.

4154. From whom did you hear it?—I cannot say in particular; perhaps from some of the messengers.

4155. Tell us the names of the persons from whom you heard it?—I cannot remember the names. I know it was the general topic of conversation, that there would be a certain number of votes to be bought, and that money must be had.

4156. Did you hear what number of votes were required to be bought?—I had been concerned in elections for Gloucester for many years myself, and I knew pretty well the quantity.

4157. What number did you suppose required to be bought?—I should think there are from 150 to 200 to be bought on each side.

4158. When you say you knew that votes would be required to be bought, did you know that that number would be required to be bought at the last election?—With any chance of winning; from 300 to 400, I should fancy, are about the number to be bought altogether on both sides.

4159. Are you of opinion that a similar number to that were purchased at the election of 1857?—Not by the Liberals.

4160. What number do you think were purchased by the Liberals at the election in 1857?—I am not aware of any.

4161. What is your opinion about it?—If any at all were purchased, they were purchased very late in the day, and I should say, then only a very few; that was the election when Sir Maurice Berkeley was defeated by Sir Robert Carden; I was not aware of there being any money applicable for the purpose of buying votes.

4162. You were an agent at that election, were you not?—I was.

4163. What number do you consider were purchased at the election in 1857 on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—I cannot say the number, but I should think a very great number.

4164. Is that within your own knowledge, or is it only a matter of common rumour?—Common rumour and my own opinion on the subject; I do not think he could have won unless a large number of votes had been bought.

4165. (*Mr. Welford.*) During your canvass, did you receive intimations from the voters that they expected payment for their votes?—Certainly.

4166. What did they say?—That they should not vote without being paid.

4167. They told you so in so many words?—A

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great number of them; or if they did not say so, it was pretty well understood.

4168. They did not promise to vote?—No.

4169. Did they promise to vote conditionally?—No; they said but little to me about money matters, but I could tell what they wanted.

4170. Did you make returns of your canvass to the committee-room clerk?—Yes.

4171. Did you inform him of the intimations you received as to parties requiring money for their votes?—No; Mr. Jordan was there.

4172. He was the committee clerk, was he?—No; he was there merely for the purpose of keeping the books.

4173. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) By whom did you expect to be repaid that 50*l.* that you advanced?—By Mr. Robinson; I took his I. O. U. for it; at least Mr. Abell did.

4174. Did you expect at that time to be repaid by him?—By Robinson, certainly.

4175. You had no one else in your mind?—No; I did it entirely on Mr. Robinson's responsibility.

4176. Were you aware that there was any money applicable to illegal purposes being supplied at Gloucester?—I had heard so.

4177. You had heard there was?—Yes.

4178. From whom did you hear that?—It was a general rumour that some money had come down; but I cannot say from whom I heard it; I never inquired particularly into the money matters.

4179. Was it on the faith of rumour that you lent this money?—Certainly not.

4180. Were any directions against bribery given by any of the head agents that you are aware of?—There were no head agents; there were no directions that I remember having received.

4181. You stated that at the election in 1857, there was no money applicable to the purposes of bribery?—Not that I am aware of.

4182. Was it generally known amongst the party that there was no money?—I think it was.

4183. How was it with regard to the last election; was it generally known or believed amongst you who were actively engaged, that money was or was not to be had?—It was understood that there would be money, though I had nothing to do with the money arrangement. I was deputed in the first place to go to town to seek Mr. Monk, or any other candidate, and also to take measures to secure that candidate's return; but I did not go; I did not keep the appointment; it did not suit me; and afterwards I had nothing to do with any money arrangements during the whole of the election.

4184. We have been told that the sum mentioned to Mr. Monk was from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l.*?—I had mentioned no sum. The first time I saw Mr. Monk was in Gloucester, a day or two afterwards.

4185. I suppose, if you had been present you would have agreed that from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l*, was about the amount that would be required?—Probably I might.

4186. In making that estimate, was bribery taken into consideration?—Yes, it must be, because the legitimate expenses would not come to anything like that.

4187. Therefore a certain sum was added, with which it would be necessary to bribe?—I do not know what sum was named to Mr. Monk.

4188. In making the estimate of from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l.*, that would include a certain sum to be employed in bribery, if bribery was necessary?—I should say there would be a sum that would be applicable to that purpose, but not sufficient.

4189. What do you conceive would be the amount of legitimate expenses for a borough like Gloucester?—The expenses vary in different places. It depends on how the professional agents are paid, but I should think from 800*l.* to 1,000*l.*

4190. Do you think that from 800*l.* to 1,000*l.* would be the legitimate expenses in Gloucester?—For the two candidates.

4191. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did you first hear that money was coming down?—I heard almost immediately after the election commenced that there would be money; in fact, it would have been useless to have gone on with the contest without it.

4192. Do you mean that you heard that immediately after the 7th or 8th of April?—I think it must have been then.

4193. When did you hear particularly that a certain sum of money was coming down?—I did not hear particularly, for I was never communicated with upon the subject of the money. I was deputed to go to town with Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton to select a candidate, and I believe Mr. Monk was in view, and to make the necessary arrangements for carrying out the election. I did not go, and was never consulted afterwards upon the business.

4194. From whom did you hear that money was coming down?—I cannot say from whom. I might have heard it at the committee rooms.

4195. From no particular individual?—No.

4196. And you think you heard what you did hear about money coming down immediately after the beginning of the election?—I must have heard then that money would be forthcoming; in fact, it would have been useless to have gone on with the canvass without the understanding that it would be ready when needed.

4197. Do you know young Mr. Ralli?—Yes; at least I have seen him in Gloucester.

4198. Did you see him during the election?—Yes.

4199. Was he active in the election?—No, I should not say so.

4200. Was he in the committee room?—Yes, I saw him in the committee room, and I saw him at the King's Head, I think.

4201. Do you know whether an application was made to young Mr. Ralli during the election for money?—No, I do not.

4202. Do you know whether any suggestion was made that Mr. Ralli would furnish money if required?—No, I never heard that he would.

4203. Did you hear anything said about Mr. Ralli in connexion with money at the election?—No.

4204. Was young Mr. Ralli in Gloucester during the whole of the election?—No, I think not. I think he was here on the day of the election, and perhaps a few days before. He might have been here once or wice, but I cannot say positively; I think he was there on the day of the election; I am pretty sure he was.

4205. Do you know whether he was accompanied by any clerks at all; was he alone at the King's Head, or was he accompanied by any persons from London?—He was generally walking about.

JOHN CHARLES RICHARDS sworn and examined.

4206. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—Yes.

4207. Living in Gloucester?—Yes.

4208. You were an agent for the Liberal candidates at the last election?—Yes, I suppose I may consider myself so.

4209. There is an entry, is there not, of a fee that was paid to yourself?—Yes.

4210. What was the amount of your fee?—25*l.*

4211. What money passed through your hands?—I received no money. The only sums that passed through my hands were those I disbursed myself during my canvass.

4212. What money did you disburse?—Only about 30*s.* for cab fares and refreshments for myself during the canvass.

4213. Was that all the money that you paid?—Yes.

4214. What district did you canvass?—I took Longford, Innsworth, Norton, the Leigh, and Apperley.

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J. C. Richards.

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4215. Those are places lying round Gloucester ?—Yes.

4216. In which out-voters reside ?—Yes.

4217. Did you canvass a large number of those out-voters ?—There are not a great many of them altogether, but I canvassed all I could meet with.

4218. Did you receive promises from most of them ? No, very few ; I should explain that the only time at which I canvassed them was in the early part of the contest, nearly a month previous to the election, and at that time voters are generally very chary of their promises.

4219. Did you understand from them that they should require to be paid for their votes ?—Must I speak of them collectively or individually ?

4220. Speak first of all of what was the general result of your canvass ?—With regard to several of them I certainly understood that they would not vote unless they received some compensation.

4221. Can you give me the names of those persons ?—I think the first is a man named Coopey, at Longford.

4222. What is his Christian name ?—I think it is Edward, but I am not sure.

4223. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is he ?—A farm labourer.

4224. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did he say ?—I had a long conversation with him with a view to obtain a promise from him ; he said he did not know how he should go ; he should not make his mind up yet ; he should see how it would go, and kept me off in that indefinite way ; but I have no doubt his object was to wait till some definite offer should be made to him.

4225. Who was there besides Edward Coopey ?—The only others were two voters at Apperley, to whom the same remark would apply ; one of them was a man named Perks, I saw him.

4226. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is his Christian name ?—Thomas, I believe.

4227. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did he say ?—He said he could not afford to lose his day's work, and he did not see how people could expect him to come to Gloucester to vote for them unless they gave him some compensation, and various other remarks to the same effect ; and then he mentioned another voter in the parish, Skillern, and he said whatever Skillern did he should do ; he intimated that they generally went the same way, and, as I understood, that they had generally voted upon the same terms.

4228. Do you know how they did vote ?—I believe they both voted for the Liberals.

4229. And Edward Coopey ?—I think Edward Coopey did also.

4230. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are they all freemen ?—They are all freemen.

4231. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That was the only time at which you canvassed any of the out-voters ?—Yes.

4232. About a month before the election ?—About three weeks or a month.

4233. After that did you take part in the committee room at Gloucester ?—No.

4234. What did you do then ?—I acted as inspector at the hustings, and I did some little work previously, looking out the duplicate voters, and I also took the opportunity of speaking to any parties in Gloucester with whom I was on terms of acquaintance, giving any little influence I might possess in support of the Liberal candidates.

4235. Did you hold out any inducement or any promise ?—It is difficult to say what is a promise or inducement ; I did not wish to commit myself by any distinct promise, but at the same time I wished to prevent their promising on the other side.

4236. Did you or did you not ?—I believe I told them the Liberals intended to manage matters better than they had done formerly, I thought ; they might put their own construction on those words.

4237. What did you mean by "managing matters "better ?"—I had no definite meaning.

4238. Did you mean by it to say that Liberals intended to bribe ?—No, I did not mean to say that ; I was quite willing they should understand it in that light.

4239. You wished them to put that interpretation upon your words ?—Yes ; I had no idea what would be the plan of operations at that time.

4240. Did you know of bribery going on during the election ?—No, I did not.

4241. Did you frequent the committee room ?—No, I do not think I was there six times during the whole course of the election.

4242. Were there any persons bribed, to your knowledge, during the time the election was proceeding ?—No, certainly not.

4243. Do you know of any treating that went on ?—No.

4244. Did you attend any suppers at public-houses ?—Yes, I attended a supper, but I do not know who were the authors of the bounty.

4245. Were was the supper ?—At a little house in Queen Street.

4246. Kept by whom ?—A man named Davis ; I received a message from him asking me to come over to the supper ; I did not inquire who gave the supper, nor do I now know.

4247. Were there many persons there ?—Yes, I should say as many as 30 in and out.

4248. Were they electors ?—Some of them were.

4249. The greater portion of them ?—I do not know ; I am not sufficiently acquainted with the constituency of Gloucester to know.

4250. Is Davis an elector ?—I believe he is ; he was at that time ; he has since removed.

4251. Do you know who was the landlord of the house he occupied ?—I do not know ; I believe it is Mr. Ellis ; he lives next door to Mr. Ellis ; Mr. Ellis has several houses in the street, and that is the only means I have of knowing.

4252. Do you know of any other treating besides that supper ?—No, I do not ; I have heard of some on the other side, but I have no distinct knowledge of it.

4253. As to any cases of treating that you have heard of on the other side, will you have the kindness to furnish them to the secretary ?—Yes.

4254. Do you mean to represent that you yourself took no part at all in paying money to voters for their votes, or in holding out any inducements to them to vote at the election for Monk and Price ?—Except what I have mentioned with regard to out-voters, nothing of the kind.

P. Chandler.

POWELL CHANDLER sworn and examined.

4255. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Gloucester ?—I do.

4256. And you are an elector ?—I am.

4257. Did you take an active part in the last election ?—Very little.

4258. Did you attend the committee rooms ?—Never but once, and that was nearly at the end of the polling,—perhaps middle day ; I am not sure about middle day ; that is all.

4259. Were you consulted during the progress of the election by those who were more active than yourself ?—No.

4260. You were not ?—No.

4261. Were you cognizant of the proceedings of the more active partizans ?—No, I never had less to do with an election ; I did nothing except putting my shoulder to the wheel at the last.

4262. Did you know that bribery was being practised ?—Not to my knowledge ; no, I did not.

4263. Did you not hear from any persons that it was necessary to bribe a number of voters to secure the election of the Liberal candidates ?—Yes, I heard it, and drew my own inference.

4264. Did you hear it during the election ?—Oh yes.

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P. Chandler.

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4265. On the polling day you advanced 50*l.*, did you not?—On the polling day young John Wilton came to me in the morning between 8 and 9, and said he wanted some money and could not tell where to get it; he said, "Can you get it?" I said, "I do not "know." He said, "Turn it over in your mind and "see if you can get it in about an hour and a half's "time."

4266. How much money did he say he wanted?—I am not sure; he was not very particular; as much as I could get him.

4267. And how much money did you get for him?—I went to his uncle Robert, and told him young John was short of money, and asked him if he could let me have 50*l.*

4268. Well?—I had it.

4269. You had it from Mr. Robert Wilton?—From Mr. Robert Wilton. I took it to my house and gave it to young John Wilton in my own parlour.

4270. Did Mr. John Wilton tell you for what purpose he wanted the money?—No; "I want it," that was all; I did not ask him any questions. I dare say I guessed it was for election purposes generally. I did not know what it was for, and I did not know how he disposed of it.

4271. You did not much doubt that he wanted it to purchase votes?—I could not tell whether it was to pay messengers or anything else. I could not tell what it was for; it was for electioneering purposes.

4272. What time of the day was it?—Between 8 and 9: he drove up to my door.

4273. When was the second time that he came to you?—About half-past 10, or it may be a quarter to 11, or something of that sort. I did not take any I.O.U. from him, and I did not give Mr. Robert Wilton any I. O. U. I have not received it back nor paid it back.

4274. And perhaps you do not expect either to receive or pay it?—That I suppose we must trust to amongst ourselves.

4275. Did you know of any cases of bribery at that time?—No.

4276. You did not take any part in any yourself?—No.

4277. You did not bribe any elector?—No.

4278. Nor promise an elector anything if he would vote?—No.

4279. Do you know any electors who were bribed?—No.

4280. In fact as far as you are concerned it was a very innocent election?—So far as I am concerned; except that I never had so little to do with an election in my life.

4281. Were you more active in 1857?—A little, not much.

4282. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you had any conversation with Mr. Robert Wilton as to this 50*l.*?—Yes.

4283. Do you consider it is still owing?—To whom?

4284. To Mr. Wilton?—I do.

4285. Has Mr. Wilton told you anything about it; has he ever asked you for it?—No.

4286. Has he ever told you he has been paid it?—No.

4287. Has he ever told you that he brought it into account with Mr. Monk?—No.

4288. Have you heard his evidence to-day?—I came in just as he was being examined towards the last.

4289. What has he told you about this; you say you have had some conversation with him since the election?—Nothing but merely repeating the transaction.

4290. Do you think he now expects to be paid by you?—I suppose he does; I cannot tell what he thinks.

4291. Have you any intention to pay him?—If I get it.

4292. Where do you expect to get it from?—If the man is to be believed, from young Mr. John Wilton.

4293. Have you had any conversation with Mr. John Wilton about it?—What, since?

4294. Yes?—No, not particularly; of course we have since this inquiry has been going on.

4295. Is Mr. John Wilton under the impression that he owes it to you now?—Yes.

4296. Then, neither you nor Mr. John Wilton are aware that Mr. Robert Wilton has accounted for this to Mr. Monk?—I am not aware of it.

4297. Shall you consider that debt as discharged, now that you have heard that he has accounted for it to Mr. Monk?—If I get the money from young Mr. John Wilton I shall hand it over to Mr. Robert Wilton.

4298. Mr. Robert Wilton has told us he had 200*l.* from Mr. Ralli, and that he has returned 113*l.* 16*s.* to Mr. Monk, keeping 86*l.* 4*s.*; that sum includes 11*l.* 4*s.* to Mr. Jordan; 25*l.* he advanced on behalf of Mr. Monk to messengers, and 50*l.* which he paid to Mr. Chandler?—I am very glad; that relieves my shoulders; I did not know it before.

4299. (*Mr. Welford.*) You told Mr. Robert Wilton you wanted the 50*l.* for his nephew?—I did.

4300. For election purposes?—I did.

C. Hutton.

CHARLES HUTTON sworn and examined.

4301. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are a hairdresser, living in Northgate Street?—Yes.

4302. You were an active supporter of the Liberal candidates at the last election?—I was.

4303. There was a room in your house set apart as a committee room, was there not?—Yes.

4304. And you received 7*l.* 10*s.* for the use of that room, I believe?—I did.

4305. In what district was that? In what ward?—The north ward.

4306. Who used to meet in that room?—As a committee?

4307. Yes?—Mr. Isacke was appointed chairman, but he very seldom attended; not more than once or twice I believe during the time; then there was Mr. Pugh, a tailor, living in St. Aldate Street.

4308. Who else?—John Woodward, a tailor, of New Inn Lane; Mr. George Clutterbuck, a builder; Mr. Lee, a grocer, in Alvin Street; Mr. Hall, a grocer, in Worcester Street; Mr. James Fletcher, a grocer, Alvin Street; James Orpin.

4309. Is he a publican?—Yes.

4310. What is the sign of his house?—The White Lion, I believe.

4311. Who else, Mr. Robinson?—No.

4312. Mr. Innell?—No; he was never in my house.

4313. You never saw Mr. Innell there?—No, I never did.

4314. What other names can you give us?—Mr. Mills, a painter, in Worcester Street.

4315. Who else?—I cannot remember any more.

4316. Were you the secretary of that committee?—I was not.

4317. What part did you take?—I took but very little part in it, because I could not attend, having to attend to my business.

4318. You took very little part in the committee room?—In the committee room.

4319. Were messages from your house transmitted backwards and forwards to the committee room in Westgate Street?—That I cannot tell.

4320. You do not know what the arrangements were, do you?—I do not.

4321. Do you know a person named Jeffs?—I do.

4322. A person who was examined before the Committee in London?—Yes.

4323. Was he there?—On the day of polling he was there.

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C. Hutton.

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4324. What part in the election did you take?—The committee was divided off in sections to go and see different parties.

4325. Were you one of a section to see those different parties?—Yes.

4326. And you canvassed the voters in the district?—I did some of them.

4327. To what persons did you offer bribes for their votes?—Jeffs was one.

4328. What is his Christian name?—Samuel Jeffs, I believe.

4329. How much did you offer him?—He had *5l.*

4330. At what time?—On the day of polling.

4331. Had he *5l.* from you?—From me.

4332. To vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

4333. Did he vote for them?—He did.

4334. Who is the next?—Richard Wood.

4335. I did not ask you where Samuel Jeffs lived?—In Hare Lane.

4336. Where does Richard Wood live?—I do not know; I never was in his house.

4337. What did you give him?—£5.

4338. When?—On the day of polling.

4339. For the purchase of his vote for Monk and Price?—Yes.

4340. Did he vote for them?—He did.

4341. Who was the next person?—His father, Henry Wood.

4342. How much did you give him?—His son drew of me for both him and his father, *5l.*

4343. What did you say to Henry Wood? What conversation had you with Henry Wood about his vote?—I had no conversation at all.

4344. With Richard Wood, the son?—He was desired to call on me about a week previous to the election. He called and asked me what I was going to give; I asked him what he wanted, and he said about *5l.*, and likewise his father.

4345. Did you pay to Richard Wood *5l.* for the father, Henry Wood, to purchase his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

4346. Did he vote?—Yes.

4347. And for those two candidates?—He did.

4348. Does Henry Wood live at the same place as Richard Wood?—No, he is in the St. Margaret's Hospital, up the London road.

4349. Is that a charity?—Yes, it is.

4350. Who was the next?—Henry Woolmer.

4351. Where does he live?—In London.

4352. Did he come down to the election?—He came and voted.

4353. What did you give him?—I got a party to write to him to ask if he would come down and vote at this election; and he sent word that he would come if he could get his expenses, and he put down what it would cost him, and I sent him back word to say he should have what he required.

4354. How much did he require?—£5.

4355. He said he would come and vote if he could get his expenses?—Yes.

4356. What business did he carry on in London?—A draper.

4357. Did you give him *5l.* on the day of voting, on the polling day?—Yes.

4358. And did he vote?—He did.

4359. I suppose you know that *5l.* was considerably more than the expense of his coming down and returning to London?—I cannot say, I am sure; that is what he sent word would be his expenses coming and going back.

4360. Was it your opinion at the time you paid him that money, that a portion of it was intended for the purchase of his vote?—No, it was not.

4361. That was not your opinion at that time?—No, it was not, because I know he was a different sort of man from that.

4362. Who is the next?—James Lewis.

4363. What is Woolmer's address in London?—I think it is 72, or 73, Aldgate. He is with his father.

4364. Who is the next?—James Lewis.

4365. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—Yes.

4366. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where does he live?—I fetched him from Bristol. He is a seaman.

4367. What did you give him?—The expenses in all were *7l.*, going down and fetching him.

4368. What were the expenses?—It run to *2l.* altogether.

4369. That was *5l.* for his vote?—Yes.

4370. To vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

4371. Did he vote for them?—He did.

4372. Who is the next?—William Faville.

4373. Where does he live?—At the Magdalene's Hospital.

4374. Is that a charity?—Yes.

4375. What did you give him?—I did not pay him; a party drew the money of me for him.

4376. Had you any conversation with him about his vote, or about the price of his vote?—I saw him once before.

4377. Did you tell him you should give him anything for his vote?—He said he should want something for his vote on this occasion.

4378. And did you promise him anything?—I did not promise him anything.

4379. (*Mr. Welford.*) What amount did he say?—He did not say any amount.

4380. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much was drawn from you for his vote?—I cannot say whether it was *2l.* or *3l.*, one of the two I know.

4381. To whom did you pay it?—William Cole, a tailor; he was one of the committee.

4382. You paid to Cole, a tailor, for Faville's vote *2l.* or *3l.*?—Yes, I cannot say which now.

4383. Who is the next?—Those are all.

4384. From whom did you receive the money?—Mr. John Wilton.

4385. How much did you receive altogether from Mr. John Wilton?—£31, I think.

4386. I see you paid the greater portion of this on the polling day; had you made contracts with these parties before that?—I had, all but Lewis.

4387. You fetched him?—I fetched him from Bristol.

4388. Who gave you authority to make those contracts with these people for their votes?—No one.

4389. Was it entirely in your own discretion to act as you thought proper?—Well, I canvassed them, and they all wanted some money for their votes, and I asked most of them what they wanted.

4390. My question is, whether it was left in your discretion by those who had the management of the election to deal with those votes as you thought proper?—Yes.

4391. To make the best terms you could with them?—Yes.

4392. Was it the parties who were in the habit of meeting at your house who gave you those instructions, or left that power in your hands?—Yes.

4393. Do you remember a Mr. Goold being in the committee room at your house?—I do not.

4394. You do not remember any Mr. Goold being there?—He might have been there, but I cannot say.

4395. Do you know to whom I refer?—Mr. Goold, the currier.

4396. You remember when Jeffs was at your house, do you not?—I do.

4397. He was there on the polling day, was he not?—He was.

4398. About what time was he there?—He came to my house about a quarter before 7 in the morning.

4399. What time was it when you paid him the money?—About 8 o'clock, I think. He came and wanted to draw the money and go home to breakfast, but I told him I did not do business in that way.

4400. Was there at the time Jeffs was there an old man sitting in the room?—Yes.

4401. Who was that old man?—Mr. Mills, the painter.

4402. Was he one of the persons on the committee?—Yes.

4403. Did you offer any bribes at all, except to the persons whose names you have given us?—I did not.

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4404. You did not pay any money at all to any persons except those parties ?—No.

4405. Did you expend any money in treating ?—I did.

4406. How much ?—I cannot say; 2*l.* or 3*l.*, I dare say.

4407. Who did you treat ?—Well, I cannot say now.

4408. Electors ?—Yes.

4409. Where did you treat them ?—At different places.

4410. Can you give me the names ?—Some at the Lion.

4411. The White Lion ?—The Red Lion.

4412. Kept by whom ?—Mr. Lewis.

4413. James Lewis ?—Charles Thomas Lewis.

4414. Is he a voter ?—Yes, he is.

4415. What other houses ?—Mrs. Morton, at the Horse and Groom, or Mr. Morton.

4416. Is Mr. Morton a voter ?—He is.

4417. Go on ?—I do not know any other place. I might have spent a few shillings at some other places.

4418. Where ?—I do not know any other place.

4419. Are you quite sure of that ?—I am.

4420. In what way was the money spent; was it spent in suppers or in beer ?—In beer.

4421. To parties of electors that were assembled ?—Some electors and some not.

4422. Was the expenditure of that money intended to influence the votes of persons at whose houses the money was spent ?—No, because Morton voted for Sir Robert Walter Carden. We knew Morton was a Tory.

4423. Did you expend any money at Morton's house with a view of influencing his vote ?—Not a bit.

4424. Why did you go to his house rather than to any other place ?—We were going up the street, and a few of us said we would go and have a jug of beer or two, and we went in there.

4425 Did you make any offer to Morton at all ?—I did not; I do not think I ever spoke to the man.

4426. Your object was not at all to influence Morton's vote when you took the electors there and expended some money in giving them beer ?—Not a bit.

4427. Are those the only cases of treating, or is that the only amount you spent in treating ?—That is the only amount; I cannot say what I paid now.

4428. Is that sum of 2*l.* or 3*l.* included in the amount you received from Mr. Wilton, that is did it form part of that amount ?—Yes; in fact it was more than I received from Mr. Wilton.

4429. How do you mean ?—Because I think what I paid in the shape of bribes and refreshments has exceeded the amount I actually received from him.

4430. You think you were out of pocket ?—I was.

4431. Have you received any portion of the money that you think you disbursed beyond what you received from Mr. Wilton ?—Not a halfpenny.

4432. You received no payment except the payment of 7*l.* 10*s.* for the use of your room ?—I have not.

4433. Besides the persons you bribed, have you any knowledge of the names of other persons who were bribed by other parties ?—I have not.

4434. You confined your bribery to your own district ?—I did.

4435. Did you hear in the course of your canvass any persons state that they had been promised money, or that inducements had been offered to them if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—There were two; John Hyett and William Cook; I met them coming up the street. They asked me what I was going to do; and I said I had no money to give them; I could not do anything for them.

4436. When was that ?—On the morning of polling; they said they could go down to the Blue committee room and get 10*l.* directly, but they would sooner vote for 8*l.* for us than for 10*l.* for the Blues.

4437. Are they both freemen ?—One is, I know.

4438. At what time on the polling day was that ?—About 10 o'clock, I think, or between 9 and 10.

4439. How did Hyett vote ?—For Price and Monk, I believe.

4440. How did William Cook vote ?—For Price and Monk.

4441. Were you living in Gloucester in 1857 ?—I was.

4442. Did you take an active part in that election ?—I did.

4443. Do you know of any cases of bribery at the election in 1857 ?—I heard there was a great deal of bribery carried on.

4444. Do you know of any yourself ?—I do not.

4445. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who paid you the 7*l.* 10*s.* for your committee rooms ?—Mr. Smith.

4446. Mr. Smith, the solicitor ?—Yes.

4447. Did you make any return of the results of your canvass to the committee room ?—Yes.

4448. What did you return those men who had promised to vote for money? Did you return them as promises ?—Yes.

4449. You returned them all as promises ?—Yes.

4450. Were there any that you canvassed who did not promise you ?—No.

4451. What committee room did you make those returns to ?—The committee room at my place.

4452. You did not make any return to the central committee room ?—No, I did not.

4453. Who kept the book, and received the returns you made ?—I think it was a gentleman named Evans.

4454. Who is he ?—He is an attorney.

4455. Was he a member of the committee at your house ?—He was there.

4456. Is that William Martin Evans ?—I do not know.

4457. He is a solicitor in this city?—He is.

4458. Was he acting as committee clerk ?—Yes.

4459. Is there any other gentleman named Evans living in the town ?—I know one gentleman of that name; I do not know two.

4460. Did you make any observation upon the votes when you gave in your return ?—No, I do not think I did.

4461. Did you tell Mr. Evans that you had promised them money?—I merely made an item opposite the name of what would be wanted.

4462. On the return ?—On the return.

4463. And Mr. Evans saw that ?—Yes.

4464. Did you mark the list of returns, or did Mr. Evans make that note ?—I marked the list.

4465. After Mr. Evans had entered them ?—No, I left the return on the table, I believe.

4466. You gave in a memorandum containing the names of Jeffs and these other men from whom you had promises ?—Yes.

4467. And you marked opposite their names the sums they required ?—Yes.

4468. And you left that with Mr. Evans ?—I left it on the table; I cannot say whether he had it or not.

4469. Did you see Mr. Evans make an entry on the return ?—I did not.

4470. What is the Christian name of Mr. Isacke, the chairman of the committee in your house ?—James John.

4471. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you any further information you can give us with regard to the last election ?—No.

4472. Have you told us all you know about it ?—I have.

4473. About the bribery or treating ?—I have, all that I know anything about.

4474. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was Mr. Barham on the committee at your house ?—No.

4475. Did he come there ?—No, he did not.

4476. You are sure Mr. Robinson did not go there ?—I think I have seen him there.

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4477. Mr. Robinson, the corn merchant?—Yes.

4478. Was he one of the committee?—I cannot say whether he was or not.

4479. He was in the habit of attending the room?—He did attend several times.

4480. Did Mr. Parkes attend?—No.

4481. If they had attended, you must have known it?—Yes.

H. Jacobs.

HARRY JACOBS sworn and examined.

4482. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Westgate Street?—I do.

4483. What are you?—A general factor.

4484. Mr. John Wilton has told us he gave you a sum of money?—Yes.

4485. What was the amount?—I believe about 177*l.*, as he states.

4486. Did you expend that money in bribery?—I did.

4487. Tell me the names of the parties to whom you paid money?—The first money I paid was, I believe, the only legitimate money I did pay; 3*l.* to a Mr. Jacob Moses, who came from Liverpool to record his vote.

4488. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Travelling expenses?—Yes.

4489. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you pay him?—£3.

4490. What is his address?—8, Ranelagh Street.

4491. Had you promised to give him that 3*l.* if he would come and vote?—No.

4492. Did you write to him?—I did.

4493. What did he say?—He said that if it was possible he would be glad if we would do without him, for that his coming would be a very serious inconvenience, and I was to write to him to let him know.

4494. You did write to him?—I did write to him that I believed that Sir Robert Carden's party were going the whole animal, or something of that sort, and I thought that every vote would be of consequence to us.

4495. And you agreed to give him 3*l.* if he would come?—I did not; money was never thought of and never mentioned; but when he was here I said, "Well, I have sent for you, what are your expenses?" He said, "Well, I really do not know, they will be "about 3*l.*" "Very well" (I said), "I do not see "why you should be that out of pocket."

4496. He did not ask you for that money?—No.

4497. And you only gave him that money for his travelling expenses?—Most decidedly.

4498. What are the names of any of the other persons to whom you gave money for their votes?—The next man to whom I gave money, was one George Bowers, 5*l.*

4499. Where does he live?—He lives in Water Street, I believe.

4500. In what way did you give him that money; in notes or in gold?—In gold.

4501. What was Bowers to do with that money?—He was to divide it between himself, his brother, Thomas Bowers, and his nephew, Thomas Bowers, junior, George May, John Keeling, and George Miller.

4502. He was to divide it amongst them as payment for their votes?—Distinctly.

4503. Did those persons vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Every one of them.

4504. And the money was given to them in order that they should vote for Price and Monk?—I gave it to Bowers for that purpose, and I believe he gave it to them; I never heard any complaint, and I should have done so, I suppose, if he had not.

4505. Who was the next?—The next man, if I may call him a man, was William Merrett; he had, to the best of my belief, 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* of me altogether.

4506. In order that he should vote for Price and Monk?—Yes, distinctly.

4507. Did he vote for them?—He did; but it was quite by chance that he did so; I had to watch him very closely for it.

4508. In what way was there any difficulty about his voting for them?—I believe he had had money from both parties.

4509. What is the ground of your belief?—My ground for believing so is this, that with almost every other man I should believe it, but he has told me, "So help him God," that he should quarter on the enemy; that he could easily do that; that Mr. Lovegrove was crazy after him.

4510. Who was the next?—The next one is Anthony Bond; he had 8*l.*

4511. For the purchase of his vote?—Yes.

4512. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

4513. Who was the next?—The next one is John Ayling.

4514. Where does he live?—I do not know.

4515. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—I believe he is.

4516. William Merrett and Anthony Bond were both examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, I believe?—Yes.

4517. Do you know in what parish Ayling lives?—In Bear Land, in the parish of St. Nicholas, I believe.

4518. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you give him?—I have got him down 6*l.* or 7*l.*; I would not swear positively which it was; I will swear it was one of them.

4519. For the purchase of his vote?—Yes.

4520. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

4521. Who is the next?—The next is William Woodcock.

4522. Where does he live?—I do not know where he lives.

4523. How much did you pay him?—I paid him 6*l.*

4524. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; the next one will be James Taylor.

4525. Where does he live?—He now resides in the parish of Staverton.

4526. Where is Staverton?—About six miles from Gloucester, on the Cheltenham road; he was to have 5*l.*, but he was obliged to have 10*l.*

4527. You paid him 10*l.*?—I did.

4528. You say he was to have had 5*l.*; why were you obliged to give him 10*l.*?—He is a man that worked for me for a long time, and he has lately moved from Gloucester; he came to me one day, and said, "How is the election going on?" I said, "I am "sure I do not know." He said, "Sir Robert will "get in as sure as you are born, if you do not mind; "they have lots of money; I can have 5*l.*" I said, "You would not be such a vagabond as to turn round "on your party?" He said, "I am a poor man now, "my circumstances are not so good as they have "been." "Well," I said, "do not do anything of "the sort; I would not do it." Then he said, "I will "see about it, you leave it to me. I have been pro-"mised 5*l.*, and cannot do without it." I said, "You come in to-morrow, and I will see you." Well, he came in, and in the meantime I believe I saw Mr. John Wilton, and in the course of conversation I said, "Well, it appears that Bobby Carden is going "to beat us again with the money." He said, "Well, "I do not know;" and I mentioned this case of Taylor's to him; the understanding between us was that I was to do as I pleased in the matter, and I told Taylor he might have the 5*l.*, and he told me of another one or two that he thought would go for the same money; that he knew they had not promised to any one.

4529. Taylor told you that?—Yes, he told me of a man living out near him who would go and vote for the same money, if I would go out and see him; and I took a cab and took Taylor along with me, and saw him, and it was arranged that they should have 5*l.* each; one was Walter Welch, who was examined in London on the petition. I went out to the Pheasant,

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a house kept by Taylor, and arranged with Taylor that he should have the 5*l.*; he then introduced Walter Welch. Welch said, "How do you do, sir; I "have been lamb-led by them other folks, and I do "not think I shall trust them any more." I said, "Do you mean to vote for Price and Monk?" and he said, "That will depend, sir." I said, "What do you "want?" and he held up his five fingers, so; but he attributes that to me. I said, "I suppose you mean "5*l.*, very well." He said, "I shall not take the "money myself; I never did in my life."

4530. Was the 10*l.* paid to James Taylor for himself and Walter Welch?—No, for himself alone; I will come to that part of the business presently. It was then arranged that I should either play Welch a game of skittles for 5*l.*, or jump him for 5*l.*, he was to have the choice; he said he could then swear that he had never had anything for his vote.

4531. Welch said that?—Welch said that; I said, "All right, you are an honest man." That was arranged, but he called on me the following Sunday at my residence in Westgate Street, and wanted to know if I intended to keep to what I had said; I said, "Yes, certainly." "Because" (he said), "I have been "nearly run to death by the Tories; I could have had "more money, and I could have had the money first "if I liked." He said that Walter Clutterbuck, a solicitor, and John Ward, and a very fat man, (I think he meant Mr. Matthews, the lawyer), had been out to him. I think he told me he could have had 7*l.*, but he knew Walter Clutterbuck of old; he said, "I have had enough beans out of Walter's bag." He led me to understand that he never had had the money, that he had only had promises. I said, "Oh, "yes, certainly, I shall not change." He said, "All "right, sir; because I have been drinking with Mr. "John Ward and Walter Clutterbuck, and I shall go "and have three or four more pints with them, and then "I shall walk home comfortable." He said, "They "think they are going to have me, and it is just as "well to let them think so;" and we parted. I did not see anything more of him, though I went out and tried to see him, for I heard he was running about. I do not think I saw anything more of him till the day of the nomination.

4532. Confine yourself at present to James Taylor?—It was arranged that James Taylor should have the 5*l.*, as I told you before; and after three or four days he came to me and said, "I am very sorry I must "break faith with you, but I am obliged to do it." I said, "You are a respectable member of society." He said, "Well, I have been offered 10*l.* on the other "side, and they are going to have a dinner out there;" and I asked him who they were, who he meant; he mentioned two or three names, and he said if we could not come out in the same style he should be obliged to cut us. I talked to him rather sharply for a time, and said, "Taylor, do not be a fool; they are "only humbugging you; you know you will never "get a penny of your money." He said, "I can have "the money immediately, if I like; there is John "Ward, and Mr. Maysey, and Mr. Clutterbuck there, "going to invite three or four more friends, and we "are going to have a regular jollification."

4533. At his house?—At his house.

4534. Did he say who had offered the 10*l.* to him?—No, he did not say who had offered him the money.

4535. He said he could have the money then?—Yes. His wife was present, and I pressed her rather hard to tell me who it was. I said, was it Mr. Clutterbuck, and she would not say. Was it Mr. Ward, and she laughed; I thought then that I had hit the right nail on the head. Then she said, "I am to "have a new dress too, what do you think of that?" I said, "We cannot come it like that; but I think "Mr. Taylor ought to stand by his party."

4536. Did you, after that, give him 10*l.*?—I had some little talk with him, and convinced him of the folly of leaving his party, and he at last said, "Well, "to tell you the truth, I would rather vote with you "for 10*l.* than with them for 20*l.*"

4537. Then he did vote?—He did. I said, "You "must not fool me any more;" and he said, "I will "not, I will come in and vote like a man;" and he did vote, and I paid him the 10 sovereigns.

4538. When did you pay him the money?—After he had voted.

4539. You paid Taylor 10 sovereigns after he had voted?—I did..

4540. Now as to Walter Welch?—He had only 1*l.* instead of 5*l.*

4541. Did he vote for Price and Monk?—No, he did not.

4542. Did you give Walter Welch 1*l.*?—No. By his direction, I put it on the mantelpiece at the Waggoner's Arms, in the same road, for the landlady to take care of for him.

4543. Was that at Staverton?—In the parish of Staverton, I believe, though not in the same house; a house kept by a man who gave evidence in London, Withers, who said he was a gentleman farmer.

4544. Did you put that one sovereign on the mantelpiece as an inducement to that man to vote?—It was 1*l.* on account of the 5*l.*

4545. Was it in part performance of the contract you had made with him?—Yes, I considered it so; he was to have had 4*l.* the next day, but I believe he was stopped in the morning.

4546. Did you pay him that 1*l.* on the nomination day?—Yes; I did not pay it to him, but I put it on the mantelpiece, as I have before said.

4547. Did you pay him the 4*l.* the next day?—No, I did not.

4548. Why?—He was coming in, but he was stopped on the road; I was told who he was seen with, I forget who now, but I heard afterwards that he had more money, and that that was the reason why he threw me. He had been offered money a good many times, according to his own statement.

4549. Did he vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I believe he did; I am not positive.

4550. Did you make an agreement with him for 5*l.* for his vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did.

4551. Who is the next?—I forgot to mention that in the course of conversation, the same Walter Welch said he had been promised 5*l.* for the election in 1857, but that after he had voted he did not get the money; that they had only said they were very much obliged to him, or something of that sort.

4552. He had been promised 5*l.* by whom?—I do not know, but I think he told me he ultimately went to Mr. Lovegrove, but did not get the money. I am not quite positive on that matter.

4553. Who is the next?—The next person was Charles Jones.

4554. Where does he live?—I do not know.

4555. Is he a freeman?—That I do not know.

4556. Does he live in Gloucester?—I believe he does.

4557. What did you give to Charles Jones?—3*l.*

4558. For his vote?—Yes. I am not quite certain whether the arrangement was that he was to vote for Price and Monk, or whether it was to be for Monk and Sir Robert Carden; I do not know positively; I cannot state what the arrangement was. I know I gave him three sovereigns, and that he voted for one or both of our candidates.

4559. You do not know whether it was for one vote or for two?—No, I cannot state positively whether it was for one or two.

4560. But you did give him the money?—Yes.

4561. Who is the next?—The next will be George Welch, of Brockworth.

4562. Is he a brother of Walter Welch?—No, I do not think he is; he is about the same breed, though.

4563. Was he in London on the petition?—He was.

4564. What is he?—He is, at least what there is left of him, a tailor.

4565. What did you give him for his vote?—I had a deal of trouble with him; he ultimately cost me about 6*l.*, as near as I can tell.

4566. You paid him 6*l.* for his vote?—He had

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H. Jacobs.
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about that sum; I believe he had a like sum from the other side, too.

4567. How did he vote?—He voted for Price and Monk. I believe that you will have somebody who will prove to you that he had money from the other side also; he was one of these "Uriah Heap" sort of men.

4568. What did you promise him?—When I first called on him he said he did not know; he had been treated very badly indeed, or he would have always gone the other way; he should have had 5*l.* at the last election, but that Mr. Walter Clutterbuck shook hands and told him he was very much obliged to him, and that that was all he got, and that he had to go home hungry; he said he did not think he should vote for them any more, but that a lot of them had been out to him. "Well," I said, "if you have been treated so "badly you had better come in and support the two "Liberal candidates, Messrs. Price and Monk; you "will be allowed your day's expenses anyhow." He "said, "Well, a man ought to have somewhat more "than his day's work for to alter his mind." I could not do anything with him for a time; he had six or seven nice children there, and I took one of them up and gave him a shilling, and the others a shilling, and then the mother warmed, and said that her husband, she knew, would rather vote with us, but he must have his money beforehand for his loss of time, for he had been fooled too often by the other parties.

4569. Ultimately you gave him 6*l.*?—Yes, to his wife; and she went, I believe, and bought pigs with it.

4570. Did you give it to his wife in your shop?—Yes, I gave it somewhere near the premises; I gave her five sovereigns on the morning of the polling, but I reckon he cost me about 6*l.* altogether.

4571. Who is the next?—The next is John Hyett; he had 8*l.*

4572. Where does he live?—Dean's Walk.

4573. Is he a freeman?—Yes.

4574. On what day did you give him that?—I believe I paid him through Probert, senior; I recollect his running up to me and saying, "Here are two of "our men going to the other side, if we do not give "them 8*l.* each; they say they can have 10*l.*"

4575. Was that said to you by Probert?—Yes, by Probert, senior; I believe he held the money for them. He said they could have 10*l.* I said, "Well, they had "better go and have it;" but we had not a sure thing on, and I gave them 8*l.* each. Then came another man, William Cooke, alias Kidney, I think he is called; he told me a man's name who, he said, had offered him 10*l.*; that James Maysey had offered him 10*l.*; and Alderman Whithorn gave him a shilling and told him it was all square.

4576. Did they both tell you they had been offered 10*l.*?—Yes; they said they could have it in a minute; that they had had it put into their hands and had shoved it back again.

4577. They both said they had been offered 10*l.*?—They both said they had been offered 10*l.* each; that they could have it in Sir Robert Carden's committee room in a moment, if they liked, but they did not like it. It was William Cooke who said that Maysey offered him the 10 sovereigns.

4578. Did you pay 8*l.* to John Hyett for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

4579. And 8*l.* to William Cooke for his vote?—Yes, I believe I paid both those sums to Probert, senior; I know they had the money, and it came from me, and they both polled for Price and Monk. Then I come to three bad lots, Frederick Wingate, Henry Wingate, and Thomas Knight.

4580. Where do they live?—I do not know where they live.

4581. Do the two Wingates live together?—I do not know. I should think not.

4582. What did you pay to Frederick Wingate?—I had a lot of trouble with these men, and paid them in the lump. I had seen them the night before, and had let them go; their price was too high.

4583. What did they want?—They talked all sorts of nonsense; they wanted 15*l.* a man first. I said I could not give it; they said, "We can go and have it "from the other side in a moment, and be put on the "committee, and all sorts of nice things." "Well," I said, "you had better go then; I cannot do any-"thing with you," and they went away. They came to me on the morning of the polling; somebody came and told me they were waiting for me down at George Bower's, I think. I went down, and these gentlemen were waiting to see me, and they said, "Well, we "think there is some little humbugging on the part "of the other side, what do you mean to do?" I said, "Have you polled, any of you?" for I was rather suspicious, and they swore they had not polled, and it turned out they had not. I agreed to give them 6*l.* apiece, and 1*l.* for luck, making 19*l.*, and then they all threw me over the bridge and voted for Carden; there is not the least doubt they received money on the other side also, because if they had not they would have voted as they had promised.

4584. You paid them 6*l.* a piece, and 1*l.* for luck, to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

4585. Will you put in a list of these persons, with their addresses, sign it, and hand it in to us?—I will do so. The next one is Decimus Best; he came to me on the morning of the polling; I forget who he said had sent him, but that somebody had sent him, and said he was to have 2*l.*, and it was all right. I rather offended the old gentleman; I said, "I do not think it is all "right;" and he fell into a great passion, and said he had never forfeited his word, and all sorts of things. I ultimately gave him two sovereigns, and he was to go and poll for Price and Monk. I found his words were true, that he never had forfeited his word (or told a lie, I think he said), for he plumped for Carden.

4586. Is this Decimus Best a guard at the station?—He is an old man, and wears a red jacket; I daresay he is something of the sort.

4587. You paid him 2*l.* in order that he might vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; and I heard he received a similar sum for the same purpose from somebody else; I do not know who now; he came to me the other night and said, "Are you Mr. Jacobs?" I said, "Yes, I am; what do you want?" He said, "I have brought you the two sovereigns I borrowed "of you on the day of the election." I said, "Oh, "indeed, you had better give it to me then," and he did so. I suppose that he intended to make a debt of it, but of course I should not have lent a man like that 2*l.*, not knowing anything of him.

4588. Was this last night?—No; two or three days since. That is all I know of him, that he came to me and had the 2*l.*, and did not do as he said he should; and that he has since brought me the money back, and I have received it.

4589. Who is the next?—Those are all the men that I have given any money to, but not all the men that I have had to do with.

4590. Do the various sums that you paid to these persons make up a total of 177*l.*?—No, they do not; I think you will find they come to about 143*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

4591. How do you account for the balance?—I do not think I shall be able to give quite so good an account of the balance, but when I tell you I had had nearly a month of electioneering in Gloucestershire that will partly account for it; it was for cab and coach hire; I paid that all myself. I believe it is usual to have cabs from some place that the candidate has engaged, but I paid all my own hire of cabs and treating and refreshments of all sorts. I was round about the country a good deal, and sometimes found it necessary to put on two horses. When I found some of the gentlemen on the other side had got one, and I wanted to be the first I put on two.

4592. Did you receive no money from any other person besides the 177*l.* you say you received from Mr. John Wilton?—No.

4593. That you undertake to swear?—£177 was all the money I received of Mr. John Wilton.

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4594. Is that the total amount you received from any person in respect of the last election ?—That is the total amount.

4595. Do you swear that you did not bribe with money any person besides those whose names you have given to us ?—No ; I will not swear that.

4596. Will you give me the names of any other persons that you did bribe ?—I was coming to that part of the story in accounting for the balance of the money ; on the morning of the election there was a good deal of excitement and noise, and I, to the best of my recollection, polled some three or four split votes at from 1*l.* to 3*l.* each, which I cannot remember, and although Probert, senior, who was with me a good deal on the morning, can speak to that, he cannot give me the names ; he gave me a good deal of this in fact ; it took me some time to recollect it, I did not put any of it down.

4597. Cannot you give me the names of those persons to whom you paid that money ?—No ; I have tried, with the assistance of Probert, to get further, but I cannot get any further with it.

4598. Do you say that Probert was with you at the time you polled their votes ?—He was with me a good deal in the morning ; in fact, nearly all the morning, and recollects my doing so, but he cannot recollect the names.

4599. Which Probert was that ?—Probert, senior. I had a good deal of expense in going out, for instance, to see a voter named Bond on the top of Birdlip Hill ; there was more expense than this 8*l.* attending his vote. I had to go and see him three or four times. He had a communication with Mr. Lovegrove, and he told me that there was a law suit in hand, and he was afraid Mr. Lovegrove would throw up the papers and send him in a big bill. I told him of course that could not be the case. I think I was there three times.

4600. Were there any other split votes that you polled ?—No, none ; all that I can possibly remember since I first received a summons to appear here I have given you.

4601. Did you pay away any of your own money ? —I never paid any of my own money away directly. I, of course, got through some money during the month that I was out and about.

4602. Was that money taken from the 177*l.*, or out of your own pocket ?—You asked me did I pay any of my own money ? I say I did not pay directly any of it. I may have spent a pound or two for my own amusement, as a man would naturally do being out all that time.

4603. Did you receive any money from Mr. Ralli, junior ?—I do not know him.

4604. You do not know him at all ?—I do not know him, though I believe I have seen him, for I remarked a stranger on the day of the election, though I did not speak to him. I think I remarked to my brother that he was a Jew, and I wondered who he was ; and I rather fancy that that is the gentleman you allude to. I do not know positively that such is the case, but I never spoke to him.

4605. Have you any account that you can present to us as to the mode in which you spent the balance of the money ; you having accounted for 143*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, can you tell us in what way you got rid of the other money ?—These split votes would form part of it. I paid Mr. Churchill a bill for carriage hire ; I do not know how much I paid, I could not speak from memory, but I believe I have his receipt ; I forgot that, or I would have brought it in with me.

4606. How much did you spend in drink ?—That is rather a difficult question to answer truthfully.

4607. To the best of your belief, how much did you spend ?—I should think 30*l.*, with a few pounds which it cost me individually ; that is quite a rough guess, you know. I should suppose that.

4608. You spent about 30*l.* in drink ?—I should think I did.

4609. In drink for whom ?—I travelled round a good deal, and I had the honour of entertaining a few friends at Mr. Bowers's the night before the election, which cost me a good bit.

4610. Were those the persons whose names you have given to us before ?—Those and a lot more.

4611. What names would you add to those you have given ?—There was a lot of men whose price was too high for us, who came in and partook of a little refreshment.

4612. Who were they ?—I am a perfect stranger among these men ; George Bowers will be better able to tell you when he comes to give his evidence who they were. I recollect there were some more Hyetts; I cannot give you the particulars now ; I knew their price was too high for me, and I saw them poll the next day. I said, "Well, boys, you did do it then." "Well," (they said) "we told you we could have it, "and we did have it." Walter Welch also was here on the day of nomination, and I treated him and his friend who keeps the Waggoner's Arms.

4613. Was he at your supper ?—No ; I do not think he stayed for the supper ; I think he was engaged otherwise. I think he went to the Conservative committee room.

4614. Besides treating those people, whom else do you remember to have treated ?—There were a lot of those people in and out there on that particular occasion. I treated any quantity of Sir Robert Carden's men, I dare say, during that month ; I have not the least doubt of it. I think I gave on one occasion 1*l.* to George Bowers, I think it was, or some of the party, to go and have some drink somewhere ; it did not matter where. I think at the time they said, "We are not obliged to go to one of your houses ?" I said, "I do not care where you go. If you want to "go and enjoy yourselves, go and do it."

4615. What houses did you consider your houses?—All those professing to be friends of Price and Monk.

4616. Public-houses where treating was going on ? —I do not know any house where treating was going on till I arrived, and then I treated whoever liked to have anything.

4617. At what houses ?— I was at a good many houses. I was at the Queen's Head a good many times, kept by Probert, but that does not make me denominate that house a treating house. I went there, not for the express purpose of treating, though I did it when I arrived. At the King's Head tap, too, I have treated them, and at the Berkeley Arms.

4618. Who keeps the King's Head tap ?—Mr. Benjamin, I believe.

4619. Is the Berkeley Arms kept by Bryon ?—Yes, Jefferson Bryon.

4620. Where else ?—I have been in a variety of houses, nearly all up and down the street, I may say. I may have gone into the Fleece and the New Inn, and lots of places.

4621. Did you do so ?—During the month, most certainly I did. I did not go into any houses because they were kept by friends of the Liberal cause.

4622. What were the other houses at which you treated electors ?—At the Waggoner's Arms on the Cheltenham road, and at the Pheasant.

4623. In Gloucester, I mean ?—At the Fountain.

4624. Who is the Fountain kept by ?—A Mr. Upton, where the Reform Club is held, of which I have been accused of being a member. I never was in the place in my life ; I swear that most positively.

4625. The Running Horses ?—No.

4626. What others ?—The horses are like the men to me, I do not know them ; I think I was on one or two occasions at a place called the Quart Pot.

4627. Did you spend money there?—I always spent money wherever I went ; it was of no use going unless I spent money.

4628. Did you spend money in the entertainment of electors ?—Not particularly.

4629. When you spent money at those public houses, was not that money expended for the purpose of securing the votes of electors ?—Not always. I was what I should term "travelling round," you know, to learn and to watch how things were going, and of

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H. Jacobs.
30 Sept. 1859.

course I might meet Jack, Bill, or Harry, and say, "Well, boys, you may as well smile," and I would give them some drink.

4630. Did you give them any drink unless you thought that the giving it would have some effect on the minds of the voters?—Yes, I would give any one a quart of ale at any time.

4631. Are you as liberal with your own money as you are with the money of other persons?—It does not make any odds to me, not a bit.

4632. Were these different houses to which you resorted kept by voters?—That I could not answer. I can answer for it in two cases; that of Probert and Jefferson Bryon; I know perfectly well they are both voters, but the others I cannot speak to. It just comes to my mind that I have been several times into the Lower George, kept by Mr. Smith; he is a voter, but never for the purpose of treating any one. I never attended any of these houses for the specific purpose of treating persons, but only, as I said before, to go round and see what was doing.

4633. Did you give any suppers?—We had a bite down at Bowers's, as I said before, in the shape of some mackerell and hams, and things of that sort.

4634. Independently of that at Bowers's, did you give any suppers to any of the electors?—I think not.

4635. Did you attend any suppers?—No.

4636. Any dinners?—No; I never went in for that sort of thing.

4637. Do you still undertake to swear that no money passed through your hands for the purpose of the election, except the sum you received from Mr. Wilton?—£177; that is all the money I received.

4638. About that there can be no doubt?—There is no doubt about that.

4639. You received no money at all from any other person?—No; that 177*l.* was all the money I ever received. I did not receive that all at once.

4640. But that is the gross total?—That is the amount.

4641. You say many of these persons to whom you gave bribes were unknown to you?—Nearly all of them.

4642. Then you did not see them in the first instance to agree with them about their votes?—Yes, I did, of course.

4643. How did you see them?—I have told you how I saw Taylor, and how I went out with him, and from one I went to another. I went out to Birdlip two or three times, and to Brockworth, and to several other little places, I forget the names; and because I did not do any business I did not put them down. I called on several persons in Brockworth. I called on two Coopeys there; some one said, "You had "better call in, but it will not be of much use, I "think, for they have been sugared pretty well on "the other side." There were two Coopeys, brothers, who lived together.

4644. You did not offer them anything?—No; I found it was of no use; I had got notice to quit. I did not make them any offer; they did not ask me for any money, or hint that they wanted any.

4645. Did you make them any offer?—I did not.

4646. Did you make offers to any other persons who were electors?—Yes; there was one Robert Bond, a brother to Anthony Bond, who gave evidence before the House of Commons.

4647. What did you offer him?—He was to have had the same price as his brother, 8*l.* I never saw him but once.

4648. You offered him 8*l.*?—No; his brother negotiated for him. He was not at home the first time I went to Birdlip, but his brother, Anthony Bond, told me that he would see him between that time and the next, some three or four days, when I appointed to go out again.

4649. Did you not see that man, Anthony Bond, in your shop on the morning of the polling?—Yes; but what I am speaking of now occurred some time before the morning of the polling.

4650. On the morning of the polling did you offer him 8*l.*?—Yes, I did.

4651. You offered Robert Bond 8*l.*, in order that he might vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

4652. Did he take the money?—No.

4653. He voted for Sir Robert Carden?—He did; he wanted the money first, and I would not give it to him; I had been cautioned that he was of a bad lot, and I would not trust him. I ought to tell you that this same Robert Bond told me, "I must have "the money first, or I shall not go." I said, "Well, "you will not have it of me first, that is certain." He said, "I can go over to the blue committee room "and have 10*l.* in a moment, and I am off." I said, "It is all right; you go to hell, or anywhere "else you like." I was very cross with him: he was very offensive. He went away, and then came back again. I watched him going over the road in the direction of the committee room, and I saw him come back, and he bawled out as loud as he was able, "A plumper for Sir Robert Carden." He thought it would annoy me; but I felt confident he must have been bribed heavily to have refused my 8*l.*

4654. Did you tell him that you had been tricked twice before, and should not let him have the money till he had polled?—No; not to my recollection. I told him that I had been advised that he did not intend to act honestly, and that I would not trust him with the money until he had polled. I said, his brother had polled, and had had his money, and he could do the same. Then he said, "I am off: I can "go over to the blue committee room, and have 10*l.* "in a moment."

4655. You did not say you had been tricked twice before and should not pay him till after he had polled?—To the best of my recollection I did not; I said, as nearly as I can recollect, what I state to you, to the best of my memory.

4656. Had you been tricked twice before?—I had been tricked three times before; the three men I have named, Frederick and Henry Wingate and Thomas Knight, had taken 19*l.* of me and then thrown me over the bridge.

4657. Did not the Bonds come to you early in the morning?—I was out when they came; my brother did not know them; they asked to look at a bedstead, and he thought he had a customer, and after some time he sold them a bedstead, as he thought, and Bond said, "Are you not the man I want to see?" He said, "It is my brother. I suppose," and he fetched me out, and I went in to them.

4658. What other persons were there to whom you offered money?—There was one John Horatio Evans, I believe.

4659. What did you offer him?—I offered to come out very handsomely to him, but I could not have him; I offered him 15*l.*

4660. Did you offer him 15*l.* to vote?—Yes, for Messrs. Price and Monk.

4661. Who is John Horatio Evans?—He is a tailor, I believe; yes, I am positive he is a tailor.

4662. When did you offer him that money?—The night before the polling.

4663. Did he refuse it?—He did; he said a score was his price, and he could have it. He swore, so help his God, that he had had the money put down before him, 17*l.* 10*s.*, and if I would go the other 50*s.*, I should have his vote. I said, "No;" he said, "I am "an out and outer, I can brush them up; if I am on "your side I am the man for you."

4664. Did he say by whom that 17*l.* 10*s.* had been offered?—No; I do not think he ever mentioned any name, but he told me it had been offered by the opposite party. I had seen him previous to this.

4665. Previous to what?—Previous to my making him this offer; I had seen him, I think it was on the morning of the nomination; he sent for me, and I did not know him, I had never seen him before; I found him at the Fountain. I said, "Do you want to se "me?" He said, "There is no one here, I think; I "think we are alone."

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4666. I do not think it is necessary to go into that? —He told me he wanted 20*l.*, and would not take any less. I said I would see him again, but that that was too stiff. He said, "I am going on the other side, and "can have it in a moment."

4667. Who is the next?—Another man I canvassed was one Thomas Hatch.

4668. What did you offer him?—I made him no direct offer; I called on him; I had seen him a good many times in the workshop; this same man Taylor he worked for, and I had given him ale. I knew him more particularly than any of the men I had to do with. I said, "Hatch, are you going to support Messrs. "Price and Monk?" He said, "I do not know, I sup- "pose I shall; there is a deal of money going "about, and the price will run high; there are six or "seven who will go with me and vote as I do." He said, "I will call on you again;" and he did call, and then his price was something tremendously high; I know it frightened me, and I could not have anything more to do with him.

4669. Who is the next person?—The next person is a lady.

4670. What is her name?—Mrs. Westbury,—the wife, I think, of James Westbury, at the eating-house in Westgate Street. I do not know why, but I always made sure he was a Liberal; he was a near neighbour of mine, but one morning I saw Mr. Lovegrove and Sir Robert Carden there, and it struck my mind, "What the deuce are they doing in "there;" and when they went out I went in, and I said, "Halloa! how are you, madam?" She said, "How do you do, Mr. Jacobs?" I said, "I suppose "Sir Robert has been to see the old gentleman?" "Oh, yes," (she says) "he is a very nice man; he is "going to give us 40,000*l.* that is in Chancery, and "he has sent us down a book all about it, and Mr. "Lovegrove says it will be all right." "What non- "sense," I said.

4671. Did you make any offer?—No; it was of no use my making any offer when they were talking about getting 40,000*l.* I did make the remark, "But "Mr. Westbury will not support Sir Robert Carden?" She says, "He will though, I will take care of that; "he will;" and he did.

4672. What other person did you offer money to? —I do not recollect any others at this moment.

4673. By whose request were you induced to negotiate this bribery with the different voters whose names you have mentioned?—It was at no one's request; it was my own inclination. I never gave it a serious thought till the morning that I told you Taylor called on me and told me there was a deal of money flying about on the other side. I was particularly averse to Sir Robert Carden; he made himself particularly offensive to me when he was in Gloucester, and all I could possibly do to keep him away I should try to do; he tried to make me out a liar once in the presence of Mr. Lovegrove, and two or three other gentlemen, but I would not have it.

4674. Do I understand you to say that without being instructed by any person on the part of Messrs. Monk and Price, but simply dictated by your own inclination, you took the part you did in offering this money and in paying it to the persons you have mentioned?—Yes, I have been in Gloucester two or three times during elections, and never interfered at all; it was only from my great dislike to Sir Robert Carden, who had made himself, as I have stated, particularly offensive to me.

4675. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you a member of any committee?—No.

4676. Did you receive a canvassing book from the committee room?—I received a canvassing book, but how I received it, or who from, I cannot truthfully say now. I think I asked Mr. Innell if he had one, or could give me one; this is only from recollection, but I fancy it was he.

4677. Did you go to the committee room during your canvass?—No; I think I can say positively that during the canvass I did not go there.

4678. Not into either of the committee rooms; neither to the one in Westgate Street or to Hutton's?— I never was at Hutton's in my life; in the one in Westgate Street I have been many times, not on this occasion, but before and since.

4679. During the election I mean?—I cannot answer to that; I could not possibly say how many times, but a very few times.

4680. Did you make any return of the promises you had received at the committee room?—No, most positively not.

4681. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When did you first communicate with Mr. Wilton upon the subject of the election?—The same day that Taylor called on me.

4682. How long before the polling?—I should think it was a long time before the polling.

4683. Are you known to belong to the Liberal party in Gloucester?—I am well known through the country; there are very few of our country who do not belong to the Liberal party.

4684. Did you go to Mr. Wilton, or did he come to you, with reference to money?—I think neither the one nor the other; I met Mr. Wilton, and it being the rage at the time, we fell on politics, and I asked him if he really thought Sir Robert had a chance of being returned, and I told him about Taylor being offered 5*l.*, and that I knew him very well, and that he had worked for me a long time.

4685. How long was this before the election?—I cannot say positively; I should say three or four weeks.

4686. You said Mr. Wilton did not give you this money in one sum?—He did not.

4687. He gave it you from time to time?—I am not clear upon that subject; I think he gave it to me in three payments; I would not undertake to swear; I can only undertake to swear as to one sum, and that was 100 sovereigns at one time.

4688. When was that?—That was the night before the election.

4689. Was that the first time he gave you money? —No.

4690. When did he first give you money?—That I cannot say, only that I did have it.

4691. Was the whole of the 177*l.* given to you in the last week?—That I cannot speak to; I can only say positively that the largest sum I received was 100*l.*, and that was the night before the election.

4692. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that the last sum you received?—That I cannot tell; I believe he sent me some on the morning of the election, for there was a great rage and a great run for money. I could not find sovereigns enough; I thought they would have the buttons off my coat, and I think he gave me some money then.

4693. Who fixed the prices for votes?—It was something like being on 'Change; they were up and down every hour.

4694. During the last few days?—Yes, there was no fixed price; I found, if I arranged with a man for 5*l.*, the opposite party offered him 6*l.*, and then if he came to me and re-arranged for 7*l.* they offered him 8*l.*; it was in that way; it was up and down, how do you do and how do you don't.

4695. Mr. Wilton did not give you any price?— Oh, no, he could not; of course it was necessarily left to me. I am not a bad dealer neither, but I could not touch some of them.

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A. Jacobs.

AUGUSTUS JACOBS sworn and examined.

30 Sept. 1859.

4696. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a brother of the last witness ?—Yes.

4697. Did you bribe any voters at the last election? —No.

4698. Did you offer any voters any money ?—No.

4699. Did you receive any money from any person for the purpose of bribing voters ?—No.

4700. Did you treat any voters ?—No, not any.

4701. You did not bribe any, and you did not treat any ?—No, not any.

4702. Did you spend any money at all in bribing or treating any persons ?—No. I am not positive whether I gave a man named Welch 1*s.* 6*d.* for breakfast or not; that is all.

4703. Did you take part with your brother in the transactions he has just detailed to us ?—No, I was not at at home at the time, I was residing in Cheltenham.

4704. You were in Gloucester on the day of the polling ?—Yes.

4705. Had you been absent at Cheltenham till the day of the polling ?—Yes.

4706. During the whole previous portion of the election ?—Yes, all the time.

4707. Were you not cognizant of any transactions in which your brother took part ?—Not any.

4708. You were in the shop, were you not, when the Bonds came there ?—Yes, when the two Bonds came down I sold them a bedstead, as I thought, that is all; and they asked me if I did not want to see them; I said, "No, I suppose you want to see my "brother," knowing he had had a good deal to do in the matter; and I called him and said, "Be careful of "your men; they have taken me in once, and per- "haps they will take you in."

4709. Except in that way you took no part at all in the election ?—Not any.

4710. You saw the money paid by your brother to Bond ?—Yes, I saw 8*l.* paid.

4711. To Anthony Bond ?—I do not know which of the Bonds it was; the tallest of the two had the money.

4712. Were you in the shop the whole time the Bonds were there?—No; my brother said, "I will see "to those two men," and I left them.

4713. Did you hear what Bond said about having money from the other side ?—No.

4714. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you said, "They "have taken me in; take care;" what did you mean ?—I fancied I had sold them a bedstead, when I had not.

J. Isacke.

JAMES ISACKE sworn and examined.

4715. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Northgate Street.

4716. What are you ?—A brushmaker.

4717. I understand you were the chairman of the committee which met at the house of Hutton ?—I was supposed to be chairman in one sense.

4718. In what sense ?—The books were sent to me, and I think I kept them something like a week, and then returned them; that is, I took them down myself.

4719. How came you to return them ?—Not wishing to be chairman of a committee.

4720. Did you refuse ?—I did not exactly refuse; I took the books back to Mr. Jordan. I refused it in reference to time on my own part; I could not employ it for the services and purposes I would have done; that is, to gain information, and so on. I could not give up my time to it, and therefore, I gave up the books to Mr. Jordan; but he asked me if the books were returned to me, and if he sent some person to do the work, would I object? I said, no; and consequently I took upon myself to be chairman of the committee.

4721. Did you not then take any active part in the election ?—No.

4722. Are you cognizant of any acts of bribery ?—No.

4723. Did you commit any acts of bribery yourself? —No.

4724. Did you treat anybody ?—No.

4725. Did you receive any money from any person for the purpose of the election ?—None at all.

4726. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you attend at Hutton's committee ?—I have been in the room three or four times.

4727. Did you receive any returns of the canvassers? —Yes, I did.

4728. Did you make any entries of them in a book? —No, to the best of my knowledge I never made one.

4729. Did you see any entries of the canvassers' returns made ?—Many; at least I saw the returns.

4730. Did you see Hutton's return ?—I believe I saw almost every return.

4731. Did you see any minute opposite any of the returns ?—Yes, many.

4732. What were they?—Some would not promise, and against some were certain fixed prices, fixed sums of money.

4733. What did you understand from that ?—I should have understood that it was with reference to purchasing votes.

4734. You understood that it was the sums they expected to receive ?—I should have expected such.

4735. Was that known generally to the members of the committee ?—I cannot answer, I was so little with them; I should say it was known to every individual.

4736. Who was the committee clerk there ?—I believe his name was Evans. I think he did the principal writing work.

4737. Were those returns which were made at Hutton's committee-room sent to Jordan's committee-room ?—I am not aware.

4738. You do not know ?—Whether there was a copy of the papers taken I could not answer. I destroyed the papers themselves with perfect disgust; but whether Evans took a note of them previously I would not pretend to say; I should say he did.

4739. You made no return yourself ?—To no individual, unless it was Evans.

4740. Do you know a man named Thornton ?—Yes.

4741. Did he call on you during the election ?—I saw him yesterday, Thornton of Stroud.

4742. I mean a man named Thompson of London, who went by the name of Thornton ?—No, I do not know him.

4743. Did you see a man with a red face wearing spectacles during the election, called Thornton ?—I do not know any man of that name, except a person at Stroud; and I do not know that I saw him at the election.

G. Bowers.

GEORGE BOWERS sworn and examined.

4744. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a carpenter ?—A carpenter and joiner.

4745. Living in Water Street ?—In Water Street.

4746. You received a sum of money from Mr. Jacobs ?—Yes.

4747. How much did you receive from him ?—57*l.* at once.

4748. At one time you received 57*l.* from him ?—Yes.

4749. Did you receive at any other time any other

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money from him ?—Yes, I received a small sum, such as a few shillings. I received a sovereign from him in the street.

4750. And from time to time did you receive small sums ?—Yes ; as men wanted something to drink. I received two half-crowns and a shilling or two, and such as that, from time to time.

4751. About how much altogether, besides the 57*l.*, do you think you received from him ?—I should think not more than 30*s.*

4752. What did Jacobs require you to do with the money ?—To get as many voters as I possibly could with the money ; and he said that if I could get more, more money should be forthcoming.

4753. Do you mean you were with that money to bribe as many voters as you could to vote for Price and Monk ?—I told him pretty well the number of voters, and the price they wanted, and that brought the money pretty much to that amount.

4754. Then you had agreed with the persons that you afterwards bribed for the price they were to receive for their votes ?—Yes.

4755. Now give me the names of those persons ?—The first was that traitor, John Keeling.

4756. What were you to pay him for his vote ?—10*l.*

4757. To vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

4758. Did you pay him that money ?—I did.

4759. And did he vote for them ?—Yes, he did.

4760. Who was the next person ?—The next I paid was a person of the name of George May, a carpenter.

4761. Where does he live ?—He lived then in St. Aldate's Square.

4762. Where does he live now ?—I could not say exactly : that is where he voted for, at least ; his qualification is that of a freeman.

4763. What did you give him?—I gave him 10*l.*

4764. That was by agreement, was it ?—Yes.

4765. For his vote ?—Yes, for his vote.

4766. And did he vote ?—He voted for Price and Monk.

4767. Now the next ?—Thomas Bowers.

4768. How much ?—10*l.*

4769. To vote for Price and Monk ?—For Price and Monk.

4770. Now the next ?—There was a son of Thomas Bowers's again. This was the son I am speaking of now.

4771. How much to him ?—10*l.*

4772. To vote for Price and Monk ?—For Price and Monk.

4773. Who was the next?—A person named George Miller.

4774. Who is he ?—He is a clerk at the station ; I cannot tell exactly in what part of the station.

4775. A clerk at the railway station ?—Yes, it is at the station. I do not know whether it is the Midland, or the Great Western, or what.

4776. How much did you give him ?—He did not want money as a bribe; he did not wish to have it in that way ; he said he should not like to lose his time going to vote, he should like to have something for his loss of time ; and I said, "Would a pound or two "satisfy you ?" and he said, "Yes ;" and I gave him 2*l.*

4777. On the understanding that he would vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

4778. Is Miller a railway clerk at the station at Gloucester ?—Yes.

4779. Who is the next ?—That is all I paid of my own doing.

4780. How much money to yourself?—I had to find refreshments, and one thing and another, at the house; and you will find 15*l.* I have to answer for, besides what I paid away. I should think it cost me between 5*l.* and 6*l.*, safe, for refreshments, and so on, that were had at my own house.

4781. Did you put down 10*l.* to yourself for your own vote ?—I took what was left, that was it ; I did not put it as for my vote ; it went with my vote and all together. I had it and I kept it.

4782. You had 15*l.* altogether ?—Yes, to answer on my own account for what those men had at my house ; to keep them there if I could, so that the should not go anywhere else.

4783. Besides these people to whom you paid those monies, did you offer any money to other persons ?—Oh, yes : it is no use to enter into the number, because I could not give their names. At my house they got a little bit of snapping and a drop of beer, and when I got them there I tried to keep them there. Sometimes we had 30 people there, and sometimes, perhaps, 15 or 16 ; they were in and out ; it was like trying the market.

4784. You had sometimes 30, and sometimes 15 or 16 there ?—Yes ; and sometimes less.

4785. Was that during the time of the election ?—During the time of the nomination day ; from the time that was over up to the time when the polling was over. We broke up one part of the time two or three hours ; we were up day and night pretty well.

4786. During the nomination and polling days, were there refreshments supplied ?—I supplied them all with refreshments.

4787. Now, tell me the names of some of those persons to whom you offered money ?—I offered the Hyetts money, and the Wingates money, and the parties that Mr. Jacobs paid monies to. I offered John Hyett myself 10*l.* if he would vote our way, because he was a man I knew very well.

4788. You offered him 10*l.* if he would vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

4789. Did you offer the brother money?—Yes, and the father. I offered them up to 8*l.* apiece if they would vote for Price and Monk.

4790. You offered the two Hyetts 8*l.* each ?—Yes.

4791. That is if they would vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

4792. When was it that you offered them that money ?—It was on the nomination day.

4793. What other persons did you offer money to ?—I offered Walter Welch, at our house, on the nomination night previous to the election; I said, I thought I could get him 10*l.*, but I offered him 8*l.*

4794. On the evening of the nomination ?—Yes.

4795. You offered him 8*l.* if he would vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes. I offered Arthur Evans 8*l.* the same.

4796. Who else did you offer money to ?—I offered money to John Horatio Evans, from 12*l.* to 14*l.*, or something like that ; he told me he could get 20*l.* ; I told him I did not believe it ; however I offered him a small sum, but he would not take it, and I said, "You "will not vote yellow ; I am sure about that ; it is no "use your coming down to our house any more."

4797. You seem to have given several of them 10*l.*?—Yes, that was them I could pretty well trust ; the others I could not altogether trust.

4798. To those you could not trust you only gave 8*l.* ?—I only offered them 8*l.* That is all, I believe, I proffered money to, except merely asking which way they would vote, and saying, if it was any use to give them the price, I would.

4799. Can you remember the names of persons you asked if it was any good to offer them any money ?—Our house was pretty well like a public-house ; they were in and out when they liked; I could not attend to them all ; I had not my eye on every one, but I speak positively to those I mention. It was like this, there was plenty of beer, and plenty of something to eat, and it went on very comfortable, and they kept coming in and going out again. This was the night before the election.

4800. Did they come to see what they could get ?—Yes, to see what I could afford to give them for their votes.

4801. Tell us the names of other persons who came, besides the names you have given us ?—That I cannot tell you. All those I had conversation with I have given you, as far as my recollection serves me.

4802. Was there a person named Cooke?—Yes,

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G. Bowers.

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John Cooke, but I had no dealings with him. There was John Cooke, he was there, but I had nothing to do with him.

4803. Did you not ask him if it was any good offering him money?—Yes, I might have asked him. I did ask all that came that I saw, but I could not give them a price; I did not know sufficiently about them.

4804. Did they give you a price?—No. They said they could have a good smart bit on the other side. Men will come and say they can have on the other side, at all elections, more than you offer them.

4805. Besides John Cooke, give me the names of other persons who came and said what you have just now stated Cooke said. You say John Cooke came; when John Cooke came did he give you a price?—No, he did not give me any price; he said he could be done well by on the other side.

4806. Were there any other persons who said the same thing?—I think all parties who came to my house. I think they were aware what I could afford to give; the furthest was 8*l.*

4807. Tell me the names of those other persons who came to your house?—I have told you as well as I can recollect. I have been told by my wife that Isaac Withers (I have not the pleasure of knowing him) was at our house; that is Isaac Withers, the innkeeper. There was the landlord of the Waggon and Horses, he came to our house and had something to eat and drink.

4808. Will you just refresh your memory as to the names of the persons who came to your house and give in a list of them to-morrow?—I will endeavour to do so, but I am satisfied that those I have named are all I had to deal with as regards money.

4809. You say you got this money from Jacobs. Did you get any money from any other persons?—No, he was my sole agent. I was, from what I can make out, under him; he was the man that I had to refer to. Whatever money I wanted I was to refer to him; and whatever money I wanted, I suppose I could have had, provided I got votes that I could depend on.

4810. Who told you to refer to him?—Himself.

4811. How long before the election was it, that Jacobs came to you and asked you to try and get votes?—He was on to me for about a week, and I would not, at first, have anything to do with it; but he would not let me rest; he wanted me to attend at his house. He particularly wished me to be on that party, and upon that I attended his house one night.

4812. And then it was you began to exert yourself to see what votes you could purchase?—I never lost one quarter of a day in exerting myself, but I attended on him at nights; and then, up to Wednesday, he said, "You must not do any more work; if you "do, you will be losing time in getting the men to-"gether;" and then I put my best exertions on the getting votes together. Up to the Wednesday I never lost any time, but after Wednesday I gave up my time to Mr. Jacobs, for Mr. Price and Monk's benefit.

4813. When did you receive the money?—I received the money on the night of the nomination.

4814. And you had previously informed Jacobs of the amount of money you would require for the purchase of votes for which you agreed?—I had the means to tell him the price of the voters, because they told me what they would vote for, and they would not vote under; and if we would give them that they were safe, and I was to hold the money till they had voted. I do not think I ever offered anybody less than 4*l.* or 5*l.*; for I knew it was not of much use to do so.

4815. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When these people said to you at your house, they could do as well on the other side, had you any reason to know they could do as well?—I had not. They said, "Well, "if you do not pay, we can go somewhere else and "have it." I said, "I will give you that; you know "very well you will not be bettered."

4816. Have you been a long time in Gloucester?—I was born in Gloucester.

4817. Have you any reason to know there was bribery on the other side in 1857?—I do not know that there was; I took no part in the election.

4818. I am speaking of bribery on the other side?—On Carden's side?

4819. Yes?—I fancy there was bribery going on both ways.

G. Pickford

GEORGE PICKFORD sworn and examined.

4820. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A furniture broker.

4821. Where do you live?—In Barton Street, No. 9.

4822. You received some money, did you not, during the election?—Yes.

4823. From whom?—Joseph Moss.

4824. How much did you receive from him?—6*l.*

4825. Was that from Mr. Moss, the builder?—Yes.

4826. What were you to do with the money?—I made a man a present of it.

4827. When you received the money from Moss what did you tell him?—Previous to receiving the money from Moss, I saw the man I gave the money to. I solicited him for his vote.

4828. Who was that?—George Huggins.

4829. And did you agree with him that he should receive 6*l.* for his vote?—Not at the first visit.

4830. Did you afterwards?—Yes.

4831. For his vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

4832. Did you tell Mr. Moss that?—Yes; when I waited upon Huggins, he told me the other party had been to see him several times, and so did his wife; and he told me what they had offered. He said they had offered him something like 20*l.*, or 21*l.* altogether. They offered him 6*l.* there and then, when they waited upon him, and the other 6*l.* he was to have when he voted; he was to have two or three acres of land, which he considered worth 6*l.* or 7*l.*, and also a situation. I did not know what the situation was at the time, but I found afterwards it was a farm bailiff.

4833. Did he say who had offered that to him?—His wife came several times to my house and told me Mr. Frankis was the man who had come to him a great deal, and she said that Obadiah Clutterbuck had been there.

4834. Did he or did she say who had made him the offer of money?—I cannot say that he did say who made him the offer, more than the Tory party; he said he had no wish to vote on that side because it was quite contrary to the way he had an inclination to go, but he said he was in difficulties, and he did not know but what he should be pressed for the rent, 6*l.*, and as soon as he was offered the money by the Tory party, and there was money passing, he thought it but right he should be relieved of those difficulties, and therefore he must have 6*l.* if he voted for the Liberals.

4835. Did you tell Moss you wanted 6*l.* to secure the vote of Huggins?—I did; I told him I could not secure his vote without it.

4836. And you paid that money to him?—Yes.

4837. For his vote?—Yes.

4838. And did he vote?—Yes.

4839. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

4840. What other money did you pay?—All that I have to say in that matter is, that the other party seemed rather annoyed, and I was told by one of them that I should lose my custom. I have carried on a milk round for some years, but my son is doing it now; they said I should lose my custom at the Bell.

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G. Pickford.
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I told them that I did not care about the Bell or the clapper either. I found after this that the Bell had dropped me; that was one; Mr. Fortt also, a highly respectable man, has dropped me since that time. At that time I was serving Mr. Lovegrove, and since that time I have been dropped there.

4841. Had you been in the habit of supplying those gentlemen you have named with milk?—Yes, for years, Mr. Fortt I had, the Bell I had not been supplying so long.

4842. Mr. Lovegrove?—Not very long; but I was pressed very much to serve him with milk, and I was highly recommended to the Bell; and I believe my milk gave general satisfaction.

4843. Was Huggins the only person to whom you gave any money?—Yes; I did not consider it a bribe; I gave it him as a friend. I waited upon other persons that wanted money, but on waiting on them I found they were on the other side, and therefore I did not press them, and Huggins was the only person I paid money to.

4844. Did you offer money to other persons?—To no one.

4845. Did you ever describe yourself as a furniture broker?—Yes; that is the profession I follow. I did use to carry the milk, but my son does it now.

4846. Did you know yourself of any persons that were bribed besides that person that you yourself bribed?—Certainly, I cannot say but what I heard of persons that were paid money to.

4847. During the election were you cognizant yourself of persons being bribed?—No, I was not.

4848. All your knowledge, except with reference to the transaction in which you yourself took part, is derived from information which you have received since the election?—Yes; the threat in regard to losing my custom in milk was before the election. I was threatened by my friend Mr. Wilmot, of the china shop in Eastgate Street.

4849. What did he say?—He was the gentleman who told me I should lose my custom at the Bell.

4850. He threatened you with what?—That was for canvassing Huggins; he charged me with offering money to another party that I waited on but did not offer money to; he mentioned the Bell, and said I should lose my custom there; I said, I did not care if I lost the clapper as well as the Bell. He said I had been to offer money to Huggins and another party named Harris, but I did not offer him any money, I merely asked him for his vote. I found I could do nothing with him, and therefore I left him.

4851. Harris swore that you did offer him money for his vote, did he not?—Yes, but I am prepared to prove that I did not.

4852. You say you did not offer him any money for his vote?—Yes; his wife told me that they never had anything for voting, but I have heard very different from that; I always heard they were paid very nobly by the Tory party.

4853–7. Do you mean that Harris was?—Yes.

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) Will the Commissioners allow me to say, with reference to Pickford's statement that he has been turned off from supplying me with milk, that until this moment I did not know Pickford by name, nor did I know that he ever had supplied me with milk; I always thought it was Bishop. I never knew that Pickford had supplied me until this moment.

4858. (*Mr. Vaughan to the Witness.*) You have stated that you were turned off from supplying Mr. Lovegrove with milk, in consequence of the part you took at the election; Mr. Lovegrove denies that?—(*The Witness.*) I said I had been dropped by the Bell, by Mr. Fortt, and by Mr. Lovegrove; I did not say that Mr. Lovegrove knew of it.

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) I should be very sorry to be guilty of such conduct.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

Sixth Day.—1st October 1859.

R. Thompson.
1 Oct. 1859.

RICHARD THOMPSON sworn and examined.

4859. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is your name Richard Thompson?—Richard Thompson.

4860. You have been employed for many years as an electioneering agent, have you not?—I have.

4861. How many years?—Six or seven and twenty.

4862. Have you been employed during that period confidentially to go down to places where elections were being prosecuted?—I have; to conduct them.

4863. Have you been employed in that way by both the Conservative and the Liberal party?—Formerly I was employed, from my connection with a gentleman of the name of Croucher, for the Conservative party solely; I should say for about eight or ten years.

4864. For eight or ten years you were employed for the Conservative party?—Yes; and since then for the Liberal party.

4865. Have you been of late employed wholly by the Liberal party?—Entirely.

4866. What was the character of your services when you were so engaged?—The candidates gave me the entire control and management of the elections.

4867. Had you the management and distribution of funds that were committed to your charge for the conduct of those elections?—Frequently.

4868. Did you employ those funds in the manner which you thought best for the promotion of the cause in which you were engaged?—Most certainly.

4869. If you thought it necessary to resort to the purchase of votes for carrying an election, did you resort to that practice?—I have done so occasionally.

4870. Was not the purchase of votes the principal object for which you were employed?—Certainly not; I never was employed for any such purpose distinctly.

4871. Do you know Mr. Gilbert, of Parliament Street?—I do.

4872. And do you know a person of the name of Webb?—I do.

4873. Have you been acquainted with them for many years?—I have been acquainted with Mr. Gilbert for some years; I believe our acquaintance commenced at Pontefract.

4874. Were you engaged at the election?—I was engaged there for the purpose of getting up the evidence for the petition.

4875. How long have you known Webb?—Webb I have only known about 12 months.

4876. Have you been employed by Gilbert on various occasions at elections?—No, never but once.

4877. When was that?—That was to go down to Frome at the last general election.

4878. The election of 1859?—Of 1859.

4879. Do you remember seeing Webb in the month of April last, when a communication was made to you about going to Gloucester?—Yes.

4880. Do you remember what day that was?—I

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R. Thompson.
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cannot fix the day, but I should think it was about the early part of April.

4881. In the early part, you think?—I think the early part.

4882. What did Webb say to you?—Webb said there was a person wanted to go down to Gloucester, would I go; I said yes.

4883. Did he tell you what you were to go for?—He brought a note to me, which I was to take to Mr. Moffatt.

4884. Where did he bring the note to you?—He brought the note to Mr. Gilbert's office.

4885. Do you know what day that was?—I think it was two or three days after he first spoke to me about it.

4886. How long before you came down to Gloucester?—About a week, or it might be 10 days.

4887. Did he tell you where he got the note from?—He did not.

4888. Did he tell you who he came from?—I think not.

4889. Are you sure that he did not?—I really am not certain whether he did or did not, but my belief is that he did not, inasmuch as I knew pretty nearly where it did come from.

4890. Where did you think it came from?—I thought it came from Sir William Hayter.

4891. Why did you think so?—Because he told me that he had brought it from Ryder Street.

4892. How came you to say, in answer to my question as to where he got it from, that you did not know where it came from?—I thought you meant personally, as to the person he brought it from; that was the way I understood your question.

4893. Your answer was that he did not tell you who he brought the note from?—Who he brought it from.

4894. There were two questions. My second question was, who did he bring it from? My first question was, did he tell you where he brought it from? and you said "No."—Then I ought to have said yes, because he told me he brought it from Ryder Street.

4895. Did he say when he received it?—He brought it direct to me at the office; I was at the office.

4896. Did you go with him to Ryder Street at any time?—I did.

4897. When?—I went to the end of Ryder Street with him; that was previous to receiving the note.

4898. Some days before?—It might be two days before—two or three.

4899. Had you any communication with him when he brought the note to you?—No other communication than that I was to take that note to Mr. Moffatt.

4900. Was the note addressed to Mr. Moffatt?—It was.

4901. Did you take it to Mr. Moffatt?—I did.

4902. When?—The same day that I received it.

4903. And that you say was about a week or ten days before you came to Gloucester?—Yes, it was.

4904. Where did you take it to Mr. Moffatt?—To his place of business in Fenchurch Street.

4905. Did you see Mr. Moffatt?—I did.

4906. What did you say to him?—He accosted me when I went in; I had passed the note to the hands, I believe, of his brother; he was in an inner counting-house.

4907. He had received the note before you saw him?—Before I saw him.

4908. What did he say to you when he accosted you?—He said, "Oh, Mr. Thompson, I want you to go down to Gloucester; I believe you are well acquainted with election business." I said, "Yes, I I am; I have had very long experience." He asked me what my terms were; I told him 50*l.* if I lost, and 100*l.* if I won. He said "Very well, you shall hear from me, and I will send you 500*l.*" I then left him, and subsequently received a note from him.

4909. When did you receive the note?—The note I received about it might be a week afterwards.

4910. It might be a week after the interview?—After the interview; I know it was more than three or four days.

4911. What was he to send the 500*l.* for?—For me to bring down with me to Gloucester.

4912. For what purpose?—For the purpose of paying any necessary expenses.

4913. Did he tell you that?—He told me that I was to take it down with me to Gloucester for the purposes of the election; I think those were his words.

4914. What did you understand "the purposes of the election" to be?—Any expenses that might be incurred in conducting it.

4915. Including bribery?—Bribery was never mentioned, nor even hinted at.

4916. What did you understand by it?—I understood that I was to apply, it in the best way I could, to promote the election of the two Liberal candidates.

4917. Did you understand that that was to include the disbursement of money for the purpose of bribery?—No; certainly not.

4918. You did not understand at the time you were so employed that you were to come to Gloucester for the purpose of bribing voters?—Most certainly not.

4919. That you swear?—Yes.

4920. What were you to do, besides carrying the money to Gloucester?—I was to come to Mr. Wilton and consult with him—that I received in writing on a small slip of paper.

4921. Did you tell us before the whole of the conversation that took place between Mr. Moffatt and yourself?—The whole.

4922. From whom did you receive the instruction to go to Mr. Wilton?—From the hands of Webb.

4923. When was that?—I think it was on the Tuesday morning before the election—yes, it was.

4924. Did Webb bring you a note with those instructions?—Webb brought me a note, or rather a small slip of paper, with that instruction written upon it, and at the same time he brought me an order to receive 500*l.* from Mr. Ralli.

4925. By whom was that slip of paper written?—I do not know.

4926. Had it any name?—No; none.

4927. Any initials?—No; no initials.

4928. Did you know the handwriting?—I did not.

4929. Did Webb tell you from whom it came?—He said he had brought it from Ryder Street, but he did not say from whom he had received it.

4930. Had you any further communication with Webb?—I saw him previous to my starting for Gloucester, on the Tuesday afternoon after I had received the money.

4931. Have you the slip of paper which was given to you by Webb?—I have not, I destroyed it; the other, which was the order for the money, I left, of course, at Mr. Ralli's counting-house.

4932. Did you receive the money from Mr. Ralli?—I received a cheque from Mr. Ralli upon the Bank of England.

4933. For how much?—500*l.*

4934. Did you cash the cheque?—I did.

4935. What did you obtain for it?—I took 450*l.* in gold and 50*l.* in notes.

4936. Before you started for Gloucester, you had a communication with Webb—what took place between you?—I merely told him that I had been to the bank and got the money, and that I was going off by the first train.

4937. Was that all you said to him?—He asked me if I would let him have 10*l.* before I started.

4938. Did you?—Yes, I gave him two 5*l.* notes.

4939. Did he say anything further to you?—No; I think we said nothing more about the Gloucester business, except bidding each other good bye, or something like that.

4940. You said nothing more to him about it?—No.

4941. Did he say anything to you?—No.

4942. Did you then come to Gloucester?—Previous to my coming to Gloucester, I called at the Guildhall Coffee House.

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4943. For what purpose?—For the purpose of seeing John Clarke, who was there.

4944. Was he there?—He was not there.

4945. What did you do?—I left a card there upon a table, where he was in charge of some papers, that he was accustomed to sit at, and in the presence of a young man; I think his name is Lancaster.

4946. Do you say that you left it with some persons?—I put it on his table in the presence of a young man, who was in the room; I think his name is Lancaster, but I am not certain. He is a young man who is connected with Mr. Ledger.

4947. The card had your name upon it, I believe?—It had my name upon it, and I wrote in pencil—"Follow me to Gloucester—the Railway Hotel."

4948–9. There was also the word upon it "Wait," was there not? Did you write the word "Wait" upon the card?—Very probably I might, but I have no recollection of it.

4950. Having done that, did you then proceed to Gloucester?—Yes.

4951. At what time did you arrive in Gloucester?—I arrived in Gloucester very late at night; I should think it must have been about twelve o'clock.

4952. Where did you come to?—The Gloucester Hotel.

4953. Near the railway?—Close to the railway; the first house, I believe it is, from the railway.

4954. At twelve o'clock at night on the Tuesday?—On the Tuesday night.

4955. Did you go to see any persons on the Wednesday?—On the Wednesday morning, I called upon Mr. Wilton.

4956. Mr. John Wilton?—Mr. John Wilton.

4957. At what time?—It might be about ten o'clock; it was very soon after I had my breakfast, I know.

4958. What did you say to him?—I said, "I have come from London to assist you in the election."

4959. Did you say from whom you had come?—I did not.

4960. Did you say what you had brought with you?—I said I had brought 500*l.* with me, and that I was instructed to consult him.

4961. What more did you say to him?—He said, when I said I had brought 500*l.*, that that was not near enough, that I ought to have brought 1,500*l.*

4962. Did he say why?—He did not.

4963. Did he say why you ought to have brought 1,500*l.*?—He said it would require that for the election.

4964. Did you understand why it was required for the election?—No; he gave me no explanation at all, but wished me to call again, to introduce me to some gentlemen.

4965. Did you make any observation upon his mentioning that you ought to have brought 1,500*l.*?—I think the observation was made—"500*l.* is all I have brought."

4966. Did he tell you it would become necessary to bribe a great number of persons?—He did not.

4967. As far as you recollect, have you stated the whole of the conversation that took place between yourself and Mr. Wilton at the first interview?—I have.

4968. Where then did you go?—I went to the Gloucester Hotel again.

4969. Did you see Mr. Wilton again the same day?—I did.

4970. At what time?—In the after part of the day, in the afternoon.

4971. About what time?—I should say between two and three, I think.

4972. Where?—At his own house.

4973. Were there other gentlemen there?—There were.

4974. Who?—I did not know any of them but one.

4975. Who was that?—That was Mr. Brewer Monk.

4976. How many were there there?—I think there were six.

4977. What took place when you saw those gentlemen at Mr. Wilton's?—They began to explain to me that they had made all their arrangements for the election; that they had divided the city into wards or districts, with a captain in each district, who was to manage everything in the district to which he was attached.

4978. They explained that to you?—They explained that to me.

4979. Why did they explain that to you?—Because I asked how I was to be employed—what I was to do.

4980-1. Did you ask how you were to be employed, and what you were to do, before they made that communication to you?—They stated that, I think, before I addressed them by inquiring how I was to be employed.

4982. That was the commencement of the conversation?—That was the commencement of the conversation. Then, I think, Mr. Wilton asked me for some money.

4983. What did he ask you for?—He asked me for some money. He did not ask me for any specific sum.

4984. What did you say?—From the conversation that was going on among the parties who were there, I having had considerable experience in these matters, found that they wished to employ the money in bribery.

4985. Was that from your experience in such matters, do I understand you to say?—From having had considerable experience in such matters, I gathered from their conversation that they wished to employ it improperly.

4986. Having had experience in such matters, were you much shocked at that?—Certainly not, because I had known so much of it.

4987. You had known so much of what?—Of the practice of bribery.

4988. You had been so much engaged in bribery yourself?—I had not; not personally.

4989. You had known so much of the practice of bribery, not bribery committed by yourself, but by other people, do you mean?—Yes.

4990. Do you wish to represent that you were perfectly innocent of all the bribery?—I do wish to represent that clearly and distinctly. What I mean to represent is this, that whereas I had been a party to employing people to bribe I had never done it personally.

4991. Whereas you had been a party to employing others to bribe, you had never done it yourself?—Never.

4992. What then took place, when you found that the money was to be employed in that way?—I said to Mr. Wilton, "I think I had better go home; can you come down and see me at the Gloucester Hotel?" and he came down to the Gloucester Hotel in the evening.

4993. At what time?—I think it was about eight o'clock; eight or nine.

4994. Where were you at that time?—In the Gloucester Hotel.

4995. In what part of it?—In the coffee-room.

4996. Who was there besides yourself?—At the first interview, no one.

4997. At the first interview no one was there?—No.

4998. Was not John Clarke there?—Not when Mr. Wilton came down first.

4999. What took place between yourself and Mr. Wilton then?—We talked the matter over, and he said he must have the money, as a certain part of it must be given to each of the captains of the districts.

5000. Did he say how much he must have?—I think he asked me to let him have 100*l.* for each man.

5001. How much would that amount to?—I rather think it was five districts; but I really do not recollect the number of districts.

5002. He asked you for 500*l.* then?—He did.

5003. Did he say for what purpose?—To give to

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the captains; to give a certain sum to each of the captains.

5004. But did he say how it was to be employed?—He did not.

5005. Well?—I hesitated about giving him any at all.

5006. Why?—From my conviction that it was to be used for bribery, and I had no instructions to dispose of it in any such way.

5007. Your opinion, at that time, was that you were selected because you were a most honest man, to employ that money honestly at Gloucester?—I do not know what I was employed for more than this—from my reputation of having had a great deal of experience in such matters.

5008. You hesitated about giving this money to Mr. Wilton, because you suspected it would be improperly employed. Were you under the impression that you were to take as much care of that money as you could, and see that it was honestly spent?—Certainly that was my impression.

J. P. Heane.

JAMES PATE HEANE sworn and examined.

5009. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a surgeon in Gloucester?—I am.

5010. Have you seen a person of the name of Jefferson Bryon?—I have, this morning.

5011. Does he keep an inn?—He does.

5012. What is the name of it?—"The Berkeley Arms."

5013. What is his state of health?—He is in a very bad state of health; he has not been out of bed for three days; he has a good deal of fever, and a general bilious disturbance.

5014. What is he suffering from?—I cannot give his complaint any particular name; it is a general derangement of the system altogether.

5015. Is he unable to attend here to-day?—Quite so.

5016. Would it be prejudicial to him to attend?—I think it would be even dangerous, in his present state.

5017. When do you think he will be able to attend?—That I could not say; to the best of my judgment, in the course of three or four days.

R. Thompson.

RICHARD THOMPSON'S examination continued.

5018. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you hesitated about paying him any money. Was your hesitation afterwards conquered?—It was.

5019. By anything that Mr. Wilton said to you?—I gave way to what Mr. Wilton said to me certainly, to a very great extent.

5020. What did he say to you which induced you to overcome your hesitation?—He said they must have the money, or the election would be lost.

5021. Then, I believe, he came again that same evening?—Yes.

5022. What sum did Mr. Wilton have?—I think it was 150*l.*

5023. At that time?—That evening.

5024. Was that in sovereigns?—In sovereigns.

5025. Was it loose, or was it in a bag?—I counted it out of a bag in my bedroom.

5026. You counted it?—I counted it in my own bedroom.

5027. Out of a bag?—Yes.

5028. What did you do with it?—I put it in a newspaper, or part of a newspaper.

5029. Having put it in a newspaper, what then?—I went and called Mr. Wilton up into my bedroom, and gave it him there.

5030. What time was it when you gave that money to him?—I should think about nine o'clock.

5031. Had Clarke anything at all to do with the arrangement of that first sum of 150*l.*?—No.

5032. Did Mr. Wilton come there again that same evening?—Not that same evening.

5033. When did he come again—the next day?—He came the next day.

5034. On the Thursday?—On the Thursday.

5035. Did he make a similar representation to you then to what he did the first day?—He did.

5036. That was that you should let him have some more money?—Yes.

5037. How much did you let him have?—I think it was 100*l.*

5038. In sovereigns?—In sovereigns.

5039. Did you give him any second sum of money on that day, the Thursday?—Not on the Thursday.

5040. On the Friday?—I did.

5041. How much did you give him?—I should think 100*l.*

5042. In sovereigns?—I gave him four 5*l.* notes, and the rest in sovereigns.

5043. Did you give him after that any more money?—I did not.

5044. Was the total sum which you gave to him 350*l.*?—450*l.*

5045. 150*l.* first of all?—150*l.* first of all.

5046. 100*l.* on the Thursday?—There is 100*l.* I have omitted; I took it to his own house.

5047. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) On what day was that?—On the Friday.

5048. Before or after you gave him the other sum?—It was after I gave him the other.

5049. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You took 100*l.* to his house?—Yes.

5050. What time was that on the Friday?—I think it would be about four o'clock.

5051. You say you gave him altogether 450*l.*?—Yes.

5052. Are you certain about that?—Quite certain.

5053. Are you clear in your memory as to the time at which this money was given?—I think I am, as near as possible.

5054. Can you have made any mistake about it?—I do not see how it is possible I could.

5055. What money had you when you left Gloucester?—When I left Gloucester, I had two 5*l.* notes and some loose gold. I do not know the exact amount.

5056. When did you first see Clarke in Gloucester?—On Wednesday, I think, about the middle of the day.

5057. When you saw Clarke on the Wednesday, what did you say to him, as the reason why you had requested him to come?—I think the first thing I said to him was this; I was at Mr. Wilton's house, and he came to me there, and we were talking about what was going on in town, and nothing was said about Gloucester till I got to the Gloucester Hotel.

5058. What time was it when you got to the Gloucester Hotel and had a further conversation with Clarke?—We went together from there.

5059. What time did you get to the Gloucester Hotel?—I cannot tell the exact hour, but it was about the middle of the day, or it might be the afternoon, about two or three o'clock.

5060. Do you mean to swear that you saw Clarke as early as 12 o'clock on the Wednesday at Mr. Wilton's?—I should think that was about the time; it might be an hour or two later; I cannot say exactly.

5061. When you saw Clarke at Mr. Wilton's, was he alone?—He came there to me; I was in the parlour waiting for Mr. Wilton.

5062. Did he come there alone?—He came alone.

5063. How long did you and Clarke remain together at Mr. Wilton's before you came down to the Gloucester?—I should say not more than ten minutes.

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5064. Were you alone during the time you were there?—Yes.

5065. Did you tell Clarke, when you got down to the Gloucester, why you had requested him to come to Gloucester?—I told him, when we got to the Gloucester, that I had sent for him to assist me, but that there would be nothing either for him or me to do, inasmuch as they had arranged to do their own business.

5066. In what way was he to assist you?—In any way in which I could make him useful.

5067. Was his usefulness to be exhibited in bribing voters for you?—If I had had occasion to do so, I might have employed him in that way.

5068. Was that the way in which you intended to have employed him, when you requested that he would come to Gloucester?—No; he is a very good clerk in a committee room. I should have employed him there, if it was necessary.

5069. Do you mean to represent that at the time when you went to the Guildhall Coffee House in London you had no intention to employ him in bribery?—I had an intention, provided I was compelled to resort to it.

5070. Did the fact of your going down to Gloucester with 500 sovereigns lead you to believe that you might be compelled to resort to bribery?—I never thought about it seriously till I got here.

5071. When you got here did you think seriously about it?—I did.

5072. Had you thought you might be compelled to resort to bribery?—I might, if I had to take the management of the election, as I expected to do.

5073. I understand you to say that, at the time you left London, you did not think you should be obliged to resort to corrupt practices here?—I did not; and from the statement made to me at Mr. Wilton's I did not think that it would be necessary to resort to bribery.

5074. You passed under the name of Thornton here, I believe?—I did. I usually do when I go into the country.

5075. Do you mean to say that when you leave London you throw off the name of Thompson, and take some other name, on all occasions?—Upon most occasions.

5076. Whether an election is going on or not?—Yes.

5077. What is your name to-day?—Thompson.

5078. You have not assumed any other name to-day in Gloucester?—I have not. I have been called Thornton since I came to Gloucester.

5079. Do you mean seriously to say that, excepting when an election is going on at a place, on your leaving London you divest yourself of the name of Thompson and take some other name?—I invariably adopt the name of Thornton when I go anywhere on election business to make inquiries respecting elections, but on no occasion except elections.

5080. Were you at Frome in 1857?—No.

5081. Were you at Frome at the last election?—I was.

5082. What was your name there?—Thornton.

5083. You were employed on the election at Frome, were you? No, I was not. I was sent down to make inquiries at Frome?

5084. Who sent you down?—Mr. Gilbert.

5085. Why did you take the name of Thornton when you came to Gloucester?—Because I had been in the habit of taking the name of Thornton.

5086. Is that the only reason?—Yes.

5087. Why have you been in the habit of taking the name of Thornton at elections?—I suppose I have done it for the sake of its not being known who I was.

5088. In order to make it more difficult to trace you?—Decidedly.

5089. Clarke, we understand, assumed the name of Brettles?—He did.

5090. Was that by your directions?—Not by my directions; but I called him Brettles because I have been in the habit of calling him Brettles.

5091. You have been in the habit of calling him Brettles when he has been engaged on elections with you?—Yes.

5092. When you saw Clarke in London, I suppose you called him Clarke?—Certainly.

5093. And the name of Brettles was adopted for the purpose also of rendering it more difficult to trace him?—No doubt of it. It was adopted some years ago in Lancashire.

5094. You have known Brettles for a great many years, have you not?—I have.

5095. How many years?—I should say nearly twenty.

5096. And have you been engaged with him constantly during that period in the way in which you were engaged with him at Gloucester?—A great many times we have been engaged together.

5097. Did you go to any person in Gloucester for the purpose of obtaining more money?—I did not.

5098. That you swear?—I swear it.

5099. Did you tell Clarke that you had done so?—No. I told Clarke that Mr. Wilton said he must have some more money, and that he could get it in Gloucester, if I would be answerable for it or undertake to pay it.

5100. Did you tell Clarke that you could get 1,000*l.*, if you would give an acknowledgment for it?—I told Clarke that I could get a sum of money, but certainly not 1,000*l.*

5101. Did you say anything about 1,000*l.*?—I did not.

5102. Did you tell him that you had got any sum of money in addition to what you had brought down with you?—I did not.

5103. Do you swear that you did not receive from any person in Gloucester any sum of money at all?—I do.

5104. If Clarke has given evidence to the effect that you did, is that untrue?—It is untrue.

5105. Did you produce any roll of notes to Clarke?—I never had them in my possession. I had 30*l.* in notes when I came down to Gloucester; they were in 5*l.* notes, and four of them I gave to Mr. Wilton.

5106. Will you undertake to swear that you did not produce to Clarke, at any time, a roll of notes after you had been into the town and returned to the Gloucester Coffee-house?—I swear most distinctly that I did not.

5107. Will you swear that you did not produce to him, at any time, a roll of notes?—I never produced anything to him, except two 5*l.* notes which I had in my pocket.

5108. When did you return to London?—On the Sunday morning.

5109. Did you see Clarke on the Monday?—I think it was on the Tuesday—it was Monday or Tuesday, I will not be certain which, but I think it was on the Tuesday.

5110. Did you say to Clarke that he must go to Gloucester for the purpose of getting the acknowledgment which you had given?—Certainly not.

5111. Nor anything of the kind?—Nothing to that effect.

5112. Did you say anything at all about an acknowledgment to Clarke when you saw him in London?—No.

5113. That you swear?—Yes.

5114. Had you given an acknowledgment to any person in Gloucester for anything?—Not at all. The only persons I ever had any communication with in Gloucester were Mr. Wilton and Brewer Monk, who I shook hands with.

5115. Did you say anything to Clarke about your having given your last 50*l.* to Mr. Wilton?—No.

5116. Did you say anything to this effect—"I have let Mr. Wilton have the last 50*l.*," or anything of that sort?—I think I said, "I have let Mr. Wilton have the last," or something of that sort; I do not know the exact words.

5117. Did you give Clarke to understand that you had let Mr. Wilton have the whole 500*l.*?—I gave

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Clarke to understand that I had let Mr. Wilton have the whole 500*l.*, with the exception of what I had kept for our own use, to pay our current expenses.

5118. Was Clarke angry with you, and did he say anything to the effect that there would not be enough for yourselves to go back to London ?—No such conversation ever took place, nor was such a thing ever mentioned.

5119. What was Clarke to have for his services ?—There was no arrangement as to what he should be paid. I usually paid him two guineas a day and his expenses.

5120. Was any arrangement made that he was to have 50*l.* ?—No.

5121. Neither before nor during the time he was at Gloucester ?—Certainly not.

5122. Did you say that the arrangement made by Mr. Moffatt with you was that you were to have 100*l.* ?—If we won the election, and 50*l.* if we lost.

5123. Have you received the money ?—I have not.

5124. Have you received any portion of it ?—A portion which I had left of the 500*l.* which I took down with me.

5125. What portion was that ? how much ?—I think 40*l.* odd altogether.

5126. You had 40*l.* odd left when you got to London ?—Yes.

5127. Besides that sum of 40*l.* which you retained, have you not received any money in respect of the agreement which you made with Mr. Moffatt ?—No ; I have not.

5128. Did you bring any money from London besides the 500*l.* ?—I brought no money amounting to more than 2*l.* or 3*l.*

5129. You only brought 2*l* or 3*l.* with you from London besides the 500*l.* ?—Certainly not more than 3*l.*

5130. What money did you pay to Clarke ?—I think it was 5*l.*

5131. Did you pay his fare to London ?—I did.

5132. And your own fare ?—Yes.

5133. And the hotel bill ?—Yes.

5134. What did it come to altogether ?—I should think altogether about 3*l.*

5135. The hotel bill ?—Yes.

5136. The hotel bill for Clarke and yourself was 3*l.*—Yes.

5137. And your railway fares ?—Yes.

5138. And 5*l.* you say to Clarke ?—Yes, 5*l.* to Clarke.

5139. Did you send, when you were in Gloucester, telegrams to London ?—I did.

5140. To whom did you send them ?—To Webb.

5141. Where did you address them to ?—To the King's Arms, Palace Yard.

5142. How came you to address them to him at the King's Arms, Palace Yard ?—Because he was staying there.

5143. Was he staying there before you left London ?—Yes.

5144. You swear that he was staying at the King's Arms before you left London ?—I went with him to make an arrangement for his going there before I went, and I think he had been there on the Tuesday ; I think he went there on the Monday.

5145. Was it a matter of arrangement between yourself and Webb that telegrams should be sent to the King's Arms ?—It was not ; we had no arrangement about it beyond this, that I knew he was there, that there was a good deal of business in our office, and that there was a party there who it was thought desirable should not know anything about it.

5146. There was a good deal of business, do you mean, in Gilbert's office ?—In Gilbert's office.

5147. And it was not thought desirable that any one should know anything about it ?—That a person of the name of Patch, who frequented the office, should know anything about it, either where we were or anything about it.

5148. At what hour does Gilbert's office close ?—It closes at five, and on Saturdays at two.

5149. Does it close at five all the year round ?—Yes.

5150. You swear that that is the case ?—Yes.

5151. You sent a telegram to Webb to this effect—"I want a repetition of my medicine ?"—I did.

5152. "If got send Clarke with it—he lives at 1, Northgate Street, Hoxton ?"—Yes.

5153. What did you mean by saying, "I want a repetition of my medicine ?"—That I wanted more money.

5154. Why, when you sent the telegram to Webb, did you not say, "I want more money," instead of "I want a repetition of my medicine ?"—Because I thought they would perfectly understand what I meant, without my writing the word "money" by telegram.

5155. But if you were sent down here for the purpose of seeing to the honest employment of the money with which you were sent down, why should you have resorted to those ambiguous terms ?—It is not usual in telegrams to be very clear and explicit, as long as you can convey what you want them to understand.

5156. Then this form of language was quite understood, in your judgment, by Webb when he received it ?—No doubt of it, I should say.

5157. But you told us just now that you were perfectly innocent, when you left London, of the object for which you were sent down with the money, and that you understood that you were to see to the honest employment of it ; if so, why should you not have said, "I want more money :" there was nothing to conceal, if you were sent down to employ the money honestly and properly ?—I do not know that I had any object except to say, "I want more money."

5158. Would they not have understood you better if you had said, "I want more money?"—Certainly, it would have been clearer, but I was quite satisfied, in my own mind, that they would understand what I meant.

5159. But you represent yourself as having hesitated whether you would let Mr. Wilton have any money because you thought it was going to be employed for improper purposes ; and yet you resorted to this ambiguous language for the purpose of saying you wanted more money ?—Yes.

5160. Did you not know, from beginning to end, that the whole of that money which you brought over here was to be employed for the purpose of bribery ?—I did not.

5161. That you swear ?—I do.

5162. Did not Mr. Wilton lead you to believe, from what he said, that he wanted the money for that purpose ?—He did.

5163. When ?—I think it was when he had the first money.

5164. The first 150*l.* ?—Yes.

5165. Was it after his first application for money that you wrote for a repetition of the "medicine ?"—I wrote I should think it must have been on the Friday morning ; you have the date of it there ; it was after I had given him nearly all the money I had got, and he kept pressing me for more money.

5166. You think that Webb perfectly understood your meaning ?—I should say so.

5167. If he has represented here that he thought you were very ill, and that you really wanted Clarke to bring down more medicine for you from the doctor in London, do you believe that that was altogether a false representation ?—I should say he could put no such construction upon it.

5168. Do you remember receiving from Webb a telegram in answer to that which you sent, in these words—"I have seen P. and submitted the case—all the rest from home—cannot do more ;"—do you remember receiving that ?—I think I received a telegram in those words.

5169. Who did you understand by "P." ?—Patch, the party I have alluded to before.

5170. Will you swear you understood that "P." represented Patch ?—Yes.

5171. Was not Patch a clerk employed in Gilbert's office ?—No ; Patch was a man who had been con-

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nected with Gilbert in some business, and I believe he paid a certain portion of the rental of the office; I am not certain that I am correct, but I have understood that he paid a certain portion of the rent.

5172. He was not a clerk in the office?—No.

5173. Was he in the habit of going to the office?—Yes, daily.

5174. Do you represent that he was one of the principals in the office?—No; he had a business of his own, and used the office for his own purposes.

5175. What is his business?—His business is chiefly in election matters, I believe; mostly parochial.

5176. Is Patch a person of property?—No.

5177. All that you know of Patch is, that he used to go to Gilbert's office?—I have known the man by sight for some years.

5178. As what?—As connected with election matters, election petitions chiefly.

5179. But principally parochial matters?—Principally parochial matters.

5180. As an agent?—He is always engaged in them. I do not know whether he is an agent, or what he is particularly.

5181. Is he not engaged by any persons who will employ him?—Yes; any persons who will employ him.

5182. That being the case, do you mean to represent and to swear that you understood "P." meant Patch?—I do.

5183. Had any communication at all taken place between yourself and Webb with regard to Patch?—Yes, several long conversations.

5184. Did you not say just now that the reason why telegrams were sent to the King's Arms was, that Patch was at Gilbert's, and that it was not desirable that he should know anything about it?—Certainly.

5185. That was the reason?—Yes.

5186. And that being the reason, do you mean to swear now that you thought "P." represented Patch?—I do.

5187. You will swear that now?—I do most deliberately.

5188. You thought that Patch was a person to whom Webb might apply for the purpose of obtaining money?—Certainly not.

5189. And that he would obtain money from Patch?—Certainly not; I had no idea that he would even apply to him for money.

5190. Was not the object of your telegram to have more money sent down to you?—Certainly it was.

5191. Did you not expect that Webb would apply to some person who would procure money to be sent down?—Certainly.

5192. How do you think he would apply to Patch, if Patch had no money to send?—I did not take it so; I should have thought it ridiculous. I thought it was merely informing me that he had seen Patch, because there had been a quarrel between Webb and Patch; they did not speak to each other, though they both used the same office.

5193. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) There had been a quarrel between Webb and Patch?—Between Webb and Patch.

5194. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you understand that this telegram was an answer or was not an answer to the telegram you had sent to Webb?—I did not understand it to be an answer at all.

5195. Did you understand that this was a telegram received from Webb on different matters?—No; I applied it in this sort of way—that he was not able to obtain any more money.

5196. Would it not have been more simple to have said, "I cannot obtain any more money for you?"—Certainly.

5197. Why should he have said, "I have seen P." (meaning Patch), if nothing was to be obtained from Patch in the way of money?—I cannot say what he meant by it indeed; but I understood it to mean Patch.

5198. Upon your oath, do you mean to represent to the Commissioners that you believed at that time and believe now that "P." represented Patch?—I did believe it at the time.

5199. Do you believe it now?—I do.

5200. You do still?—Yes.

5201. What do you understand by the words, "All the rest from home?"—That the parties he ought to have seen were from home.

5202. Who were the parties he ought to have seen?—I should naturally have gone to Mr. George Moffatt, if he had written to me.

5203. Mr. Moffatt?—Yes.

5204. Do you think he meant that not having been able to see Mr. Moffatt he had seen Patch?—No; I took it that Patch had been to the office, or that he had met him or seen him.

5205. Why should he see Mr. Moffatt?—Because he knew it was from Mr. Moffatt that I received the order to come down.

5206. What did you understand was the meaning of the words, "All the rest from home?"—I should suppose he intended to say he had neither seen Mr. Moffatt nor Mr. Ralli.

5207. You think that portion of the letter did refer to his having seen some person for the purpose of getting money to send down?—No doubt of it; I should put that construction upon it.

5208. "Cannot do more;" how should you explain that?—That he could not do more than try to see the parties, and that he could not meet with them.

5209. But the first paragraph is, "I have seen "P. and submitted the case;" the case submitted was that you wanted "a repetition of the medicine;" he does not say he has submitted the case to "the rest," but "I have seen P. and submitted the case." Do you think he submitted the case to Patch?—I should say not, because the object was not to let Patch know anything at all about it.

5210. If Patch was not to know anything about it, and as you do not think he submitted the case to Patch, of whose name do you think "P." was the initial letter?—I took it to be the initial letter of Patch.

5211. Notwithstanding you do not think he submitted the case to Patch?—I think not.

5212. You do not think he submitted the case to Patch, and yet you think that the letter "P." in that sentence, "I have seen P. and submitted the case," stands for Patch?—I read it so myself at the time, I know.

5213. Do you think so now?—Yes, I do.

5214. Was an application made to you by Clarke afterwards about his money?—No.

5215. He made no application to you at all?—He met me at a house where I dined one day, and I said to him, "I wish you would come again to-morrow, I will see if I cannot get some money for you."

5216. You said that to him?—Yes, to him. He did not ask me for money.

5217. Did he not represent to you that he had been very hardly treated, in not getting the money which was agreed to be given to him?—He did not.

5218. Will you swear that nothing of that sort took place?—Nothing of the kind.

5219. Did you understand from Clarke that he felt himself aggrieved that the money was not paid?—No.

5220. What money did he ask you for?—He never asked me for any sum.

5221. What sum did you say you would procure for him?—I did not mention any sum at all.

5222. What money did you endeavour to procure for him?—I had not then endeavoured to procure any.

5223. But afterwards, when you told him to come again to your house?—I wrote a note to Mr. Moffatt, requesting him to send me the amount of my fee, and I would make out an account and leave it with him; I intended to have paid Clarke out of that money as soon as I received it. I received a note from Mr. Moffatt to say he had nothing more to do with

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it; that he was only a third party in it; and I have not made any application since.

5224. Did you ever show a note to Clarke, after your return to London, to the effect that the parties were from home, and that therefore Clarke could not be paid?—Certainly not.

5225. Did you ever show him any note at all after your return to London?—Yes.

5226. What note was that?—Mr. Moffatt's, just signed with the initials "G. M."

5227. You did show him a note?—I did.

5228. Is that the note to which you referred just now?—It is.

5229. If Clarke has ever made any representation contrary to that, is it untrue?—It is.

5230. Was it on the Monday or Tuesday that you saw Clarke and showed him the note?—It was on the Wednesday, I think.

5231. Did you say to him that a certain gentleman had not come to London, and did you show him a letter?—I showed him a note that I had had from Mr. Moffatt.

5232. Have you got that note?—I have not.

5233. What became of it?—I believe I destroyed it.

5234. Have you looked for it?—I have not looked for it particularly, but I think most likely I should destroy it. I never keep notes of that kind.

5235. Did you show him a note with two initials to it, and did you say, "This gentleman will be in town on Wednesday, and then I shall get the money, and I will settle with you?"—I might have said something to that effect, that the gentleman would be in town on Tuesday.

5236. You might have said that?—Yes.

5237. You might have said that in reference to the note which you say came from Mr. Moffatt?—Precisely.

5238. And that you should then get the money, and would settle with Clarke?—Yes.

5239. That you might have said?—Yes, I think it is very probable I did say so.

5240. Did you not say just now that Mr. Moffatt, in that note, stated that he was only a third party, and that he had nothing more to do with it?—Precisely; that was the contents of the note.

5241. What, then, did you mean by saying that this gentleman would be in town on Tuesday, and that you should then get the money, and would settle with Clarke?—I was alluding to Mr. Ralli then; I did not use his name to Clarke.

5242. Had you had a communication with Mr. Ralli?—I never had any communication with him, except taking there a piece of paper with an order to receive the money.

5243. That is the only communication you ever had with him?—That is the only communication I ever had with him.

5244. You produced a note to Clarke, and said, "This gentleman will be in town on Tuesday?"—Yes.

5245. Do you mean to represent to the Commissioners that you meant by "this gentleman" Mr. Ralli?—Mr. Ralli or Mr. Moffatt; I should have gone to both.

5246. I asked you just now the question, and you distinctly said "this gentleman" meant Mr. Ralli?—I meant Mr. Ralli by "this gentleman," inasmuch as Mr. Moffatt certainly stated that he had nothing further to do with it.

5247. But you had Mr. Moffatt's letter in your hand at the time?—I had.

5248. When you said "this gentleman," do you mean to swear you did not refer to the writer of the letter? Did you not refer to the person who wrote the letter?—I might refer to both of them, inasmuch as this,—I intended to call on Mr. Moffatt.

5249. Did you not refer to the writer of the letter?—I certainly should have gone to Mr. Ralli first.

5250. That is no answer to my question. My question is this, Whether, when you made use of the words "this gentleman," you did not refer to the writer of the letter?—I think it very possible I did; most likely.

5251. And did not the writer of the letter, according to your statement, say that he was only a third party, and had nothing to do with it?—Yes.

5252. Then when you said that "this gentleman" would be in town on Tuesday, and that you would then get the money and settle with Clarke, was that true or false?—It was true. Mr. Moffatt was expected in town.

5253. How did you know he was expected in town?—Because I had made inquiry.

5254. Did you not refer, at the time you had this conversation with Clarke, to the note you had in your hand?—Most certainly.

5255. Did you say a single word at that time about any inquiry of any sort?—Clarke himself made the inquiry whether Mr. Moffatt was in town or not; I sent him.

5256. Do you undertake to swear that the initials of that note were "G. M."?—I do.

5257. That you swear?—I do.

5258. And you swear distinctly that the initials of that note were not "W. H."?—I swear distinctly they were not.

5259. Then if Clarke has sworn that the initials were "W. H.," according to the statement you make to-day that is false?—It is.

5260. Do you know Mr. Frail, of Shrewsbury?—I do.

5261. The election agent?—Yes.

5262. Did you see Mr. Frail, of Shrewsbury, at Gloucester when you were here?—I did not. Clarke informed me that he came down in the same train with him and Sir Robert Carden, and that he stopped all night at the Wellington.

5263. When did Clarke inform you of that?—On the Wednesday.

5264. Did Clarke tell you when they came?—They came at night.

5265. On the Tuesday night?—On the Tuesday night.

5266. Did he say how he knew it?—He said that he saw them get out of the train, and that he made a mistake and went to the wrong hotel. He went to the Wellington instead of the Gloucester.

5267. Who made a mistake?—Clarke himself.

5268. Clarke said that he saw them get out of the train; is that what you say?—Yes; Clarke said he saw Frail get out of the train.

5269. That he saw Frail and Sir Robert Carden get out of the train?—Yes; that he saw them get out of the train.

5270. Did he say where they went?—He said he went into the coffee-room at the Wellington and that Frail came into the same room.

5271. That same evening?—The same evening.

5272. Anything further?—He said he saw Frail, but that Frail did not see him. That he had his breakfast the next morning in his bedroom.

5273. Who had?—That Clarke had, so that he should not see Frail, or that Frail should not see him rather. I immediately directed him to watch Frail.

5274. What time of the day was it that he communicated this to you?—It was at the time when we came from Mr. Wilton's to the Gloucester together.

5275. You directed him to watch Frail?—I did.

5276. Did you learn from him that he had watched Frail?—He reported to me that Frail left there in a cab directly he had had his breakfast in the morning, and said he should not be at home that night, but to keep his bed for him the next night.

5277. That was Clarke's report to you?—Yes; I subsequently requested him, having directed his attention, and the whole of his attention, to that business, to make me a written statement of what he did, and that (*producing a paper*) is in his own handwriting.

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5278. Does this paper refer to the part that Clarke took in watching Frail?—Yes; it is the whole of what he did in watching him.

5279. When did you receive from him this statement?—In Gloucester, before I returned to London.

[*The paper referred to is read as follows*]:—

"Memorandum made at Gloucester.

"I came to the Wellington with a tall gent on "Wednesday evening, and left in a cab early on "Thursday morning; also left word his bedroom to "be kept for him on Friday evening. Heard on "Thursday afternoon, at [*blank*] House, that F. had "been seen the day before in Gloucester. Was at "Wells on Friday evening, expecting F. to return. "Many inquiries were made to a gent in the room "by parties calling (is he come); the gent at last, "tired of waiting, left between 12 and 1 o'clock. I "asked him to show me the way to the post office, as "I was a stranger. When in [*blank*] street, I invited "him to take a glass of grog, by way of gaining infor- "mation; he refused, but wished me to go with him "to a certain house, which I did, I think, nearly "opposite the market house, where ten or twelve "persons were waiting, who seemed disappointed when "told he had not come. The same gent I mentioned "as coming with F. on the Wednesday, returned with "us in the same train on Sunday."

5280. Did Clarke point out to you any person returning to London on the Sunday?—He did.

5281. What description of person was he?—I should say he was about five feet ten or eleven.

5282. Had you seen him before?—Not to my knowledge.

5283. Have you seen him since?—No.

5284. Have you any knowledge at all as to who he was?—No.

5285. Had you any conversation with Clarke with regard to the statement contained in this paper?—Yes.

5286. Did you gather from Clarke that Frail had remained in Gloucester?—From that statement of his Frail must have remained in Gloucester three days, but I never heard anything about his being in Gloucester, nor did he ever mention to me his being in Gloucester till he wrote it down there, except on the occasion when he told me he saw him in the train.

5287. Was it in consequence of Clarke's statement to you that you desired him to watch Frail?—Yes.

5288. And you requested him to make you a written statement of what he had seen?—Yes.

5289. And he gave you that paper before he left Gloucester for London?—The whole of it except that written on the back.

5290. (*Mr. Welford.*) "The same gent I mentioned as coming with us"—the word "us" is struck out and "F." put in—"The same gent I mentioned as coming with F. on Wednesday, returned with us in the same train on Sunday." That last part was written subsequently?—Yes.

5291. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had he made the communication to you on the Wednesday?—He made the communication to me on the Wednesday morning.

5292. Were you served with a Speaker's warrant to attend the Committee of the House of Commons?—I was not.

5293. Were you served with a summons from the Chairman?—I was not.

5294. You were not served at all?—No.

5295. You live at 4, Bridge Road, Hammersmith, do you not?—Yes.

5296. Were you at your residence during the time the inquiry was proceeding before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I was not; I was in Yorkshire.

5297. How long before the inquiry commenced did you leave your residence at Hammersmith?—I think three weeks or a month.

5298. Did you leave word at your house where you might be found, if you should be wanted?—I did not.

5299. Did you go away into Yorkshire for the purpose of not being served with the Speaker's warrant?—I generally go to see my mother at that period of the year; and I must say that part of my motive for going at that particular time was to prevent being served.

5300. Did you give directions, when you left your house, that no address should be given to any person who might inquire for you, in order that you might not be served with any warrant?—Certainly not; I left no message at all; in fact, when I came home several letters were waiting there for me.

5301. Were no letters sent to you in Yorkshire during the time you were away from London?—Not one, I think; yes, one. I wrote to Webb, requesting to know what was going on, and I received a note from him, merely saying that he had sent me a newspaper, and I should see all that was going on there.

5302. Was your wife at home at Hammersmith?—No; she was with me.

5303. Who did you leave in the house?—No one. We only have apartments there; we only live there occasionally.

5304. Why did you go into Yorkshire, and leave no address as to where you might be found, if you should be wanted?—I had no reason for not leaving my address beyond this, that I did not think it necessary to leave it.

5305. You were aware that a petition was about to be prosecuted as to the proceedings connected with the Gloucester election?—I had heard so.

5306. Did you not go away in order that you might not be examined before the Committee?—I did not go purposely for that. I rather think that my thought was this—if I stop now, I shall not get down into Yorkshire, and I will go at once.

5307. Was that part of your reason?—No doubt.

5308. But if your conduct had been straightforward and honest throughout, as you wish to represent it to have been, what motive could you have had to conceal yourself, and prevent your examination?—The only motive I had was not to divulge where the money came from.

5309. Why should you have been anxious to conceal it?—Because I think it is very prudent on all occasions to do so.

5310. The money came from Mr. Ralli?—From Mr. Ralli.

5311. Was there any objection to your disclosing that the money came from Mr. Ralli?—I cannot say that there would have been, if I had not known that part of the money had been applied in bribery.

5312. Do you undertake to swear that that was the only reason you had for your indisposition to have it known where the money came from?—Most decidedly; I swear that distinctly.

5313. (*Mr Welford.*) Did you make any arrangement with Webb that he should remain at the King's Arms to receive any communication from you?—No; the proposition came from him first, that in order to avoid Patch seeing any correspondence between me and Gilbert (both being out of town), I had better write to him or communicate with him at the King's Arms.

5314. What was your reason for wishing to avoid Patch?—Because we had discovered him doing a very dirty trick, which he played upon the whole of us, in professing to have an order for a set of envelopes for the Lambeth election, and when they were finished it was no such thing; he never had an order at all. It put us to a joint expense in purchasing the envelopes.

5315. Did you give Webb any money before you left London?—Yes; two 5*l.* notes. He asked me if I would let him have 10*l.*

5316. As a loan?—I suppose there is an account between us; it would have been a loan either way.

5317. Was it not for recommending you to the job?—No.

5318. Did you undertake the business of the Glou-

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cester election on your own account, or as Gilbert's agent?—On my own account.

5319. Did you tell Webb that?—Certainly.

5320. You told him that Gilbert had nothing to do with it?—Certainly.

5321. When did you first see Mr. Wilton?—On the Wednesday morning.

5322. Did he then tell you for what purpose the money was to be employed?—No.

5323. Was he alone when you first saw him?—Yes.

5324. What occurred then?—I told Mr. Wilton that I had come from London to assist in the election; that I was directed to consult him, and that I had brought 500*l.*

5325. What did he say?—He said it was too little, and that I ought to have brought 1,500*l.*

5326. Did he give any reason why it was too little?—No; nor did I ask.

5327. What passed then?—He said that he would introduce me to some gentlemen connected with the election, and he asked me to call again, and I did call again.

5328. At what time was it that you called again?—About the middle of the day, I think.

5329. And then that passed which you have before told us?—Precisely.

5330. When did Clarke come to you?—Clarke came to me on the Wednesday.

5331. Where?—At Mr. Wilton's.

5332. Was anybody with you when he came to Mr. Wilton's?—No; I was sitting in Mr. Wilton's parlour alone.

5333. Was that the second occasion on which you went to Mr. Wilton's?—Yes.

5334. In the afternoon?—In the middle of the day.

5335. Was that before Mr. Wilton and his friends came in?—Yes.

5336. When Mr. Wilton and his friends came in, you and Clarke were together?—We were together in the parlour, sitting there together.

5337. When Mr. Wilton and his friends came in?—No; when Mr. Wilton came in; not Mr. Wilton and his friends.

5338. Did Mr. Wilton's friends come in to you and Clarke, or did you go into another room?—I went out with Clarke, and went to the Gloucester; I came back again, and then I think there were two gentlemen with Mr. Wilton, and there were either three or four more came in; I think there were six there altogether.

5339. Then Clarke was not there at that time?—Certainly not.

5340. You and Clarke had gone away?—Yes, and I had come back.

5341. You left him at the Gloucester?—Precisely.

5342. And you went back to Mr. Wilton's.—Yes.

5343. Then it was from the conversation which passed that you understood that bribery was about to be resorted to?—Yes.

5344. And on finding that, you said, "It is time for me to go away?"—Yes.

5345. You went down to do what was necessary to win the election?—Yes.

5346. Were you not told by Mr. Wilton that the election could not be won without bribery?—Yes; and that induced me to let him have the money.

5347. It was on the first evening that you let Mr. Wilton have the 150*l.*?—The same evening.

5348. That was so?—I think so.

5349. The Wednesday evening?—Yes.

5350. When you let Mr. Wilton have the 150*l.*, you knew it was to be employed for the purpose of bribing voters?—I had every reason to believe it.

5351. Did you not know it? had you not been told that it was necessary in order to win the election to employ bribery?—Yes.

5352. And you say the money you brought down was to be employed to win the election?—Yes.

5353. Did you not let Mr. Wilton, then, have the money for the purpose of bribery?—Certainly.

5354. Why not say so at once?—I did not hesitate much about it.

5355. You did hesitate a good deal, I think. On what day was it that you telegraphed for "more medicine"?—I think it must have been on the Thursday.

5356. Do you know what day of the month that was?—I do not; it was either Thursday or Friday, but I do not know the date.

5357. When you sent that telegram for "more medicine" was Clarke with you in Gloucester?—Yes.

5358. How was it, then, that you directed Clarke to be sent with this repeated dose of the medicine—Clarke was with you at the time, was he not?—Clarke was with me at the time.

5359. Why, then, did you direct it to be sent down by Clarke? Will you explain that?—I cannot.

5360. Have you no explanation to give of it?—No other than that I might have written it before I saw Clarke; but that could not be possible.

5361. Clarke came on the 27th?—Yes.

5362. And you wrote on the 28th?—Yes.

5363. You had been with Clarke, and had given him all the directions you have told us of. You can give no explanation at all of it?—I cannot.

5364. Who wrote that telegram for you?—The barmaid.

5365. Why did she write it?—I did not feel very well, and I asked her to write it for me.

5366. You swear positively that you gave Mr. Wilton the sums of money you have named to us, 150*l.*, 100*l.*, and two other sums of 100*l.*; that would be 450*l.*?—450*l.*

5367. You swear you paid Mr. Wilton 450*l.*?—I do.

5368. You paid him the sums you have named to us?—Yes.

5369. And on the days you have named to us?—To the best of my belief on the days I have named.

5370. You paid him on the nomination day two separate sums of 100*l.*?—I paid one sum on the nomination day down at the hotel, and another I took to his own house.

5371. At what time was that?—I should say it was in the afternoon when I took it to his house.

5372. After the nomination?—I think it was.

5373. Were you present at the nomination?—I was not.

5374. Who did you see at Mr. Wilton's, when you gave him the second 100*l.* at his own house?—No one but himself.

5375. In what room was it?—In one of his parlours—the parlour through the surgery.

5376. Who opened the door to you?—No one; I was accustomed to go in and out there, by going through the surgery into the parlour.

5377. How did you know that he wanted another 100*l.*?—Because he had been pressing me for it.

5378. Where did he meet you?—At the Gloucester Hotel; he came to me.

5379. That was after you had paid him the first 100*l.* on that day?—Yes.

5380. Was that before the nomination?—That was before the nomination; I think the nomination was over when I went up to him.

5381. When he requested the second 100*l.* did you refuse to pay him?—I told him I did not think I had got it, but I would see.

5382. That was not true—you knew that you had?—I knew that I had.

5383. Why did you say you did not know whether you had got it?—Because I wanted to consider whether I should let him have it or not.

5384. The result of your consideration was that you went up and paid him the 100*l.*?—Yes.

5385. How did you pay him?—All in gold.

5386. How did you pay him the first 100*l.* on that day?—80*l.* in gold, and 20*l.* in notes.

5387. To whom did you expect Webb was to go

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for money, when you telegraphed for more money ?—I expected him to go to Mr. Moffatt or Mr. Ralli.

5388. Did you expect him to go to Ryder Street for it ?—No.

5389. You had had the last cheque from Ryder Street ?—I had.

5390. You did not expect him to go there ?—No ; I did not expect him to go there, because there was no one in town ; that was the reason why I did not expect him to go there.

5391. You are sure that "P." meant Patch ?—I put that interpretation upon it; I believed it, and I have sworn to it.

5392. Why did you think it meant Patch—Patch's conduct had not met with your approval ?—No.

5393. Why did you think Webb would consult Patch ?—I should never consult Patch at all, nor do I think Webb would.

5394. Why did you think he meant "Patch" ?—Because he was watching us at every turn.

5395. Do you usually consult confidentially a man with whom you have quarrelled ?—Certainly not. I should never dream of consulting Patch confidentially.

5396. But this was confidential employment, was it not ?—I should not have consulted Patch at all, nor mentioned it to Patch ; nor do I suppose that Webb ever did mention it to Patch.

5397. You had made an arrangement with Mr. Webb to be ready to receive communications from you about the Gloucester election ?—Yes.

5398. And you knew you were sent down in a confidential employment ?—Yes.

5399. And you had ascertained, when you were down here, that the money with which you had been supplied was to be used for the purpose of bribery ?—Yes.

5400. Did you consider that a man with whom you had quarrelled was a proper person to be consulted ?—Certainly not.

5401. Do you expect to be believed, when you say you thought that "P." meant Patch ?—I do.

5402. You expect now to be believed ?—Yes.

5403. You say you paid Clarke's fare to London when you went back ?—Yes, I did.

5404. You are sure Clarke did not pay it himself?—I took the two tickets and gave him one.

5405. And you paid Clarke's hotel bill ?—I did.

5406. In fact, Clarke had nothing to pay while he was here ?—I think he paid something at the Wellington, before he came to me.

5407. But you are sure you paid his hotel bill, and his fare to London ?—Yes.

5408. When you directed Clarke to watch Mr. Frail, did you tell him to give you a report in writing ?—I asked him for a report in writing ; I did not tell him.

5409. Did he tell you that Mr. Frail had come back again ?—No, he did not.

5410. After he had gone away in this cab he was lost sight of?—By me.

5411. And as far as you know by Clarke too ?—Yes.

5412. Did Clarke tell you who the "tall gentleman" was that is spoken of ?—No, he did not.

5413. Why did he point out the "tall gentleman" to you ?—He said that was the gentleman who came down in the carriage with Frail.

5414. When he told you he had seen Frail come down, did he tell you who else he had seen coming down ?—Yes ; he said in the same train Sir Robert Carden came down, and I think, if I am not incorrect, he said Cardinal Wiseman.

5415. Did he tell you that Frail and Sir Robert Carden came down together ?—No ; that they came in the same train.

5416. Did he mean to tell you that this "tall gentleman" was Sir Robert Carden ?—No, because he knew Sir Robert Carden very well.

5417. Then you did not understand that ?—No.

5418. Why did he point out to you this "tall gentleman" ?—He pointed him out in consequence of his being the person he saw at the Wellington with Frail.

5419. Did he tell you in his report or before about this "tall gentleman ?"—No.

5420. He merely said he saw Frail with him ?—Merely that he was the tall gentleman who came into the coffee-room with Frail.

5421. Was that what he told you, when he said he had seen Frail ?—Yes.

5422. He told you that in the first instance ?—He told me that in the first instance.

5423. Who paid your expenses when you went into Yorkshire ?—Myself.

5424. Did you receive any money for the purpose of going there from anybody ?—No.

5425. That you swear ?—Yes.

5426. Have you paid Clarke anything ?—I have not paid him or seen him since.

5427. Not since the Gloucester election ?—Not since the week after my return from Gloucester to London.

5428. Have you paid him any money ?—I have not.

5429. Have you sent him any money ?—I have not.

5430. Do you know a man named Kingdon ?—Yes.

5431. Have you employed him to pay any money for you ?—Never a farthing in my life.

5432. Not to any one ?—No, not to any one.

5433. How long have you known Kingdon ?—I should say six or eight months. I have known him through going to Gilbert's office.

5434. When did you last see Kingdon ?—Some months ago.

5435. How many months ago—since the Gloucester election ?—I have seen him since the Gloucester election.

5436. Then if Kingdon has said you employed him to pay 25*l.* to Clarke, that is not true ?—It is not true.

5437. Then you have never sent through Kingdon 25*l.* to Clarke ?—Never.

5438. Never to any one since the Gloucester election ?—Not a single penny.

5439. Then, so far as you are concerned, Clarke has never been paid more than the 5*l.* you paid him at Gloucester ?—So far as I am concerned, he has never had a farthing from me.

5440. And you swear you never paid any sum to Kingdon to give to Clarke ?—Most certainly.

5441. Did you give any money to any one else for Clarke ?—No.

5442. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You said you were at Frome at the last election ?—Yes.

5443. You were sent down by Mr. Gilbert ?—Yes.

5444. Did you tell Mr. Wilton of that fact ?—I think I did.

5445. Did you tell him that you were sent down there by the other party ?—By the other party.

5446. By the Conservative party ?—Yes.

5447. You told him so ?—Yes.

5448. Was that the truth ?—Yes.

5449. Were you sent by Mr. Gilbert on behalf of the Conservative party ?—I was sent by Mr. Gilbert on behalf of the Conservative party.

5450. Had you ever been sent by Mr. Gilbert anywhere else on behalf of the Conservative party ?—No.

5451. Had you ever been sent by any one else on behalf of the Conservative party ?—No.

5452. I wish you would fix the day on which you first saw Mr. Moffatt ?—I really cannot fix the precise day.

5453. Did you see Mr. Moffatt on more than one occasion before the election ?—No.

5454. I think you have stated that it was a week or ten days before you went to Gloucester ?—Yes.

5455. I want to ask you some questions about this money which you paid to Mr. Wilton ; I suppose you got a receipt from Mr. Wilton ?—I did not.

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5456. Are you prepared to say positively that you received no receipt from Mr. Wilton?—I am.

5457. You received no memorandum of any description?—None.

5458. Is it your habit to pay away a sum of 450*l.* without taking any acknowledgment?—I very frequently do it without taking any acknowledgment; I asked Mr. Wilton for one, and he promised to send me one; but he never did.

5459. What was the amount of your tavern bill?—I think it was about 3*l.*

5460. Did you not pay for Clarke too?—That was including Clarke.

5461. How did you pay it?—I paid it in gold.

5462. Did you make any other payment besides that tavern bill in Gloucester?—I think I purchased a hair brush and comb, and a nail brush.

5463. How did you pay for that?—In silver.

5464. I think you said, in answer to a question put to you by the Chief Commissioner, that besides the 500*l.* you had some more money of your own?—Some 2*l.* or 3*l.*

5465. What money was that?—Gold, and a few shillings in silver, I think.

6466. Is that all the money you spent in Gloucester at that time?—It is.

5467. You have told us that you gave two 5*l.* notes to Webb in London?—I did.

5468. You have told us that you gave four 5*l.* notes to Mr. Wilton?—I did.

5469. And that you brought back to town two 5*l.* notes?—Yes.

5470. What did you do with the other two 5*l.* notes which you brought down from London with you?—I gave them to my wife before I left.

5471. How much money did you actually take down to Gloucester with you?—480*l.*

5472. I think you said that you cashed Mr. Ralli's cheque at the Bank of England?—I did.

5473. How did you receive the money from the Bank of England?—I had 450*l.* in gold, and 50*l.* in bank notes.

5474. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that the total amount, 480*l.*, that you brought down?—Yes, the total amount.

5475. That was all the money you had?—Yes, with the exception of 2*l.* or 3*l.* loose money of my own.

5476. You said you gave Clarke 5*l.*?—My wife gave him a portion of the money to come down.

5477. But you said you gave Clarke 5*l.* in Gloucester?—Not in Gloucester; I gave him 5*l.* altogether. My wife gave him a portion in town.

5478. Your wife gave him 5*l.*?—No; my wife gave him 1*l.*

5479. Where?—In London, before he came down, and I gave him 4*l.* subsequently.

5480. In Gloucester?—I gave him 2*l.* in Gloucester and 2*l.* in London, when we got to London; I gave him 2*l.* in Gloucester to go and pay his bill at the Wellington.

5481. You arrived in London before you parted with him?—Yes.

5482. I make out that you must have had 510*l.* and upwards. 10*l.* you gave to Webb in London?—Yes.

5483. And 10*l.* to your wife?—Yes.

5484. And 450*l.* to Mr. Wilton?—Yes.

5485. 5*l.* to Clarke?—5*l.* to Clarke.

5486. And you spent 3*l.* at the tavern?—Yes.

5487. You paid the railway fare, 2*l.* 5*s.*, your own fare down, and two fares back?—Yes; 15*s.* I paid coming down, and 18*s.* back, for the two.

5488. You have stated that you had 40*l.* in your pocket when you came back?—About 40*l.* I think I had.

5489. You said you had 40*l.* The total of that is 520*l.*?—480*l.* I brought down with me.

5490. Out of this 500*l.*, you gave 10*l.* to Webb in London, 450*l.* to Mr. Wilton, 5*l.* to Clarke; you paid 3*l.* at the tavern; railway fares at least 2*l.* 5*s.*, and a small sum in silver; and you say you returned to town with about 40*l.*; and you gave 10*l.* to your wife; the total of that is 520*l.*; and you stated you had only a few pounds. How do you account for that?—I am most certain, and I repeat, that I gave 350*l.* to Mr. Wilton.

5491. 450*l.* you said before?—450*l.* I mean to Mr. Wilton; and, I think, I had something like 30*l.* or 40*l.* when I went back.

5492. Your answer to the question, "What portion was left?" was, "I think 40*l.* odd altogether"?—I was thinking in my mind how much there was. There was some silver; that was what I meant by "odd."

5493. You have unaccounted for 20*l.*?—I cannot account for it in any other way than I have done.

5494. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you keep any written account?—No.

5495. Upon which occasion was it that you gave the four 5*l.* notes to Mr. Wilton?—It was upstairs in my bedroom.

5496. Was it upon the first, second, third, or fourth occasion on which you gave him money?—It was on the third occasion.

5497. Did you tell Webb you were going to Gloucester?—I did.

5498. Did you arrange with Webb that telegrams should be sent to him, if you wanted anything?—I did not; not for any to be sent to me.

5499. But did you arrange with Webb that you would send telegrams to him?—If I had occasion to communicate with him.

5500. What did you think it likely you would want to communicate?—I did not know what I might want to communicate.

5501. Did you tell him you should telegraph to him?—I told him that I should communicate with him by telegraph, if I had occasion.

5502. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you not say just now that you made no arrangement at all with him?—I made no arrangement with him, beyond simply saying to him, "If I have occasion to communicate with you, I shall send to the King's Arms." He said, "You had better do that, so that Patch may not see it."

5503. Did you not say that you had no occasion to make any arrangement with him, because you knew where he was staying?—Yes.

5504. What do you mean, then, by now saying that you had made an arrangement with him beforehand?—It was merely in common conversation.

5505. You denied entirely that you had made any arrangement with him at all about telegrams?—I must have misunderstood you.

5506. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you sent by Mr. Gilbert to Sir William Hayter?—No, by Mr. Webb. Mr. Gilbert was not in town.

5507. Do you know whether Sir William Hayter had had any communication with Gilbert with respect to you?—I believe not; I never knew it, if there was any.

5508. Did you tell Webb that you would communicate by telegraph with him, if you wanted further assistance?—No.

5509. Did you say you might want more hands to take with you?—I did.

5510. Is not that more assistance?—Yes; but not that I would telegraph for them.

5511. Did you say anything to Webb about Gilbert?—I did not.

5512. You did not give to Webb, as a reason for sending your telegrams to the King's Arms, that it was no concern of Gilbert's?—I do not recollect that I did; I have no recollection of anything of the kind.

5513. Are you certain he did not say, "This is no affair of Gilbert's"?—I have no recollection of his saying so; he might have said so.

5514. Was your reason for telegraphing to the King's Arms because Brompton was at a great distance?—The reason for telegraphing to the King's Arms was this:—that in consequence of Webb having to remain in town and receive all communi-

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cations, he thought he should get his telegram much quicker by being at the King's Arms, and therefore he was going to stop there.

5515. That was the reason why you were to telegraph to the King's Arms?—Certainly.

5516. And not in order that the contents of the telegrams should be unknown to Mr. Patch?—Certainly that was the reason, and to prevent Mr. Patch seeing them.

5517. Did you tell Webb that you had employed Clarke?—Yes.

5518. Did you tell Webb that you had the money?—Yes.

5519. When did you make up your mind to come down here as a witness?—The day before yesterday.

5520. Was that after reading in the newspapers the evidence that had been given?—I read a portion, and only one portion.

5521. Did anybody advise you to come or to stay away?—No one.

5522. A statement has been made here, that you said you had been to Messrs. Baxter and Rose's just before the election. Had you been there?—I had.

5523. Did you hear anything there, or see anything with reference to Gloucester?—Not a single thing did I see or hear there.

5524. With reference to Gloucester?—No.

5525. Have you ever told anybody that you did?—I have told a party that I was told a person had been there and saw a list of sums appropriated to different places.

5526. Who told you that?—Mr. Webb.

5527. Mr. Webb told you that he had been there, and seen that?—No; not that he had been there, but that a party had told it to him, and he told it to me.

5528. Did Mr. Webb tell you who that party was?—Upon my word, I do not think he did tell me at all; but if he did I forget; I took so little notice of it.

5529. Were you in the habit yourself of going to Baxter and Rose's?—I think I was there twice; it was in connexion with the Frome election. I went to Frome for the purpose of consulting with a party that I sent down there, as to what strength they would require for the election, and upon my return to town I went to make a report to Mr. Rose. Mr. Gilbert was out of town.

5530. Did you see Mr. Rose upon that occasion?—I did.

5531. Had you any opportunity at all of seeing a list that was lying upon one of the tables?—No.

5532. Had you any conversation with Mr. Rose or anybody else upon the subject?—Certainly not.

5533. Did you learn at any time, at the office of Messrs. Baxter and Rose, that any money was to be sent to Gloucester?—Not one word.

5534. Did you mention anything to Mr. Wilton upon the subject?—I think I told Mr. Wilton the same story as I had heard, that a party had been to Baxter, Rose, and Norton's, and that he saw a sum of money marked down for Gloucester, and a sum for Bristol.

5535. What sum did you understand was marked down for Gloucester?—2,000*l.*

5536. Did you represent that to Mr. Wilton?—I did.

5537. Did you state that, from that circumstance having come in that way to your knowledge, you believed considerable bribery would be carried on on the other side?—I did; and that was one reason why I set Clarke to watch Frail.

5538. What did you understand by the word "strength"?—The strength of assistance they would require from London.

5539. For what purpose?—For the purpose of the election.

5540. (*Mr. Welford.*) Strength in men or in money?—In men.

5541. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did not Mr. Wilton give you either an acknowledgment, or something in the nature of an acknowledgment, or something intended for an acknowledgment, for the money he received?—Never.

5542. Nothing in the nature of an acknowledgment?—No.

5543. Nothing intended as an acknowledgment?—No; not even a scrap of paper.

5544. You are prepared to swear that, Mr. Wilton being now present?—Yes, I am.

5545. Did you not tear the document up that he gave you that very same evening?—No.

5546. Did you not tell Mr. Wilton last night that you had torn up the document?—I did not; the document that I told him I tore up was the document that was given to me directing me to go to Mr. Wilton.

5547. And that you tore up last night?—No; not last night.

5548. Did you not tell Mr. Wilton last night that you had torn up the acknowledgment which Mr. Wilton had given you for 400*l.*?—I did not, nor did I ever have anything to tear up.

5549. I should like you to tell me what you did with those other two 5*l.* notes that you have not accounted for?—I took them home.

5550. You told me you had taken home two before?—Yes, two.

5551. You gave four to Mr. Wilton?—Yes, and two to my wife, and two to Webb.

5552. That is the way you account for them?—Yes.

5553. Were you at Gloucester in 1857?—I was not.

5554. Had you ever been at a Gloucester election before?—Never.

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

5555. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We understand you wish to contradict some statements which Mr. Thompson has just made in his evidence?—Yes; the only contradiction I wish to make with reference to Mr. Thompson's statement is this: I stated, in my examination, two or three days ago, that I had received from him a sum of 400*l.* It will be in the recollection of the Commissioners that it was stated by Clarke that to his knowledge I had received 500*l.*; it is now stated by Thompson that I only received 450*l.* There is that discrepancy between the statements of those two witnesses. Now I solemnly, and on my oath, with the most perfect conviction that I am speaking the truth, and nothing but the truth, state, that I only received from Mr. Thompson the sum of 399*l.* It is a very curious sum for me to have received; the fact is, that in the course of conversation with Mr. Thompson he had been frequently urging upon me the impropriety of any body in these matters trusting any body else, and without any expectation that I should ever have to mention any of these circumstances, I then told him that he was not aware of the amount that I had received; the fact was, that I had received one sovereign less than he believed I had received. I did not tell him I had received one sovereign less, but that I had not received the amount he believed I had; he said I had received 400*l.* I said "On my oath, Thompson, I have not." That is all I wish to state in contradiction of what has been stated by Mr. Thompson.

5556. Did you give to Richard Thompson an acknowledgment for the sums you had received from him?—I gave him an acknowledgment for the sums I had received, after the polling was over on the day of the election, in my surgery. I received 50*l.* from Mr. Thompson on the morning of that day, and made an arrangement with him at the same time to meet him at six o'clock in the evening at my surgery. The polling would be over at four o'clock, and I expected that there would be some little business to do after the election, and I named six o'clock to meet him; at about half-past six or seven I returned and found him there.

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J. P. Wilton.

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5557. Did you give him an acknowledgment for the money you had received from him?—I did.

5558. Was that an acknowledgment for 399*l.*?—It was an acknowledgment for 400*l.*

5559. Did you count the money which you received from Thompson when you received it?—Constantly.

5560. So that about that there could be no mistake?—I am positive; I have not the smallest doubt or the slightest hesitation upon that point. I do not know now the sums in which I received the money, as I stated to the Commissioner on my last examination, but that I have given the amount correctly I do most solemnly assert.

5561. Do you think, from the confusion which existed at the time of the election, and from the fact of having received various sums of money from other parties, you might have made a mistake?—No, because I am perfectly clear about it; there is one thing I especially remember—that at the same time when I gave the receipt for 400*l.*, 400*l.* was the sum that was mentioned.

5562. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he give you four 5*l.* notes?—To the best of my belief he did not; I told the Commissioners the other day that I received it all in sovereigns or half-sovereigns. To the best of my belief I did not receive any 5*l.* notes, and I have been thinking, since he mentioned the subject, where I could have changed them, if I had had them; I do not recollect changing any such notes, and therefore I do not believe I received them.

5563. Did he receive the paper which you gave to him as an acknowledgment for the money?—Yes.

5564. What did he do with it?—I believe he put it in his pocket.

5565. He perfectly understood that it was an acknowledgment?—Yes.

5566. Do you recollect the words that were used in it?—No. I know it was in a shape that would be understood to be an acknowledgment on my part that I had received the money, but it was not such a document as would criminate him, if it should become necessary afterwards to produce it; it was an ambiguous document I must admit, but at the same time it was a receipt of some kind or other for 400*l.*

W. Stephens.

WILLIAM STEPHENS sworn and examined.

5567. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Highnam, near this city, two and a half miles from it.

5568. What are you?—A retired brush maker. I have an independency; I am also a freeholder of East and West Gloucestershire, and East Worcestershire.

5569. Are you a freeman of the city of Gloucester?—I am.

5570. And a freeholder for the county?—Yes, both divisions, and of East Worcester.

5571. Did you take part in the last election for this city?—I did.

5572. On behalf of the Liberal candidates?—I was never canvassed by the Liberal candidates, but I took part on their account; I was never canvassed by anybody, without it was Mr. Wilkes, who said, "I merely call upon you; I suppose you will go with the Liberals this time," and I said, "Yes, I should."

5573. You were canvassed by Mr. Wilkes?—Yes. I do not remember being canvassed by any other person.

5574. Did you canvass any person yourself?—Yes; I received information that Mr. Ward and Mr. Walter Clutterbuck were gone to the Coopeys, at my house.

5575. What are the names of those persons that you call Coopey?—There are a great many of them; there is John, Joseph, William; I have canvassed them for so many years that I know all the parties.

5576. You say you heard that John Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck had gone to the house of the Coopeys?—Yes.

5577. What Coopeys do you mean?—I think the house is kept by Joseph Coopey; the old lady used to keep it, but I think it is Joseph Coopey. I saw him there.

5578. How many persons live in that house?—I cannot say, but I saw the whole of the Coopeys, nine or ten of them, as if met by appointment.

5579. There were nine or ten of them living in the same house, were there?—They were there; I do not think they were living there; I think they had come to meet Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck. I had not been there since I canvassed them before.

5580. Where is the house of Joseph Coopey?—At Churcham.

5581. Is that near to the place where you live?—It is about a mile and a half or two miles further on, or two miles and half perhaps.

5582. You say you understood that Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck had gone there?—Yes, I had some information of it at my house—I was at home.

5583. When was that?—It was the day before Hereford fair; I could not exactly tell you the day; I could tell you, if I had an almanack.

5584. About how long before the election?—It was the day before Hereford fair, let that be when it will.

5585. Did you go to Joseph Coopey for the purpose of canvassing him for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did; and also Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck went.

5586. Did you offer Joseph Coopey any money for his vote?—I offered it to all that were there, nine or ten of them.

5587. How many were there?—William Coopey was there, the tailor from Huntley; William Coopey, a labourer, and William Coopey, a tailor at Churcham; Thomas Coopey; Richard was there—old Richard—I know him, I have had him before, and Joseph and John. I will swear to those being there.

5588. Richard?—Yes; we call him "Old Richard," but he is a son of the old woman.

5589. Seeing those persons at the house, did you offer them any money for their votes?—Will you allow me to state what actually did occur?

5590. I ask you whether you canvassed those parties you saw there for their votes for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did.

5591. Did you offer them any money for their votes?—The words that I said, Sir, was these: I told Ward that I had heard he was come this way, and that I thought I would come too, and see what I could do for Price and Monk.

5592. You told Ward that?—Yes.

5593. Was he there?—Yes, with the Coopeys; it was in consequence of his going there that I went; I never canvassed any one before.

5594. You told Mr. Ward that you had come there to see what you could do for Price and Monk?—Yes, for Price and Monk, for I was determined that the Conservatives should pay well, if they had the Coopeys this time.

5595. Having said that, what did you say to the other persons then?—I told them I was determined to have them this time, and that I would not lose them for 200*l.*

5596. To whom did you say that?—I said it in the presence of all the Coopeys, and in the hearing of Mr. Ward and Clutterbuck.

5597. Which Mr. Clutterbuck was that?—Walter Clutterbuck, the attorney, at Gloucester.

5598. How many Coopeys are there?—I think there were nine or ten of them, but I was to have William Rowles into the bargain, if I made an agreement with them; Rowles always voted with them prior, and I was to have him into the bargain; they could suit best for him.

5599. What is Rowles?—He is a labourer; he has worked for Mr. Joseph Toovey of the Grange; I have been a Conservative agent for many years, and that is the reason why I know all these people.

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5600. Upon your saying you were determined to have them this time, and that you would not lose them for 200*l.*, what was said by any person that was there?—Ward called them out; we then had a great deal of conversation; I said to them, "If you vote for Carden, you will be sure to lose your birthright, for he done St. Alban's, and he will do you;" Ward said it was a pack of foolery, and that I was a traitor.

5601. You had a great deal of conversation?—Yes.

5602. And then Ward called them out?—Yes; he called them out to the back door, and I went out too, and said, "I sha'nt have it; whatever Ward gives I will give 5*l.* more;" we then had some beer, tobacco, and cider—ever so many quarts; I paid afterwards four or five shillings; I do not think Ward paid anything that day; Joe Coopey said he should look to Ward for some of it—for his share; I paid my share.

5603. Were you all drinking together?—Yes, we done it openly; we did not do it secretly.

5604. Did you hear any bidding at all on the other side?—No, I did not, for they done it too quiet for that, and there was so many of them against me.

5605. You did not hear anything said to them by Ward or by Clutterbuck?—No; they were too quiet, they done it secretly. I done it openly.

5606. You said you would give 200*l.*, if they would vote for Price and Monk?—Yes, I said I would give it them, but I never intended to give it them; I had not the money to give them; I had no intention to give it to them, but I thought it should cost the Conservatives something if they had them. Ward and Clutterbuck then left, and I arranged with the Coopeys to meet them at Hereford fair the next day, and I did. I went to my attorney, Mr. Wilkes, and I received this paper from Mr. Wilkes this morning, which I think it will be better for you to receive (*handing a paper to the Commissioners*).

5607. You went to Hereford fair the next day, and saw them?—Yes.

5608. Who did you see there?—I saw Joseph, John, and William, and the young William, I think; there were four or five of them there, and I treated them in the Newmarket Inn.

5609. Did any conversation take place then about their votes?—Yes; I said, if they wanted to buy some sheep I had got my cheque book there, and if they wanted money, I would advance them any amount they wanted.

5610. What did they say to that?—They said everything was so dear, that they could not buy. I had heard that Mr. Ward was in the town; he had followed me into Hereford fair, and I could not do any good with them then.

5611. Did they say anything at Hereford fair about any offer having been made to them by other persons?—No; they said they could have more than I offered them. Mr. Wilkes is my attorney, and I communicated to him the reception I met with, and who I saw there, and the consequence was that he said, "You follow it up," and he gave me 2*l.* towards my expenses, which I afterwards paid him.

5611*a*. Did you see those parties at any time afterwards?—I saw them three or four times. I got Mr. Gough to go with me, to prevail upon them to give me a price, and every time I saw them they told me they could get more.

5612. Did you come to any agreement with them as to their votes?—I could not come to an agreement there. I said to William Coopey, "You know Ward's price, I will give you more than him." William said, "I shall not promise any one till the nomination morning."

5613. You are giving your evidence from notes; did you make those notes at the time?—Yes, partly on bits of paper, and I copied them in last night.

5614. But you have got the bits of paper, have you, from which you made those minutes?—Yes; I asked Mr. Collins this morning to allow me to copy it off.

5615. You had better let us have those bits of paper?—I just ripped them up in the public house and throwed them in the fire, but this is the same as the copy.

5616. It would be much more satisfactory that you should refer to those notes that you made on the bits of paper?—I just throwed them in the fire; I went in and had a glass of ale, and throwed them in.

5617. Should you have been able to have given the evidence you are now giving without referring to them?—Yes, I could substantially, but I might not have given it in the very words.

5618. But I understand you to say that the facts to which you depose you could have stated without referring to the notes?—I could.

5619. You say they told you that they would not promise till the nomination morning?—Yes; I was to meet them at the Fountain, at 10 o'clock.

5620. Did you go to the Fountain, to meet them?—I went to the Fountain and stopped there, and saw William Coopey going up the street with William Tandy of the Rising Sun, and immediately afterwards I saw Mr. Ward follow, and I thought my game was lost then.

5621. Why did you think your game was lost then?—Because Ward and I have been in connexion with the Coopeys before to-day; I thought that Ward would put down the "ready," and I had not got it to put down.

5622. Why was it that, when you saw Tandy with those men, you thought the game was lost?—Because Tandy, I had heard, had salted them previously in 1857, when I was in gaol. I was not in gaol for anything, only debt.

5623. Had you any opportunity of making any agreement at all with those men for their votes?—Not after that, but I waited an hour at the Fountain, and John came down, and he said "You know Mr. Stephens," says he, "I cannot go yellow," says he; "I rent under Mr. Helps, and he would turn me out if I did." I said, "I do not care about you, so that I have the rest." He said, "It is all settled; they are going to vote for Sir Robert Carden," and I said I thought so, as soon as I saw them going from the Rising Sun.

5624. What other persons did you canvass?—I canvassed William Fletcher, of Longsmith Street; he is a gunsmith.

5625. Is he a freeman?—No; he is a 10*l.* householder.

5626. Did you offer him any money?—I did, 7*l.*

5627. To vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

5628. Did he say that he would vote for them?—No; he said his rent was more, and that Mr. Goodrich must be squared with—that is his landlord.

5629. What did you understand him to mean by what he said?—I understood that if I did not give it, some one else would. I said I could not give him any more.

5630. Did you understand from him that he was in arrear for rent to his landlord?—Decidedly.

5631. How much?—I do not know the amount; he said it was more than that, that is, that it was more than the 7*l.*

5632. He said he was in arrear for rent to a larger amount than 7*l.*?—Yes; I went to Fletcher's house to see his wife, because I had known the party very well all my life almost, and I told his wife I would give her 7*l.*, and she scorned the idea of Fletcher's voting liberal. She said I ought to be ashamed of myself for turning from blue to yellow. She said Mr. Whithorn would do more, if I would not; she said that she had done many a good turn for Whithorn at Tewkesbury, and she had no doubt he would do her a good turn.

5633. What good turn had she done for Mr. Whithorn at Tewkesbury?—She did not say that, but I know of my own knowledge that Mr. Whithorn and her were linked together in the Tewkesbury elections.

5634. Did you see Fletcher afterwards?—I did

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see him on the morning of the polling day, at the corner of Berkeley Street. I again offered him 7*l.*; he said it was of no use, that he was obliged to vote for Carden. I said "Never mind, Bill, we shall not be no worse for that; we shall beat you."

5635. And he did vote for Carden, did he not?—Yes, he did.

5636. Did you canvass anybody else?—Yes. I I canvassed Samuel Wilkes of Hartpury.

5637. Did you offer him any money?—I did; I offered him 7*l.* He said that he and another should vote together; I think it was Mr. Probert's brother. I said, "Well, I will give you 12*l.* for the two." I took and treated them in the Fountain, as far as I recollect.

5638. Did you pay them the money?—No, I passed no money.

5639. What did he say?—He said he could get more. I said, "Go and get it, boy, then."

5640. Did he say from whom he could get more?—No, he did not; I judged who he could have it from though.

5641. Who did you think he could have it from?—Jem Maysey, or John Ward, or Whithorn. Whithorn generally is purse-bearer.

5642. Where does Samuel Wilkes live?—At Hartpury.

5643. What is he?—I believe he is a shoemaker. I had canvassed him before, on previous occasions.

5644. Had you any further negotiation with Wilkes?—I had not; his price was too high. I could not go on with him.

5645. Who was the next person?—I canvassed Wadley (who went before the Committee of the House of Commons) the morning before the election.

5646. What is his Christian name?—John Wadley.

5647. Did you offer any money to him?—No, I did not. I wanted him to come and vote; I did not offer him any money. I saw some money pass to him, but I was not cognisant of what it was.

5648. Who gave it to him?—Mr. William Roberts of Rudford I saw give it him, in the parlour of the Berkeley Arms,—the front parlour. I brought Beard and Greening in as well (Greening was a fellow prisoner of mine at the same time in 1857), and John Phelps, and Cornelius Phelps, and Edwin Phelps; they all came in together; I brought them in. I was coming to Gloucester to fetch a conveyance, but the conveyance was started out without my knowledge, and I got into the conveyance, and went with them.

5649. Did you offer them any money?—No; I treated them at the Fountain, and at the Berkeley Arms.

5650. Who did you treat?—I paid for a quart of beer. I think it was after we went back from polling for Wadley, Beard, and Greening; there was something paid for I know.

5651. Did you canvass anybody else?—Yes, John Ferry, junior, a shoemaker, in the Eastgate Street. I canvassed him, and his wife said, "Ah, you have always given other people something at previous elections, but you never give us anything." "What do you want?" I said. She said, "He does not want to vote at all, but if you will give us enough to go to Windsor and back that will do." I then went to Brewer Monk, and got ten sovereigns on purpose to give to them.

5652. Did you offer the money to them?—I did in sovereigns.

5653. Did they refuse to take it?—They said it was not enough; that it would not take them to Windsor and back.

5654. You offered them ten sovereigns to vote for Monk and Price?—I showed them the money, and shook it in my hand.

5655. And they said it was not enough?—They said it was not enough to go to Windsor and back. Henry Arkell came in in the meantime, and we had some very high words. He is a Tory partisan. He used to be Mr. Goodrich's collector of rents, or something of that kind; he is a capital fellow for his party.

5656. Who is he?—I think he is a builder now on his own account; he used to be a collector of rents.

5657. You think he is a builder?—Yes. He came into the shop, and we had some very high words; it was in consequence of his coming in, I think, that I lost paying the ten sovereigns away.

5658. Did John Ferry, junior, and his father go to Windsor?—No; I saw them in the morning come and poll for Carden. I saw them in Carden's fly, and I supposed they were going to vote for Carden.

5659. Who was the next?—I do not think I canvassed any one else; if I did, it has slipped my memory, but if any information comes to me during the Commission, I shall be happy to render it.

5660. What became of the ten sovereigns which you had received from Brewer Monk?—I paid Mr. Wilkes the 2*l.* which he had advanced to me to go to Hereford to see the Coopeys; I considered my expenses, with treating and one thing and another, at Hereford 2*l.* I paid at Coopey's three or four or five shillings, I do not know exactly how much. I went to see my fellow prisoner Greening at Phelps's, and I think that cost me 3*s.* 10*d.*; that was at Mount Pleasant. There was a lot of farmers came in; they had had a parish meeting that day, and I paid for drink for them. Besides that I paid the turnpike a shilling, for the trap to go after the voters, and I went to Cheltenham that day to see how the election was going on, and I paid to Cheltenham and back eight shillings. Then I treated ever so many voters, Fletcher among others, at Bowyer's and Dobell's, and the Greyhound, and the Fountain, and the Saracen's Head, and the Black Dog; I had about 13*s.* 6*d.* left out of the 10*l.*, which I have not expended.

5661. Give us the names of those public houses again?—Bowyer's, Dobell's, the Greyhound, the Fountain and the Saracen's Head, the Berkeley Arms, and the Black Dog. When I came to reckon it up on Sunday morning (I got a little bit inebriated), I found I had got about 13*s.* or 13*s.* 6*d.* that I had never expended. Monk has never asked me for it, and if he does I think I ought to pay it, without you give me an order who to pay it to.

5662. Did you expend the balance of the money, with the exception of the 13*s.* 6*d.* which you say you have left, in treating people at those different public houses you have mentioned?—Yes.

5663. In treating electors?—After they had polled. I was formerly a Conservative agent, and they all knew me very well, and said, "Well, Stephens, you must stand something," and I did stand something, whether they were blues or yellows.

5664. Were the most part of them electors?—Most of them were electors. I believe that is all I could enumerate now, without you would give me a little latitude; I might think of some more. If you have any question to ask me, I shall be very glad to answer it.

5665. Do you remember being at the Greyhound when a person of the name of Becks was there, a clerk of Mr. Wilkes's?—I have seen him many times; I have often dined with him there, two or three times a month I have dined with him there.

5666. Do you remember one occasion when Mr. Ward was there?—I am there every week with Mr. Ward; I sit at one end of the table, and he at the other.

5667. Have you been there when Mr. Ward was there?—Frequently.

5668. Did you ever say that you had 200*l.* to do the best you could with for Price and Monk?—I have led Ward to believe so always, but I never did have it.

5669. But did you state that?—I did; I have no doubt of it, for I always tried to mislead him; on my oath I never had a halfpenny, without it was the 5*l.*

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5670. Is that all you know with regard to the last election—the election of 1859?—I believe it is. I shall be very glad to make a statement to you with regard to the election of 1857.

5671. You did take an active part in the election of 1857, did you not?—No, I did not, for I was in gaol. I was arrested on the 25th of March.

5672. If you have any information to give us with regard to the election of 1857, you had better make a statement to our Secretary.—I will give it now (*handing a paper to the Secretary*).

5673. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you say you believe that the Coopeys received money for their votes at the last election?—I do solemnly.

5674. Is it anything that occurred at the election in 1857 that has caused you to have that belief?—No, it was prior to that; several elections previous to that.

J. Taylor.

JAMES TAYLOR sworn and examined.

5675. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At the Pheasant Inn.

5676. Where is that?—About six miles from here.

5677. What is the name of the place?—Staverton.

5678. Do you remember a person of the name of William Probert coming to your house?—No.

5679. Who came to your house about the time of the election?—There was a good many called at my house.

5680. Who came connected with the election at Gloucester?—I have seen Mr. Jacobs there, and Mr. Ward, and Mr. Maysey, and several others.

5681. Mr. John Ward?—Yes.

5682. Is Mr. Maysey a hair-dresser in Gloucester?—Yes.

5683. Who else?—Mr. Franklin.

5684. What did Jacob's come for?—He came in a fly; he came and had some refreshment.

5685. Was any one with him?—Not at that time.

5686. Did anybody come there while he was there?—Walter Welch came there.

5687. Was there a game of skittles proposed?—Not that I am aware of.

5688. Was there anything said about jumping?—Not that I am aware of; I never heard it.

5689. Not at any time?—No.

5690. What did you get for your own vote?—Well, Mr. Jacobs says I got 10*l.*

5691. What do you say you got?—Certainly I had 10*l.*, but I put it down for trouble that I was into, and one thing and the other.

5692. You "put it down for the trouble you were into;" what do you mean by that?—I was to see Mr. Welch, and get him to my house, and send for him, and different things.

5693. Do you mean to say you were paid 10*l.* by Jacobs for getting Welch to come to your house?—Not only that, but I had to come to Gloucester to him, and then went back from Gloucester again in a fly, and one thing and the other.

5694. Do you mean to swear that that 10*l.* was not paid as a bribe for your vote?—I did not take it as a bribe; it may perhaps go on in that way, towards it.

5695. If the whole 10*l.* was not paid as a bribe, was a portion of it?—I did not put it down for the vote.

5696. Did you put down any portion as for your vote?—He offered me 5*l.* for my vote.

5697. Did you consider that that 5*l.* was for your vote?—He offered me 5*l.*; I told Mr. Jacobs I had not made up my mind to vote at all.

5698. Did you or not consider 5*l.* to be for your vote?—You may so put it down; of course the 10*l.* was put down for my vote.

5699. Was the 10*l.*, or a portion of it, intended and received by you as a bribe for your vote?—Mr. Jacobs offered me 10*l.*, and I took it.

5700. For your vote and for the trouble you had been at?—Yes.

5701. And the trouble you were at was getting Welch to come to your house, and coming into Gloucester and back again?—Yes.

5702. What did Mr. Ward do at your house—did he offer you any money for your vote?—No; he did not offer me any money.

5703. None at all?—There was something said about having a dinner party; that was by the first party that came.

5704. What did Mr. Ward say about a dinner party?—He made use of some expression, I cannot say now. He said, "Leave that alone, we can manage something better than that."

5705. Leave what alone?—About the dinner party.

5706. There was something said about a dinner party, and Mr. Ward said "Leave that alone, I can manage something better than that"?—Yes.

5707. What did you understand by that?—I understood there would be something better offered for my vote.

5708. Did you understand from Mr. Ward, that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden a dinner party would be given at your house?—Not from Mr. Ward.

5709. From whom?—From Mr. Maysey, and Mr. Lane, and Mr. Franklin.

5710. You understood from Mr. Maysey and from Mr. Franklin, that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden a dinner party would be given at your house?—They only asked me for half my vote, for they knew I was so staunch on the other side that I would not give more; they only asked me for half my vote; I never voted in that way in my life.

5711. Did they say what the amount of the dinner should be?—No.

5712. Did they say for how many persons?—They did not mention the number; a good party they said.

5713. It was after that that Mr. Ward said that that had better be left alone, for that better could be done?—Yes.

5714. When he said that, did he say anything about any money?—No.

5715. Did he offer you, at any time, any money for your vote?—No.

5716. Did either Mr. Maysey or Mr. Franklin, at any time, offer you any money for your vote?—No.

5717. Did any other person offer you any money?—No money.

5718. Was anything further said with regard to your vote?—A certain party came over there by the name of Sharpe; I was up in the grounds at the time; he came over in a fly.

5719. Who is he?—A gentleman from Stonehouse.

5720. What is he?—A timber merchant.

5721. What did he say?—He asked me if I was in want of any beech timber.

5722. What did you say?—I told him certainly I was in want of beech, and I asked him the price.

5723. What did he say?—He mentioned to me that he came over about my vote. I told him I was in want of beech, and if he had any beech to sell I would attend to business first, and if he had anything to say after I would talk to him about it after; there was something said about so many sets of beech.

5724. What was said about them?—For my vote.

5725. What was said about them?—So many sets was offered, if I would vote for Sir Robert Carden.

5726. How many sets did he say he would give you?—Something was said about thirty; he did not say he would do it, but conveyed to my mind that it should be done.

5727. Done by whom?—By himself.

5728. He conveyed to your mind that thirty sets of beech should be given to you by himself for your

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vote; is that the case?—Yes; I said no, but if fifty sets could be done I would have something to say to him about it, if fifty sets could be had.

5729. If fifty sets could be had for your vote?—Yes.

5730. You would talk to him about it?—Yes.

5731. What did he say to that?—I was to meet him again at the Black Dog on the morning of the election; I was to meet him at nine; I did not come in till ten, but I understood he had been at the Black Dog to see me, and I met him as I was going up Northgate Street, and told him I had made up my mind not to vote for Sir Robert Carden.

5732. Did he make you any further offer after that?—No, he did not.

5733. Did you offer any money on account of the Liberal candidates?—No.

5734. Were you instructed to do so?—No.

5735. You were not instructed to offer any money at all to any elector to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—No.

5736. Did you tell Mr. Ward that you were quite willing to accept a bribe from him, for the purpose of voting for Sir Robert Carden, instead of the dinner that had been proposed?—Oh dear, no.

5737. Nothing of that sort?—No; I never had any intention of voting for Sir Robert Carden; I never did in my life.

5738. Supposing you had made a purchase of this quantity of beech from Mr. Sharpe, what would you have paid for it? What is the price of a set of beech?—Four shillings, I reckon.

5739. Do you know anything further respecting the last election?—No.

5740. Was any money spent at your house in treating?—There was money spent there.

5741. In treating?—Well, when they came over in flies, or anything of that sort, of course they had some refreshments.

5742. Were there any other persons besides yourself and those who came over in flies?—I believe my men had some beer, or ale, or something given them.

5743. How much money was spent at your house by Mr. Ward?—I cannot tell.

5744. Have you any books?—I never put it down.

5745. And it was spent by Mr. Ward?—Yes.

5746. You cannot say how much?—No.

5747. And by Mr. Maysey?—Yes.

5748. Can you say how much he spent?—No, I cannot.

5749. Was money also spent by Harry Jacobs?—Yes.

5750. Can you say how much he spent?—No, I cannot; my wife had the management of the bar.

5751. Was there any price fixed for the dinner that was to be ordered?—No.

W. M. Evans.

WILLIAM MARTIN EVANS sworn and examined.

5752. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

5753. Did you act as clerk to the committee room at Hutton's during the election?—Mr. Isacke was appointed the chairman, and not being well able to attend to it, Mr. Robinson was named, and he was also engaged, and the thing being neglected I went down.

5754. Were you retained professionally?—I was.

5755. Did you keep the books at Hutton's?—The returns were put before me.

5756. Were you conscious of all that passed at Hutton's with respect to the purchase of votes?—No; I do not know anything at all about it in fact.

5757. Returns were made by parties who were members of that committee?—Yes; I believe the returns were made to Mr. Isacke.

5758. He tells us he only acted about a week?—He was there all the time occasionally.

5759. Returns were made, I suppose, by the parties who canvassed?—Yes; the names were given on paper, and the returns were made, and those papers were given to Mr. Isacke.

5760. Did he give them to you?—No.

5761. From whom, then, did you receive the returns?—I received the returns from the district canvassers, and marked them off in a book, and then made my report to Mr. Jordan.

5762. Did you receive an account of the canvass from the canvassers?—Generally.

5763. Did you understand from the canvassers that bribes would be required for a number of voters?—I did understand that there were bribes required.

5764. How long before the election did you understand that?—Not before the election.

4765. When?—I beg your pardon; some time after the canvass.

5766. How long before the election did you understand it?—Perhaps three or four days.

5767. How many persons did you understand it would be necessary to bribe?—I do not know, I am sure; I should think, from what I could ascertain, there may have been 15 or 20, or something like that.

5768. As far as you remember, was that about the number required?—There may have been 15 in round numbers; but I did not wish to know anything; I cannot speak positively as to the number or even the amounts.

5769. Did you hear why it would be necessary to bribe voters?—Because they would not vote without, as I understood; that they required certain sums of money to vote, and they would not vote for us without; and that if they were not paid by us in that way, as I understood, they would be paid by the other party.

5770. That was the communication made to you by the canvassers?—Yes; many of them said as much.

5771. Do you know of any of those persons that were bribed?—No, I do not; I think the only person I knew anything about is a man named Jeffs; I do not know anything about any others. I understood afterwards that Hutton had given him *5l.*

5772. He is a man who was examined in London, is he not?—Yes, I believe he was.

5773. That is the only person?—That I assure you is the only person.

5774. Have you any information that you can give with regard to any other persons that were bribed?—No, I have not; I am not cognisant of any.

5775. Did any money pass through your hands?—Not a shilling.

5776. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Hutton make any returns to you of the result of his canvassings?—I do not know that Hutton went out to canvass much; he was generally at home; others went, I believe.

5777. Do you recollect seeing any sums opposite the names of any persons?—There were some sums put on those canvassing slips; I saw some; I cannot recollect what they were; as I said before, they were given to Mr Isacke, and what he did with them I do not know; I did not see them afterwards.

5778. And you understood that those sums represented the amounts required by the voters opposite to whose names they were put?—I did.

5779. They were on slips of paper?—They were.

5780. You were paid, I think, for your professional services?—Yes.

5781. Do you know whether your account went in to the election auditor?—I believe it did.

5782. Were you concerned in making up the account for the auditor with any of the other agents?—No.

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WILLIAM PROBERT sworn and examined.

W. Probert.

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5783. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep the King's Head?—I do.

5784. In what street is that?—St. Katharine's.

5785. You took an active part in the last election, did you not?—No, a little, not much.

5786. Was your house one of the houses to which the messengers and others in the interest of Messrs. Monk and Price were in the habit of resorting?—When they thought proper; my house is very much out of the way; it did not cause them to come down there much.

5787. Were you instructed to distribute refreshments, beer, tobacco, and spirits, to any of the friends of Messrs. Price and Monk gratuitously?—No, certainly not; I asked for an order. I will tell you, if you please; I went to Mr. Innell, and asked him for an order, and he sent me to Mr. Wilton, and he said he could not do it; so I had no order.

5788. Was there a bill incurred at your house for refreshments that were supplied during the election?—I will tell you what there was. I went over the election morning and fetched the Phelpses in to vote, and I cooked a little dinner for them, a bit of beef, and after the election Mr. John Wilton sent me 5*l.*

5789. Do you mean the Phelpses who were voters?—Yes.

5790. How many were there?—I could not pretend to say; perhaps five, or six, or seven.

5791. How many Phelpses were there?—I cannot say; perhaps there were six or seven; I would not pretend to say.

5792. Were they voters?—Yes.

5793. They dined, and you received 5*l.*?—I did.

5794. Was that after the polling was over?—Oh, yes.

5795. Was the dinner after the polling was over?—I do not know whether it was after the polling was over; it was about one when they came, and they had polled.

5796. Had you voted yourself at that time?—No, I had not; I had forgotten it, in fact.

5797. Had you promised before to vote?—They did not want to ask me.

5798. What money passed through your hands?—None at all, with the exception of a very trifling amount. About a fortnight or three weeks before the election I was out knocking about, and treating one and the other, and I believe I spent about 33*s.* or 34*s.*

5799. In what way did you spend it?—In ale; and the night before the election I asked for my 33*s.* or 34*s.*

5800. Did you obtain it?—I did.

5801. Where had you spent that money?—In different houses all over the town.

5802. Was it spent in treating voters?—It was.

5803. You cannot say the particular dates, or the names of the voters?—No; I was all over the town; in all the public houses in the town pretty nearly.

5804. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you asked for the money, and got it?—I did; I wished to have the money, and one sovereign was given to me by Mr. Biggs, and the other by Mr. Webb, because I said I would not go out any more without having my 33*s.* or 34*s.* that I had spent, and they put their hands in their pockets and gave me a sovereign a piece.

5805. Did you mean to say you would not go and vote next day unless that was done?—No, because nothing would have kept me from voting.

5806. But that you would not go out and exert yourself?—Yes.

5807. Were the houses at which that money was spent the Greyhound, the Fountain, the Saracen's Head?—Not the Greyhound.

5808. The Fountain?—The Fountain; I might have spent a quart or two, or perhaps two or three.

5809. At the Saracen's Head?—Yes.

5810. The Berkeley Arms?—Whatever I spent there I spent on my own bottom.

5811. The Black Dog?—The Black Dog, I think, I was in during the election.

5812. Your own house?—That has nothing to do with it.

5813. What other houses?—I could not tell; many houses.

5814. Cannot you give me the names of any?—The Boar's Head.

5815. Where else?—Upon my word I could hardly tell you where; I was in so many that I cannot recollect.

5816. You must remember?—I was at most of the houses.

5817. Did you bribe any person with money?—I had nothing to do with that, with the exception of this: I tell you that I was with Mr. Jacobs the morning of the polling, and he had got two men who were going to vote for Price, and they would not go to vote till they had got the money, and he would not give the money till they had voted, and he said, "Well, if I give Will the money, will you go and vote?" and he put the money into my hand, which was 16*l.*; and when the men had went and voted I gave them the money as I had received it.

5818. Who were those persons?—John Hyett, and I think his name is William Cook, but I am not certain; it is a Cook.

5819. You were the money holder?—I was; I held the money for a few moments, till they went and polled.

5820. Did you give any money to a man named Lane?—I had no money to give him.

5821. Did he come to your house after the polling?—What Lane do you mean?

5822. Henry Lane?—I did not see him.

5823. Do you know whether he came to your house?—He did, I believe, but I was not at home.

5824. Do you know whether he left any money in your wife's hands?—I am sure he did not.

5825. Was any person with him?—Yes.

5826. Who was with him?—Wadley.

5827. Did he stop at your house after the polling?—He did; he came down in the evening after he had polled.

5828. How much money did he leave in your wife's hands?—I would not be certain; I think it was something like 2*l.* 10*s.*; I would not say for certain. I was not present.

5829. That was to keep for him, was it?—It was.

5830. Who handed the 16*l.* deposited with you by Jacobs to Hyett and Cook after they had voted?—I did.

5831. (*Mr. Welford.*) 8*l.* to each?—8*l.* But I have not done with Wadley. Wadley went to the House of Commons when the petition was on, and swore that I gave him 5*l.*, which I never did; I never gave him a farthing.

5832. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he say that before the committee that sat in this year 1859?—Yes; Wadley came to my house, and he said, "I want to get rid of Lane;" this Lane was a man put to look after this Wadley.

5833. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) By whom was Henry Lane put to look after Wadley?—By the party.

5834. Did he tell you by whom?—No, he did not.

5835. What did Wadley say to you?—He said, "I want to get rid of Lane." I said, "Why do you want to get rid of him?" He says, "We go and draw our money when we want it, and Lane," he says, "Harry Lane stops with me till I have spent all my money, and then he leaves me till I have got more, and now," he says, "I want to get rid of him." I did not ask him where he went to get money, but he went to somebody belonging to the Tory party and received five shillings at a time, as he wanted it, and Henry Lane did the same as he, and he would spend the money and get Wadley to spend his money, and then leave him altogether.

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W. Probert.
1 Oct. 1859.

5836. Did Wadley tell you he had received money from the Tory party ?—He did.

5837. And that Lane stopped his money and spent it in that way ?—Yes.

5838. And that was the reason why he wanted to get rid of Henry Lane ?—Yes.

5839. He asked you to take him somewhere ?—Yes.

5840. And what did you do ?—I said, "Will you come along with me, and I will take you somewhere."

5841. And did you ?—I did.

5842. Was that to the Nelson?—Yes, it was to the Nelson, about three miles out.

5843. At a place called Rudford, is it ?—Yes.

5844. And there you left him in charge of the landlord ?—I did.

5845. Is that all you that had to do with him ?—I brought him in with the Phelpses that morning, and he voted.

5846. Did you bring him in from the Nelson ?—No.

5847. Where from ?—From the Phelpses.

5848. Is that at Barber's Bridge ?—Yes.

5849. Do you undertake to swear that you did not yourself give any money at all ?—I do ; I had not a shilling to bribe on earth in my possession during the whole election.

5850. Do you know where the money came from, of which the 2*l.* 10*s.* was part that Wadley left with your wife ?—I understood last night—I never understood before—who gave the money.

5851. Who was it ?—Mr. William Roberts, of the Nelson ; he told me so last night. I always thought it was Mr. Bryon, of the Berkeley Arms, till last night. It was Mr. Roberts. I was not present when he received the money, and did not know who gave him the money till last night. I was not present at all.

5852. Do you know yourself any other circumstances connected with the election ?—Nothing at all.

5853. Any circumstances connected with the other side ?—Nothing at all.

5854. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) This man, John Wadley, voted for Price and Monk, did he not ?—He did.

5855. He said before the House of Commons you had given him 5*l.* ?—He did.

5856. (*Mr. Welford.*) And that is untrue, is it ?—It is.

W. Withers.

WILLIAM WITHERS sworn and examined.

5857. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—Well, sir, a Severn carrier, and I keep a beerhouse as well.

5858. Is that called the Lamb and Lark ?—No ; it is called the Anchor now.

5859. Was it called the Lamb and Lark formerly ?—Yes, before I took to it.

5860. You took a part in the last election ?—I did.

5861. For Messrs. Price and Monk ?—For Messrs. Price and Monk.

5862. What money passed through your hands ?—Well, sir, I think it was 17*l.* or 18*l.*

5863. Where did you get it from ?—I got it from Brewer Monk.

5864. What did you do with it ?—I bought two men.

5865. Who are they ?—Edwin Brown was one, or Edward Brown, I will not be certain which, in Quay Street.

5866. What is he ?—A boot and shoe maker.

5867. What did you give him ?—10*l.*

5868. For his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

5869. Did he vote for them ?—He did.

5870. Who was the other ?—Henry Hancock, of the Island.

5871. What is he ?—He is a labourer.

5872. What did you give him ?—5*l.*

5873. For his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

5874. Did he vote for them ?—He did.

5875. Did they promise you their votes without any hesitation ?—Well, sir, Henry Hancock was at a party when we had a meeting down at the Colliers' Arms (I think it is called the Colliers' Arms), and that evening there was some little dispute—I suppose he did not get sufficient beer and tobacco, or something of that kind—and he swore that he would vote for the Blue party. He came out of there, and no sooner than he did so than he was caught off in a fly, and took down to Jonah Dyer's, of the Three Cocks Inn.

5876. Who took him ?—Well, sir, I cannot say who took him. Him and his wife was taken off that same night ; how long they kept them I cannot say.

5877. Had you any conversation with him after that ?—Yes, after that I did, and he was taken after that, I believe, by John Ward and Clutterbuck over to Huntley, at the King's Head, I think. I think that is where he told me he was driven to by them.

5878. How long was that before the election ?—I cannot say as to the time ; I will not be positive as to the time.

5879. Was any offer made to him, did he tell you ?—He told me they made him an offer of 5*l.* for his vote, and they also wanted to keep him at the King's Head till the polling came on. I should think it was a week previous to the election.

5880. Did he tell you they had made an offer to him ?—Yes, he told me.

5881. Did you offer any other person any money ?—Yes.

5882. Did you give any money, except to these two people ?—No more than to three men that was on the committee ; I had to do with them.

5883. Do you mean messengers ?—Yes.

5884. Who were they ?—There was one William Cole, Henry Meadows, and George Woodward.

5885. What did you give them ?—William Cole had from me, from the 9th of April up to the 23rd, 18*s.* ; Henry Meadows had cash of me to the amount of 8*s.*—9*s.* 3*d.* I mean to say; and George Woodward had 8*s.*

5886. What did you pay them that money for ?—They were on the committee, and they did act upon the committee ; they took out several circulars, and that sort of thing, but they hung a good deal at my house.

5887. They were a good deal of the time at your house ?—A portion of the time they were there.

5888. Taking beer and tobacco ?—Yes, they were all taking beer and tobacco ; I can give you the amount.

5889. Did they pay you for what they had ?—No, they did not.

5890. Who did ?—No one paid me ; in fact, it was to have been deducted out from what they were paid as messengers.

5891. What was the amount ?—Henry Meadows 18*s.*, and William Cole 16*s.* 7*d.*, George Woodward 4*s.* 2½*d.*, and there was one man I have left out that I will give you ; that is a man by the name of William Merrett.

5892. Was that money paid to them for their votes ?—The fact was like this,—it was a sort of kidnapping ; if you let these men drop on one side, they had them on the other.

5893. If they were not employed as messengers on the one side, they would take them on the other ?—Yes, I believe all these men I am stating now were paid by the other side.

5894. Instead of rendering service at the committee room they were on service at your house, drinking ale and smoking tobacco ?—They were not always at my house, but I had to hunt them to get them to do any sort of business. The fact was, it was wanted to bring them within the meaning of the law, I suppose.

5895. Besides these different persons whose names

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you have mentioned, you offered bribes to parties, did you not?—Yes, I did, to Benjamin Harrison.

5896. How much did you offer him?—He had been at Jonah Dyer's, at the Three Cocks, a good deal, and he had always been at my house a good deal, and the fact was he said, "I voted for the Liberal parties in 1857, and never had a glass of beer in that election, and I am determined at this election to make the parties as have me pay for it." On the night before the election, I made an arrangement with him to see him at about a quarter before eight on the polling morning, and he said, "Well, nothing short of 8*l.* will do for me, for that is what I can have of the Conservative party, but as I voted for the Liberal party before I would rather do so now." Well, after that I walked out of his house, and I said, "Well, I cannot do that, for that is rather too much money." I went down the street and considered over the matter, whether I could not get the man cheaper or not; and I had no sooner walked out of the house, than in five minutes he bolted off, and they took him over to the Blue committee room, and polled him.

5897. Do you happen to know who took him off?—I understood a party of the name of William Maysey, junior, was the man that was with him, but I think there are other parties connected with these affairs who will prove to you who it was that took him to the committee room.

5898. You offered 8*l.* to that man Benjamin Harrison; did you offer that money to him for his vote?—I did.

5899. For Price and Monk?—For Price and Monk.

5900. Who besides did you offer money to?—There is a man named Merrett; I should wish to give some little explanations over that party.

5901. Was he a messenger?—He was a messenger; he had some little beer; he stated that at the House of Commons; he was drinking at my place, but he had but a small quantity there.

5902. Did you offer any money to him?—No, I did not; but he came down to my house and had several pints of beer; I think it was six; I will not be certain—six pints of ale; and in coming up to my place one evening, who should be standing in the middle of the street, watching my place, but Alderman Whithorn and Jonah Dyer, and who the other man was talking to Alderman Whithorn I cannot say; but I see this man Merrett go to Alderman Whithorn and the other party; they were talking and conversing some time, what about I cannot say, but I watched his movements, and I found him go right across to the committee room. He comes out of the committee room after, and he tells me, "Here," says he, "that is the way," says he, "that I draw the Tories; the fact is, I mean to lodge upon them, and I shall vote for the two Liberal candidates. Here is half-a-crown I have just received from them out of the committee room." Then after that I thought it was time to get rid of him. He came down to my house two or three times afterwards, but I had nothing further to do with him.

5903. You had nothing more to do with him?—No, not previous to the election.

5904. Were there any other persons?—There is William Cole; I do not think I have explained about him.

5905. Was he another messenger?—Yes; the reason that I got rid of that man was this, that he wanted to know "the name of the child," he said; I said, "Well, I have no authority to name any price to you," for I was not aware there was any money to bribe parties with; and he said, "Well, if you cannot do nothing for me, I must go over on the other side," and I believe that day he went down to Alderman Whithorn. That is his version of the story to me, and he there with Meadows had some wine, and they gave Meadows 4*s.* and 2*s.*—they gave this to Cole to go to Robin Hood's Hill for that day. Well, they did not go to Robin Hood's Hill that day; they kept out of the road of Mr. Whithorn for that day.

5906. Did he make you afterwards any communication?—He told me the amount he had received of the Conservative party, but I cannot give you exactly the amount. He was on our committee up to the 23d of April, and he was put back; as soon as he introduced himself to the Blue Committee room he was referred back, and Whithorn takes out a book and dates him back, I believe, a fortnight or something of that, and he told me himself he had received 2*l.* 9*s.* from Mr. Lovegrove for his services as a messenger.

5907. That is what he told you?—Yes.

5908. Now as to Henry Meadows; what is he?—A fruiterer, or costermonger, or something; he was on our committee.

5909. As what?—As a messenger.

5910. Till when?—I believe he was one from the 9th of April up to the 23d, with William Cole, the same time.

5911. Did he leave?—Yes, he left on the 23d with Cole. He went down to Whithorn's office in Bell Lane.

5912. Did he tell you this?—He told me this. He has told me this since the election committee, and I believe it to be true myself; he went down to Whithorn and received 4*s.* of him and a drop of wine, and I believe he received different sums of him since that.

5913. Has he told you what he has received in respect of the election?—No, he has not told me the amount. He did tell me the amount, but I forget it; however, I know he told me he had an amount for his vote for the Conservatives.

5914. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he vote for the Conservatives?—Yes, he voted for Carden.

5915. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer any money at all to Meadows?—No, that is the reason they left me, because I was not in a position to offer them any money for their votes; but I believe his wife mostly managed the bribing affair with Whithorn.

5916. Why were you not in a position to offer him money?—I was not aware there would be any bribery carried on. This was the construction I put upon it: I thought, we employ as many messengers as we possibly can, and they do the same, and the more messengers we get we shall win the election; I did not think these men would want to be paid as messengers and have to be bribed afterwards.

5917. But you bribed yourself two men?—Yes, I did so when I found it was bound to be the case; but I was not in a position to say I would bribe them on the 23d. You see these men left me on the 23d, because they could get no answer from me what I should give them.

5918. It was only at the election that you bribed these other persons, when you found it was necessary?—Yes.

5919. Before that, you thought it would be confined to bribing them as messengers?—I thought that the men that were employed as messengers would not look for a bribe.

5920. You thought the payment made to them as messengers would be sufficient to secure their votes?—Exactly. There is another man I must give you, a man named Henry James Wilkins; I think he is a freeman; he lives in Southgate Street.

5921. What is he?—A sailmaker.

5922. A freeman?—Yes; that party came to me, and asked me if I could get him put on the committee. I said, "Well, I have no authority to do so, but I will do what I can to put you on the committee;" and I spoke to Brewer Monk about it, and he said, "Well, if you think he is right, put him on the committee; I will enter him on the committee, if you think the man is worth his hire." That was as much as to say, if he will vote for Price and Monk. Well, he came to my house and had several pints of beer, and he said, "Are you certain I am on the committee?" I said, "I believe you are;" and I think, as I was going down the street somewhere, Mr. Maysey, seeing me with him talking to the man, gets hold of him, and next day after the man comes to me, and says, "You must take me off the com-

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W. Withers.

1 Oct. 1859.

mittee; I cannot have anything to do with being on the committee."

5923. Why?—He said, "Well, the morning I go to the poll I like to have my money all of a lump."

5924. Where did he say he should get the money from?—I expect he is a man that has always been bribed by the Conservatives, that is my opinion of him. I believe he voted for the Conservatives, and the fact is he gets his living, I think, principally out of the Liberal party at the Docks.

5925. Have you any further information to give about that voter?—I know no more of him than that.

5926. He did not tell you how much money he was to have?—No; he gave me broad hints, but I was not in a position to say anything.

5927. Have you heard how much he received?—No, I cannot say; I believe he voted for Carden.

5928. Is there any other name you can mention?—Not to the best of my belief.

5929. (*Mr. Welford.*) You received no more money?—No.

5930. And paid no more?—The fact is this, that down at the Admiral Benbow's Inn, there was a meeting of the party, and several friends were there, and I paid, I think, for what was had there.

5931. How much was that?—It was something under a sovereign, but I will not be certain what the amount was.

5932. Were they voters?—Some were voters, and some were non-voters.

5933. And you have not been repaid that?—No, I have not been repaid it. I received between 17*l.* and 18*l.* of Monk; I am not certain of the amount; but the fact is, that when parties were so fierce in the battle, I did not trouble about a shilling or two myself out of my own pocket.

W. Hall.

WILLIAM HALL sworn and examined.

5934. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a grocer, living in Gloucester?—I am.

5935. You were actively engaged on behalf of the Liberal candidate, at the last election, were you not?—I was not actively engaged, but I met several times the committee in Northgate Street, but I did not take an active part at all.

5936. You were on the committee?—I was chosen as one, but I do not consider I acted as such.

5937. Did you pay away any money at the election, as bribes for the votes of any electors?—I did not.

5938. Did you pay away money at all?—Not any at all. I will make a statement, if you please. I received a sum of money for the purpose of bribery.

5939. How much did you receive?—13*l.* 10*s.* I think it was; it was 13*l.* or 13*l.* 10*s.* I rather think it was 13*l.*

5940. Was that from Brewer Monk?—No; it came from Mr. John Wilton, but I received it from the hands of a Mr. Roberts, an attorney; it came out of Mr. Wilton's hands into Mr. Roberts's.

5941. You received 13*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Wilton, through Roberts?—Yes; I considered it was from Mr. Wilton.

5942. For the purpose of bribery?—For the purpose of bribery.

5943. Who did you bribe with that money?—I did not pay any of it myself, I took it home and put it on the mantelpiece.

5944. Who did pay it away?—My wife gave it to the parties.

5945. Your wife gave how much?—6*l.* 1*s.* or 6*l.* 10*s*, I am not certain which, to Mrs. Peters, Arthur Peters's wife.

5946. She gave it to her for her husband?—Of course I considered it was for her husband.

5947. That was for her husband's vote?—Yes, it was.

5948. For Price and Monk?—For Price and Monk.

5949. Had you previously agreed with Peters that he should receive that money for his vote?—That same morning, about eight o'clock, or between eight and nine, he came for a bushel of flour to my shop, and I told him he had better vote; I had partly engaged with the wife before; but I do not think I said a word to Peters about the money, for he would not say anything about it.

5950. Did you agree with the wife for the price you should pay for the vote?—I think it was the wife.

5951. He was a tenant of yours?—He was.

5952. At the election?—At the election.

5953. Who was the other person?—Mrs. Edwards, Peter Edwards's wife.

5954. What is her name?—I do not know her Christian name.

5955. How much did you pay to her?—It was in the same way through the wife, six sovereigns.

5956. Was that by previous agreement between you and her?—It was the very same morning, done almost momentarily, for the other party was waiting at the door and teasing them, so that they could have no rest or quietness, and I took them away to vote. They were dragging them, one one way and another another.

5957. Did you agree with Peter Edwards's wife to give her six sovereigns for her husband's vote?—I did not promise the exact sum; they wanted 8*l.*, and I said I would get what I could. I think she told me the other party would give 8*l.* or 10*l.* They followed me down close to the polling booth, the Tory party did; I had hard work to go down and get the man there.

5958. Did he poll?—Yes.

5959. Why had you hard work to get down?—Because they kept pulling him about, trying to get him away from me.

5960. Who tried to get him away?—There was one man in particular, I think his name is Berry, who would not let him go along at all.

5961. What is he?—A plasterer. He is employed by the party to do a little dirty work I think sometimes.

5962. Did you see any person with him?—There was a great many people of the party standing at every corner of the street, watching every voter that went by, trying to entice them away if they could.

5963. Did those two persons that you have mentioned vote for Price and Monk?—They did both of them.

5964. Do you swear those were the only two parties who were bribed through your agency?—There is another.

5965. Who is the third?—I do not consider it bribery; it was a sovereign; the man's name is Bossam, a freeman.

5966. You paid him one sovereign?—No, I did not pay it him, it was done just in the same way as the other was.

5967. What was the sovereign paid for?—He borrowed a sovereign for his little girl, to make his little girl a present of it. Of course he had it for his vote, but he himself did not consider he sold his vote for that sovereign.

5968. So far as you are concerned, the sovereign was given him for his vote?—Yes.

5969. For Price and Monk?—He voted for Monk and Carden, I think.

5970. Did you pay him the sovereign for his vote for the Liberal candidates?—Only for one.

5971. For whom?—I think it was Monk, but I am not certain, it was either the one or the other.

5972. Do you know Bossam's Christian name?—I do not; he is a servant to a gentleman.

5973. Where does he live?—In Westgate-street. I was walking down Westgate-street, in the course of the election, and a person named Smart, a bookbinder,

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—Smart, senior,—followed me down the street, and he said he intended to vote for those that would do the most or the best for him; and he wanted to know if I could do anything for him or with him. I told him I did not know; that I was not authorized to do anything, but that I would speak to the party for him; and, to know if I could offer him anything, I asked him what he wanted. He said he should be able to get 10*l.*; I said, "Will you take eight" (or words to that effect), "if I can get an offer for that amount?" I said I would try if I could get 8*l.*

5974. He said he could get 10*l.*?—I am not sure whether he said 8*l.* or 10*l.*

5975. Did he say where he should be able to get it?—From the Tory party.

5976. Did you give him to understand, that if he would vote for Price and Monk, you would get 8*l.* for him?—If I could get it; I did not offer it to him; in fact, I did not know there was going to be any bribery; I had no suspicion of it; I had not heard of it at that time at all. This was a week or ten days before the election.

5977. Did you afterwards see him?—Yes, I saw him many times; he hunted me about day by day to know if I had spoken to anybody, and if I could get this money for him; and, I believe, I named it at the committee at Hutton's, but no person would give me any answer, and I could not find out that a halfpenny was to be given away.

5978. Did you offer him any money afterwards?—The night before the election he came down; he came several times after the nomination was over; he came down at nearly eleven o'clock; I was gone out, and my wife saw him and told him to come early in the morning, and he came by six o'clock. I told him I could not get any information. I said, I had not heard that there was going to be anything given, and that I could get no information. He then said he should go over to the other party, if I could not give him an answer. He followed me about from place to place, and at last I told him I could not find him any money, and I have since heard that he went to his son, and that he took him to the Blue committee room, and whether he got anything there, or whether he voted or no, I do not know. This was the morning of the election.

5979. Do you remember going to the smoking parlour of the King William public house?—I do.

5980. And there offering people 10*l.* a piece?—I went in in a jocular way (I knew they were all Tories) and said, "Here, I will give you 10*l.* a piece if you will come over with me;" it was meant as a joke, and it was taken so at the time.

5981. There were a number of electors there?—Yes, drinking and carousing away; in fact, they were so drunk at last that they were obliged to get two policemen to turn them out of doors, and by my saying that, a man there says to me, "If you will vote for our party I will give you 20*l.*"

5982. You say the offers which you made to those parties were only made in joke?—Only so, and it was taken as such; but some of the parties were sent for to Mr. Lovegrove's office to speak against me before the Committee of the House of Commons, and they would not go; some did go, and perjured themselves too when they were there.

5983. It is stated that you represented you had a sum of 250*l.* on the morning of the polling day, and that you had spent it all?—Not on that morning; I wish to finish the King William first. The owner of the house, Mr. Hanman, was subpœnaed to London, and gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, and I believe he swore that he saw in my purse from 30 to 40 sovereigns. Now here is the bag that I had in my pocket, which they call a purse (*producing it*), he said there were 40 sovereigns in it. Now at any time that day, or the day following. I never had more than from 10*l.* to 12*l.* in my possession. I can bring two different parties in the house belonging to the Tories that will justify what I am saying. The greatest amount I had in my purse was, I believe, 10*l.* or 11*l.*, but I go as far as 14*l.*

5984. When you went into the public house, was it a fact that you had 40 sovereigns in that purse?—I think I had from 10 to 12, I say 14 at the outside. He swore there were 30 or 40.

5985. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pull out your purse?—Yes; I know I paid for some ale or liquors for different parties, as well as myself. I only went to see who was there and to have a bit of a joke. I went to other houses after and before, and generally, I believe, they were Tory houses.

5986. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you in your possession on the morning of the polling day 250*l.*?—I never had more than 12*l.* I do not think I had above 10*l.* at any time of the day.

5987. Is it true that you said to Mr. John Ward that you had 250*l.*?—After the election was over, or after they considered it was lost, I was walking up Westgate Street with Mr. Ward, and we went to the Greyhound, and I believe I might have said something to this purpose: "We have beat you," or "We can beat you at any time when we have got the stuff. I have spent 250*l.* myself." Whatever I said, it was only in joke, and I believe Mr. Ward, at this moment, believes firmly it was a joke, and nothing but a joke, though it was made so much of before the Committee of the House of Commons. Many jokes have passed from time to time, and I am certain that if Mr. Ward speaks the truth, he will not say but what he considered it a joke, for he must think me a fool to tell him I had spent 250*l.* if I had done so, and I should think him a fool if he believed it. I was spending my time with people of the Conservative party nearly all day. I do not think I was with our own party ten minutes through the whole day.

5988. Do you know a person named John Lane, a plasterer?—I do.

5989. Did you offer 15*l.* to him?—Yes, just in the same way; it was at Mr. Jenkins's; we were joking all together there, and I said "I will give you 15*l.*" I had no authority, and I had no money to give to any one; it was all done in a jocular way. I think Mr. Lane had better hold his tongue, for I believe if I had done what he had done I should stand in a very different position to what I do; for he told me himself he took up five to poll.

5990. You did offer John Lane 15*l.*?—I think I did; but Mr. Lane himself knows it was nothing but a joke, and he took it as such. We had a bet about the election, and I won a sovereign of him, and I suppose he was not very well pleased about it.

5991. Did you offer him that money for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

5992. You represent that as a joke?—Yes; and it was taken so by the whole company, and they will tell you so, I am sure.

5993. You are a grocer in this town?—I am.

5994. And you have property, have you not?—Yes.

5995. Houses?—Yes; if I had taken an active part in the election, I have no doubt, with the interest I have, I should have been able to get many votes,—Tory votes that I never asked,—through my own influence; but I never asked for one, except those I have named.

5996. Do you know a person named Simmonds?—I do.

5997. Mrs. Simmonds?—Yes.

5998. Did you tell Mrs. Simmonds that if her husband would vote for Price and Monk, he was to call at your house and he would have 10*l.*?—No, not 10*l.*; this was at the King William, when I made the offer to them all—"If you will vote, I will give you 10*l.* apiece."

5999. I am speaking of the morning of the election. Did you tell Mrs. Simmonds that if her husband would vote for Price and Monk, and would come to your house, he should have 10*l.*?—I may have said

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W. Hall.
1 Oct. 1859.

so, but I do not believe I did. I swear it is my belief that I did not.

6000. You would be able to recollect, surely, whether you did or did not say that. Did you see Mrs. Simmonds?—I do not recollect. I had to pass her door several times that morning, but I do not remember seeing her. I would tell you in a moment, if I did.

6001. Are we to understand that you did or that you did not?—I would not swear that I did not; I should be very sorry to; but I do not believe I did.

6002. Did you see, the night before the election, Mrs. Hanman?—I see her almost every night. I might have seen her then.

6003. Did you see her daughter and Mr. Hanman?—Yes.

6004. Did you tell them, the night before the election, that you had 250*l.* to be spent on the election?—I do not believe I did. In fact, I am certain I could not have said so, because I had no such a sum, and had no promise of it, and I did not know that a shilling was to be spent. I was in the house till late the night after the election was over, with Mrs. Hanman, Mr. Hanman, and Mr. Halcombe; till twelve at night, I suppose.

6005. Are those statements that you made as to the possession of this 250*l.* wholly untrue?—Wholly untrue; it is a farce altogether; and I believe that every person thinks so, Whigs and Tories.

6006. It is not advisable to joke too much?—No; I have been held up to scorn too much; I hope it will teach me a lesson as long as I live. I do not know whether you will allow me to make a few observations in connexion with the evidence given before the Committee of the House of Commons, on two or three points.

6007. Do you wish to contradict any part?—Yes.

6008. What part?—Peters and his wife swore they received the money, I think, of me; I say that they did not; I never gave them a halfpenny, either of them; they said before they went to London, previous to going, it was my wife bribed them, and they went there and swore, I think, that it was me. Now, I believe that they would never have sworn as they did in London if ——

6009. You had better not make any observation as to what they would have sworn; it is enough for you to contradict their statement?—The next is Henry Smart, junior; he swore that he saw me offer or give Peter Edwards 5*l.*; you will have Peter Edwards before you, who will swear that I never offered him a farthing.

6010. You had better confine yourself to any denial of your own, without telling us what Peter Edwards will swear?—What I have stated is true with regard to bribing Peter Edwards; therefore Henry Smart must have said what was not true, because I never gave Peter Edwards a farthing till after the election was over; when it was over, I said, "You have acted like a trump; here is 9*d.*, go and have three pints of ale." That is all the money or the promise I ever gave to the man. The next point is with regard to Mr. Ward. Mr. Ward and I have often been joking together, and this here about the 250*l.* was a complete joke. Mr. Ward went to London and gave evidence as if he believed it to be true; and my name has been in all the papers, and made as much of as if I had been the greatest briber in the world; I never bribed a person in my life until this time, and I hope this will be the last. I think the way in which I have been treated by our Gloucester papers, particularly by the "Gloucester Chronicle," has been more than I deserve. In regard to my bribing, I should like to say a few words. I should never have contemplated bribing at all, but the way in which the Tory party was acting induced me to do what I should not otherwise have done; they used all manner of endeavours to entice voters, and get them away from our party; they even went and dragged people out of their houses into flies, and took them away.

6011. Is that within your own knowledge?—In one particular case.

6012. What case is that?—A man named Wathen, a freeman up at St. Margaret's Hospital Almshouses, a poor old cripple, nearly blind; I believe he was in a public house, having some refreshment or something to drink; he was in a public house.

6013. When was that?—That was the day of the nomination.

6014. What occurred?—Parties went in. Obadiah Clutterbuck, who keeps the Dolphin, and one or two others, went in and dragged him out by force, almost dragged his clothes off his back, and took him away in a fly, and kept him away. I believe he did not vote at all; at all events he did not vote for Sir Robert, though they dragged him away.

6015. Who was with Mr. Clutterbuck at that time?—I think it was a person of the name of Leach.

6016. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is Leach's Christian name?—I do not know; and I considered that conduct of theirs and what was going on was an inducement for us to do something, that we might not lose the election; that was the reason that induced me to do what I did.

6017. Did you take any part in the previous election?—I had no vote then.

Adjourned to Monday, at ten o'clock.

Seventh Day.—3d October 1859.

H. Jacobs.
3 Oct. 1859.

HARRY JACOBS called, and further examined.

6018. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you prepared the list which you promised to hand in to the Commissioners?—Yes. (*Producing it.*)

6019. Does that list contain the names of the persons to whom you gave money?—Yes, and their addresses. (*The list is put in.*)

J. E. Roberts.

JOHN EDMUND ROBERTS sworn and examined.

6020. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A solicitor.

6021. Were you employed for the Liberal candidates at the last election?—I do not know that I was employed by anybody specially.

6022. Did you receive anything for your services?—25*l.*

6023. From whom?—From Mr. Bretherton.

6024. What money passed through your hands during the election?—I received from Mr. Thomas Robinson 15*l.*

6025. Who is Mr. Thomas Robinson?—He is a corn merchant. I received from him 15*l.*, which I paid to a person named Lea for the purchase of votes.

6026. Did you receive any other money?—Yes; I received altogether about 40*l.* or 43*l.*

6027. Tell me the names of the persons from whom

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you received that money. You say you received 15*l.* from Thomas Robinson ?—Yes; from Mr. Thomas Robinson for a person of the name of William Lea, of Alvin Street.

6028. Tell me the next sum of money you received, and from whom ?—Perhaps I had better tell you the gross amount I received of Robinson, and then to whom I paid it. I received about 43*l.* as near as I can recollect from Mr. Robinson.

6029. Did you receive any money from any other person ?—No ; I do not remember having received any other sum.

6030. Who did you pay that money to ?—I paid William Lea 15*l.* for the purchase of votes.

6031. Where does William Lea live ?—In Alvin Street. I paid also 6*l.* to a man named Cole for the purchase of votes.

6032. What is his Christian name ?—William.

6033. Where does he live ?—In Northgate Street.

6034. How much did you pay to him ?—6*l.*

6035. Was that for his vote ?—No ; for the purchase of votes ; and to a man named Pugh, 16*l.* 10*s.*

6036. What is his Christian name ?—I do not know.

6037. Where does he live ?—In St. Aldate Street, Gloucester.

6038. How much did you pay to him ?—16*l.* 10*s.*

6039. For what purpose ?—For the purchase of votes. I think part of that was for the expenses of a voter coming from Stroud.

6040. Who was the next ?—8*l.* for the purchase of votes to Mr. John Goold, a carrier.

6041. Now the next ?—To John Mills, of Worcester Street, Gloucester, 6*l.* for the purchase of votes ; and to a man named Stacey.

6042. What is his Christian name ?—I do not remember.

6043. Where does he live ?—At Worcester Parade.

6044. Is he a voter ?—I do not know.

6045. How much did you pay to him ?—1*l.* for treating, and to William Smith, of Worcester Street, Gloucester, 10*s.*

6046. What is he ?—A wheelwright.

6047. What was that for ?—For treating. Those are all, as nearly as I can remember.

6048. Do those sums you have given me exhaust that sum of 43*l.* ?—I believe they do. I also paid to Mr. William Hall, for Mr. Wilton, 13*l.* 10*s.*

6049. You mean to represent that you were only the channel through which this money flowed ?—Yes.

6050. Did you know at the time you paid that money to Mr. William Lea, what were the votes that were to be purchased ?—No ; I do not recollect. I believe I did ask him at the time who he wanted it for, but I do not remember who it was now.

6051. But at the time you did know ?—Yes, I believe so.

6052. Did you know for whose vote or for whose votes Mr. Cole was to receive 6*l.* ?—I believe I did at the time, but I no not remember now. I think I may say the same with respect to all of them.

6053. At the time you knew the names of the parties for whose votes the money was obtained ?—Yes; those are as near as I can state at present the sums of money I received that I conveyed to other parties for the purchase of votes or for treating.

6054. Did you receive your instructions from Mr. Robinson to take that money and hand it to those different parties ?—The parties came to me and said they wanted money, and then I went to Mr. Robinson and asked him for these sums of money, and he gave them to me.

6055. You went to Mr. Robinson and got what you required ?—Yes ; I believe he paid me a sum of money on the evening previous to the election, on the day of the nomination.

6056. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In addition ?—No.

6057. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Robinson paid you part of this money on the evening of the nomination ?—Yes.

6058. Did you know who was to be treated with the 1*l.* you paid to Stacey ?—No.

6059. Did you know who was to be treated with the 10*s.* you paid to Smith ?—No.

6060. At what committee room or district committee room was it that you acted ?—I acted on the day previous to the election at the north district committee room ; but on the day of the election I acted at the general committee room. I may state that I was very frequently there, and I never saw Mr. Innell there during the whole of the time.

6061. Did you canvass any voters ?—Yes ; I canvassed an out-district of voters.

6062. Which out district was that ?—Newent, Rudford, Ashelworth, and Hartpury.

6063. Did you canvass many voters in those places ?—I should think about a dozen altogether ; there might not be so many.

6064. Did you receive from the voters in those districts intimations that they would require to be paid for their votes ?—I do not remember having received any intimation of it. I think there was some conversation with Samuel Wilkes, of Hartpury ; but what it was I do not remember.

6065. You do not remember what that conversation was ?—I do not remember it.

6066. Did you yourself bribe any voters ?—No, not any.

6067. Do you know of any person having been bribed except the persons whose votes were obtained through the medium of these different parties to whom you gave the money ?—No, I do not remember any. I may mention that two men named Cooke and Hyett applied to me for money ; I believe they wanted 8*l.*, which they afterwards reduced to 5*l.*, but I declined to give it to them, and they went away, and I believe they were afterwards bribed by some other person.

6068. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) On your side ?—I believe they voted for the liberals. A man named Woodward applied to me also for money ; I think he said he wanted 5*l.* or 8*l.*, I do not remember which. It was George Woodward. He remained some time, and I declined to give it to him ; he afterwards went away and polled for the Conservatives.

6069. Have you any other communication to make ?—I do not remember anything more. I believe those are the sums I received, and which I conveyed between the parties ; but I will not positively swear, for my memory does not serve me exactly at present.

6070. (*Mr. Welford.*) You knew the purpose for which those sums were required ?—Yes.

6071. You have stated that they were for the purchase of votes ?—Yes.

6072. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were there canvass books kept in which the returns were entered ?—There was a canvass book in which the promises were entered.

6073. In that canvass book were not the names of those voters who expected bribes entered ?—No ; the canvass book contained the names of voters who we were to call upon, and then we put down the effect of their promises, whether for Price, or for Monk, or for Carden.

6074. What I want to know is, whether in this canvass book, which was in your custody, any entries were made or any marks put against the names of those persons who expected bribes ?—Not in the canvass books ; there were slips of paper handed in by the parties, against which were entered certain sums of money.

6075. What became of them ?—I believe I had some of them, and destroyed them soon after the election. Mr. Isacke also had some, which he stated in his evidence he destroyed.

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W. P. Price.

3 Oct. 1859.

WILLIAM PHILIP PRICE sworn and examined.

6076. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were one of the members for this city ?—Yes.

6077. Do you remember being one Sunday evening at the Reform Club in London ?—Yes, perfectly.

6078. The Sunday before the division took place on Lord John Russell's Amendment ?—That I do not remember ; it was the Sunday after the first Speaker's levee. I never remained in town on a Sunday, except on the occasion of attending the Speaker's levee. I think it was the first levee of the session.

6079. It is fixed by Mr. Wilton as being the evening of the Sunday before the division took place on Lord John Russell's Amendment ?—I have no doubt it was so, but I do not remember the fact.

6080. On that occasion was Mr. Moffatt present ?—Yes.

6081. Was Mr. Innell there ?—Yes.

6082. And Mr. Wilton ?—Yes.

6083. And Mr. Monk also ?—Mr. Monk was sitting in the hall of the Reform Club ; he was not in the room where Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Wilton, and Mr. Innell were.

6084. Did you go into the room where Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Wilton, and Mr. Innell were ?—Yes, I did. I had just returned from dining with a friend ; it was late at night, and I was told that Mr. Moffatt was in what is called the audience room of the club, wishing to see me ; and I went in there to see him.

6085. You did not go there by appointment ?—No. I went because the porter said that Mr. Moffatt was in the audience room, and wished to see me. I had seen Mr. Moffatt before on the same day, and Mr. Wilton also.

6086. In the course of the conversation which took place between you, was there anything said as to the money that would be required for the contest at Gloucester ?—Yes, there was.

6087. What was said ?—I was only a very short time in the room. Mr. Moffatt said that he would like to speak to me, and we went out into the large hall of the Reform Club. I almost think it will be better that I should tell you, I had seen Mr. Wilton and Mr. Innell there in the morning ; they called upon me before I was up. I think they had come up by the mail train on the Saturday night. I did not get down to breakfast that morning till ten o'clock, when I saw them. They said they had come up in consequence of Sir Maurice Berkeley having declined to come forward, in order to get, if they could, some other candidate ; and they asked me if I would name one. I said I would not take upon myself to nominate a person who was to be my colleague, but I named two or three gentlemen who, I believed, would be willing to stand ; and I also gave them a note to Sir William Hayter, who, I thought, would be able to give them some other names. I think our interview did not last ten minutes. I saw them again in the afternoon, after, as they said, they had seen Sir William Hayter, and they said they had considered all the different names that had been suggested to them, and thought that Mr. Monk was the candidate most likely to be adopted in Gloucester. I said, I was very glad to hear that, because he was a friend of mine, and I should be very glad to see him representing the city. Lord Monk happened to come into the Reform Club at the time, and I told him what had taken place. He said, "Why, I have only just left Monk at the 'Travellers,' next door ; let me go and fetch him in." In two or three minutes from that time he returned with Mr. Monk, and I left them talking in the hall with Sir William Hayter, who had come in in the meantime. I observed, when I was reading, for the first time, some of the evidence to day, in the newspaper, that some questions had been asked as to Mr. Parkes ; and I think it right to say, that Mr. Parkes happened to come into the club at that time, and being intimate with him I went and spoke to him. I believe that was the first, and almost the only thing, Mr. Parkes had to do with it until he was asked by Sir William Hayter to take charge of the money, which I will speak to presently. I think it right to mention that, because there does seem to be some impression that Mr. Parkes had something to do with this transaction, whereas I do not believe he had anything to do with the matter, and, therefore, he ought not to lie under the suspicion of it. I was going out to dine with a friend, and left them all together, as I have stated in the Reform Club. When I returned, the porter said that Mr. Moffatt was in the audience room with some gentlemen, and would like to see me. I saw him, and he told me that Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton had proposed to him, as Mr. Monk's friend, that Mr. Monk should come down to contest the city, and he said something about the expenses. He said, "They say the expenses of the two candidates should not exceed 1,200*l.*" I do not think he said any more in that room, but he went out with me into the hall, and he then said to me that they had been considering something about the mode in which these expenses should be divided ; and he said, I think, that there were two principles upon which a division might be made.

6088. Mr. Moffatt and yourself were in the hall apart from the others ?—Yes.

6089. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who told you that the expenses would be 1,200*l.* ?—Mr. Moffatt. I understood the question of the Chief Commissioner applied to Mr. Moffatt. He told me he understood that they would not exceed 1,200*l.*, and that there were two principles upon which the whole expenses might be divided. I am not very clear as to what part of this conversation took place in the room ; but, certainly, the greater part of it was in the hall.

6090. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you to say, that part of the conversation which you are now narrating may have taken place in the room where all the other gentlemen were together ?—No doubt it might. There is no doubt my principal conversation with Mr. Moffatt was in the hall, but I was in the room with the other two gentlemen four or five minutes, and some part of the conversation probably did take place there. Mr. Moffatt said, "There are two principles upon which these expenses may be divided. You may either divide them equally, your seat being made safe ; or they may be divided, Mr. Monk bearing a larger proportion than yourself, and each taking his own chance." I said that I objected to the first mode, because I did not believe in the first place that my seat was in any danger ; in the second place, if it was in any danger I did not believe that it was in the power of anybody to guarantee it ; and in the third place, I said I had always observed in fighting battles of that kind that there was a great loss of electoral strength when you made up your mind at the beginning who you meant to win with, and that I thought the only way in fighting such battles was for each to take his own chance ; that was the principle I had always observed ; and, therefore, I led him to suppose that I preferred that mode of dealing with the expenses.

6091. Did you intend to represent to him that you would rather stand upon your own foundation, and let Mr. Monk contest the election on his own foundation without reference to yourself ?—I ought to explain upon that point that I was at that time very much in the condition of poor Mr. Henley, who was walking about with a mask on his face, for I had really no intention to stand at all. I had it in contemplation to retire from Parliament. I was in correspondence with Mr. Ellis and Mr. Swann, and also with other parties, but chiefly with them, as to my intention of retiring ; I was consulting them as to the best mode in which the announcement should be made, and the time at which it should be made ; and as we had not determined that, I was not in a condition to tell these gentlemen what was passing in my mind, I was therefore obliged rather to allow it to be assumed that I

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intended to stand, though in fact I did not intend to stand at all.

6092. You did not tell Mr. Moffatt you did not intend to stand?—No; I could not tell them that which I had not then made public in Gloucester.

6093. That, I understand you to say, was the feeling in your mind at the moment?—Certainly; it was not only my feeling, but it was my positive intention, as can be proved to you by the witnesses I have named, Mr. Swann and Mr. Ellis.

6094. At the time, when you had the conversation of which you have spoken at the Reform Club, was anything said about the amount of the expenses beyond that which you have stated?—I do not recollect that a word more passed upon the subject. I think, on one occasion, this was stated, that a calculation or a sort of programme had been made as to what the expenses would be, bringing it out to 1,200*l.*; and what I understood them to say was, that 1,200*l.* would be the probable amount; but I think that some one, either Mr. Wilton, Mr. Innell, or Mr. Moffatt said, "But at all events, they will not exceed 1,500*l.*"

6095. Did you tell Mr. Moffatt how much you thought the election would cost Mr. Monk?—I did.

6096. How much did you think it would cost him?—Mr. Moffatt was consulted by Mr. Monk, and not knowing much about Gloucester, he naturally enough consulted me, and asked me what was the political condition of Gloucester, what were the prospects of success for Mr. Monk, and what I thought the expenses of the election would be? I expressed a clear opinion as to the political condition of Gloucester, and as to Mr. Monk's prospects of success. As to the expenses I said, "I cannot tell you what Mr. Monk's may be, but I can tell you what mine have been, and from that you may draw your own inference." I told him my first election in 1852 had cost a little over 800*l.*, which included a sum of 125*l.*, I think, which I gave to the Mayor to distribute among different charities, in place of being chaired, to which I had a great objection. I said that my election in 1857 had cost about 350*l.*; that I did not suppose Mr. Monk would be able to contest the city at quite as little expense as myself, by reason of not having the same local connexion with it that I had; but that I thought that 500*l.* was about the sum his election ought to cost.

6097. You did not say from 500*l.* to 1000*l.*?—No; I said, "You may draw your inference from what I have told you, but my own opinion is, that 500*l.* is what Mr. Monk's election ought to cost."

6098. Did that statement by yourself give rise to any further discussion between you and Mr. Moffatt at that time on the subject of the amount?—None whatever, that I recollect.

6099. Had anything been said by Mr. Moffatt to yourself with regard to any communication being made by you to him in the event of your wishing to make a communication which you had rather not make to Mr. Monk?—Yes; I do not think it was in that form. I do not think it was that evening, but the following morning. I am not very clear about that. My reason for thinking that it was on the Monday morning is, that I am pretty sure it was after Mr. Monk had accepted the invitation to stand, and that was not till the following morning.

6100. What was the nature of the communication that was made by Mr. Moffatt to yourself?—Mr. Moffatt said to me, "I have advised Monk to accept, and he has accepted the invitation." I said "I am very glad to hear it; and I hope he will represent Gloucester for the rest of his life." He said, "I shall be much obliged if you will write to me when the election comes off, and let me know from time to time how the canvass goes on; and if there is anything you wish to say on the business of the election you may write to me." What I understood him to mean by that was, that he was acting as Mr. Monk's adviser and friend, and any suggestion or communication I might think it expedient to make I might make to him, and I treated it rather as an invitation to do so.

6101. Did you consider that that statement by Mr. Moffatt implied that there might be something that it would be desirable that he should learn from you, but which it was not desirable Mr. Monk should learn from you, with reference to the expenses?—No, indeed, I did not; I did not consider it in that light at the time. I thought it rather meant, that as Mr. Monk was going down to a place to which he was, comparatively speaking, a stranger, and as I knew a great deal more than he could know as to the political movements of the place, he thought I might have some suggestion to make to Mr. Monk as to the business of the election, which I had better make to him; but I did not consider that for a moment to be intended to apply to any communications that I wished to keep secret from Mr. Monk in any way whatever.

6102. You had communications with Mr. Moffatt in the House of Commons after that, had you not?—I have no recollection that I had. If he has stated so I have no doubt he is correct. I was not a great deal in town after that.

6103. If you had any further communication with him, it was not of a material character?—Certainly not.

6104. After the division on Lord John Russell's amendment did you leave town and come into the country?—Yes, I did.

6105. Had you any further personal communication with Mr. Moffatt about this matter?—I do not remember to have had any personal communication at all with him.

6106. Did you write in the first instance, or did you write in answer to any letter sent to you by Mr. Moffatt?—No; I had no letter from Mr. Moffatt.

6107. Had you any letter from Sir William Hayter?—No, none whatever from anybody.

6108. I think you wrote two letters to Mr. Moffatt on the subject of the election?—Yes.

6109. Can you state what the date of the first letter was?—No, I cannot state the date of either of them; the first letter must have been written probably ten or twelve days before the election, and the second probably one or two days before the nomination.

6110. What was the nature of the first letter that you wrote to him?—About the time, or probably a week before I wrote that letter, I was spoken to several times by Mr. Wilton and by Mr. Innell about money for Mr. Monk. I understood they had a great many messengers employed, and that it was necessary they should be paid, and my answer always was, "Any money that I owe Mr. Ellis will pay you on my account, but I have nothing to do with Mr. Monk's money;" nevertheless this matter was mentioned to me repeatedly, sometimes in the streets, and sometimes in my own office; and on the occasion of my writing the letter it was mentioned rather more urgently than usual, and I then recollected the invitation that Mr. Moffatt had given to me to communicate with him if I thought it necessary. In the early stage of the proceedings I had very strongly advised Mr. Monk to bring down his own private solicitor to Gloucester as his agent, and if he could not bring down his own private solicitor to bring down a London parliamentary agent, or some person to conduct the election on his behalf. He felt some difficulty about that; he said that his own private solicitor was a Conservative, and was generally speaking retained on Conservative elections; that he could not bring him; that he objected to take down any other London solicitor, because he thought it might create some jealousy, and that he should endeavour to make the best arrangement he could in Gloucester, and that he should ask Mr. Robert Wilton to act for him. I told him I was almost sure Mr. Robert Wilton would not act, as I had understood that he did not intend again to act in elections. I know he had great difficulty in selecting an agent, and, consequently, there was great difficulty in the payment of the preliminary expenses. I thought that that was precisely the kind

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W. P. Price.

3 Oct. 1859.

of difficulty which Mr. Moffatt had contemplated when he invited me to communicate with him, and I wrote a very short letter to him in Mr. Ellis's office, stating that the canvass had been far more satisfactory than I had had any reason to anticipate, but that Mr. Monk had not yet selected an agent,—that things were consequently in a good deal of confusion,—that I hoped he would select one soon,—and that in the meantime I thought it expedient that a sum of 500*l.* should be provided ready to be transmitted to his agent as soon as he was appointed. Of course the reason why I mentioned that was that these gentleman had so repeatedly spoken to me on the subject of money.

6111. Did you say how that money should be transmitted ?—I have no recollection that I did, but I am sure if I mentioned any mode of transmitting it, it would be by private hand. The note was written in a great hurry in Mr. Ellis's office, and I cannot pretend to say what its exact wording may have been ; but I am sure that if I expressed any opinion as to the mode in which the money should be transmitted, I should have said, that I should recommend its being sent by private hand.

6112. Why should you suggest that the money should be sent by private hand ?—Of course I expected that you would ask me that question, and I have thought of it repeatedly. I did not know any other mode of sending it. It has been said, Why not send it through a bank ? If I had asked that the money should be sent to me I should have said "Pay it to Williams, Deacon, and Co., to my credit with the Gloucestershire Banking Company ;" but first of all I did not know who was to send the money, and in the next place I did not know who was going to receive the money ; and therefore, contemplating that this money would have to come down at a moment's notice, it seemed to me that the most natural thing in the world was to send it down by a clerk. His railway fare would cost no more than the commission that would be charged by a banker for transmitting it, and it would come down in half the time.

6113. You did not say "send it by a clerk" did you ?—I do not know what words Mr. Moffatt says I used ; I think I saw something about "trustworthy" or "trusty." I have no doubt I used any word he repeated ; nothing is more likely than that I should have asked him to send it by some trustworthy person, and if Mr. Moffatt says I did I have no doubt he is correct.

6114. Did you, in writing to Mr. Moffatt, mention anything about the person to whom the money was to be sent ?—Not in the first letter, for I did not know.

6115. Did you in the second letter ?—Yes, certainly.

6116. Which Mr. Wilton was it who came to you with Mr. Innell before you wrote that first letter ?—Mr. John Wilton.

6117. I think you say the second letter was written about two days before the nomination ?—I think about that.

6118. And in that letter you stated that the money should be sent to Mr. John Wilton ?—I did.

6119. An agent had been appointed at that time, had there not, for Mr. Monk ?—No.

6120. What was the nature of the second letter ? —I should think the second letter, which was written either to Sir William Hayter or to Mr. Moffatt, (I think it was to Mr. Moffatt, but I am not quite sure which,) was to this effect, "Send the money to Mr. John Wilton, King Street, Gloucester ;" I do not think there was a word more or less.

6121. You are not sure to whom that second letter was addressed ?—I am not very certain about it. I remember, in my first letter, suggesting to Mr. Moffatt that, if he was going down to Ashburton, he had better leave the money with Sir William Hayter, who I knew would, most likely, be the last member in town, and therefore I may have written to him, but I am not clear as to that. I think, having stated that in my first letter, it is very possible that I may have written my second letter to Sir William Hayter, assuming Mr. Moffatt at that sime to be at Ashburton.

6122. You are quite sure that you did state that in your first letter to Mr. Moffatt ?—I am quite certain of it. I am very sorry that I did do so, for it has led Sir William Hayter into all this unpleasantness, but the fault is entirely my own ; I am entirely responsible for it ; I certainly did make that recommendation.

6123. Did you know at the time when you wrote that second letter, two days before the nomination, that money either was lodged, or was about to be lodged, at the County of Gloucester Bank ?—No, I did not.

6124. You have since heard, have you not, that 200*l.* was placed to the credit of Mr. Robert Wilton there ? —Yes. I think I have seen that stated in the Gloucester paper this morning ; I have seen some of the evidence on my way down.

6125. That was a fact not within your knowledge at that time ?—It was certainly not within my knowledge at the time when I wrote to Mr. Moffatt.

6126. Have you the letters which were written to you by Mr. Moffatt, on this subject ?—No ; I have only had one letter from Mr. Moffat, and I looked for that some time ago, and was much surprised at not being able to find it, because I never destroy letters ; that letter was written to me from Ashburton, and I suppose Mr. Moffatt not knowing my address, directed it to me at the committee room, Gloucester. I did not get the letter, therefore, with my other letters in the morning, but when I got into Gloucester I found that and half-a-dozen other notes and circulars, and things of that sort, on the chimney-piece in the committee room ; I opened them in a great hurry one after another ; they were most of them that kind of communication which you receive at election times recommending me to call on Mr. A.B., or Mr. C.D., and so on, and I threw them in the fire, and Mr. Moffatt's with them, I suppose ; I recollect distinctly throwing those letters all into the fire, and with them I suppose I threw Mr. Moffatt's. I know it was a very short communication ; it simply said, "I have seen Sir William Hayter behind the Speaker's chair ; I have provided the money, and he will take charge of it when I go to Ashburton."

6127. I thought you said just now that Mr. Moffatt stated that he had seen Sir William Hayter, and that Sir William Hayter would take charge of the money when Mr. Moffatt went to Ashburton ?— This was about twelve days before the election ; Mr. Moffatt was canvassing at Ashburton ; he was then returning to town, and then going down again to his election, and I have a strong recollection that Mr. Moffatt's letter was posted from Ashburton, and that was how I accounted for his sending it to me at the committee room in Gloucester ; I supposed that he had not my letter with him ; however, I may be mistaken about that ; that is my impression, but it is only an impression. I have a strong impression that the letter was written from Ashburton, though I can hardly tell you why I have that impression ; the substance of the letter, however, remains the same ; I never received more than one letter from Mr. Moffatt, and I have an impression that that letter came from Ashburton.

6128. What was the great urgency of the case, as it was represented to you by Mr. Wilton and Mr. Innell, when you wrote the second letter ?—They came to me and said, "Did you write, as you promised you would, to Mr. Moffatt ?" I said, "Yes I did ;" they said, "Did he say he would obtain any money ?" I said, "Yes, he has obtained 500*l.*, to be paid to Mr. Monk's agent, when he is appointed." One of them then said to me, "Well, there is no agent at all appointed ; we must have money to pay these messengers, and to pay the Sheriff, and other expenses ; will you order the money to be sent to us?" I said, "Well, the money was procured to be sent to Mr. Monk's agent." They replied, "We invited Mr. Monk to stand ; the arrangement was entered into with us ; we are responsible for his return ;" and they

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intimated that I ought to look upon them in the light of his agents; and it certainly struck me that, in the absence of any direct appointment, there was nobody who the law would recognize in preference to them as his agent, and I said, "Are you agreed as to the party to whom I shall send it?" Mr. Innell said, "Yes, send it to Mr. John Wilton." Upon that I wrote the second letter.

6129. Were you aware that any portion of that money was wanted for the purpose of corruption?—Certainly not; that 500*l.* I wrote for was precisely the sum which was arrived at as a sort of average between the expenses of my own election in 1852 and in 1857.

6130. In what way did you consider that 500*l.* would be required to be spent before the nomination?—I do not know that I inferred at all that it would be paid before the the election came on.

6131. In what way did you consider the 500*l.* would be spent before the day of nomination?—I do not know that I did suppose it would be spent before the day of nomination; I knew that they had a great number of messengers that were clamouring to be paid; I knew that they had to pay the Sheriff's expenses (which, by the by, were very exorbitant), and many other expenses besides.

6132. Where was the urgency of getting down the 500*l.* at that time?—I do not know that there was any urgency.

6133. I thought you said Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton were urgent for money for the payment of messengers?—Yes; and the messengers I know were very much clamouring themselves for payment; they frequently asked me for money; I knew that my own agent, Mr. Ellis, had paid some money for the purpose of satisfying them, and I assumed that this was for the same purpose.

6134. Did you know what number of messengers were employed?—I did not know the number that were employed until Mr. Monk said to me one day, "Do you know there are a much larger number of messengers than I think necessary?" I said I had only seen about ten or fifteen. He told me there were something like 70. I said, "If so, we ought to have known it; let them be turned off;" and they were turned off, a large number of them. I think they were reduced to about 30.

6135. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was this before the election?—Yes, a week before the election, I should think.

6136. You were told they were reduced?—Yes.

6137. You did not know it as a fact?—No; the moment I was told this, we went together to the committe room, and asked if it was the fact that all these men were taken on, and finding that it was, we ordered them to be discharged.

6138. What do you mean by "we"?—Mr. Monk and myself.

6139. It was Mr. Monk who told you there were a great number of messengers employed?—Yes; I was not in Gloucester a great deal; I do not live in Gloucester, I knew very little of what took place.

6140. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you aware that there were as many as 120 messengers employed?—No, I was not; Mr. Monk told me there were 70.

6141. They were employed down to the day of the election?—I was not aware of that; I should think the largest number of messengers I ever saw about the committee room must have been 20; I do not think I ever saw so many as that. I was trying to see if I could find the date of the interview at the Reform Club, but I have no memorandum that leads me to it at all. I think it was in the morning; it was the Sunday after the Speaker's levee; I do not know what day that was.

6142. You are aware, are you not, that all election expenses ought to be paid through the election auditor?—No, I am not; I am only aware of it because I saw in the paper that that question had been asked, and that some remark had been made upon it. I was in the House of Commons at the time when the Corrupt Practices at Elections Act was passed; I know that every attempt that was made to introduce a clause which would have made that bill effective was always opposed. I always looked upon it just as that homage which is paid by vice to virtue, and always had a great contempt for it, and have never read it since it was passed. I recollect a remark made by Lord Edward Fitzgerald, that "a rank majority may give a nation law, but cannot give that law authority." I believe that if you were to re-enact it to-morrow by acclamation in the House of Commons, nobody would pay the least regard to it. I think it was a delusion from beginning to end.

6143. Do you, when you say that, express your own opinion only or the opinion of other members of the House of Commons?—I rever heard a member of the House of Commons who did not express himself in the same way about it. I do not think it can have, or was ever intended to have, the slightest effect in checking corruption. I believe the only thing it has done has been this, that it has got rid of some practices which used to obtain at elections before the time of its enactment, such as bands and colours and chairing, and all that sort of thing; but I believe that the money that used to be spent in that way is now spent, and perhaps more, in other ways.

6144. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean to represent that, in your opinion, the members of the House of Commons joined in passing an Act of Parliament which they never intended should be effective?—I think a great many of the members of the House of Commons took no part in it, when they found that every clause tending to make the Act effective was rejected; a large number of the members of the House of Commons took no further trouble about it; but I am quite sure I never heard any Member of Parliament state that he thought the Act was of the slightest value, or was ever intended to be of any value.

6145. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If you had known at the time when you wrote to London that all election expenses ought to be paid through the election auditor, should you have thought it so urgent to have the 500*l.* in Gloucester?—That is asking me, in other words, whether, if I had known the law I would have broken the law. I think, if the matter had been brought to my notice, I might not have done so; I might have thought it advisable not to do it; but it never occurred to me; I never thought of the Act. That is the only answer I can give to the question.

6146. Are you aware that it requires a considerable sum of money, if there is a contested election, to purchase the votes of a certain portion of the constituents?—I do not believe it at all. I mean to say, we do not require it for the liberal party. I know a good deal about elections in Gloucester, and I say I do not believe that a large sum of money is necessary for that purpose.

6147. What sum of money have you yourself paid in this last election?—I paid the exact amount returned in the auditor's account.

6148. 450*l.* odd?—Something of that sort.

6149. And you have paid no more to any person?—Not a shilling; and that is 100*l.* more than my election cost me in 1857, and 100*l.* more than my election would have cost me in 1859, if it had been conducted on my own account.

6150. Has any application been made to you for any more money?—Not a shilling.

6151. Are you aware of any debts being still outstanding to persons who took an active part in the canvass for the Liberal candidates?—I have never heard a word of it.

6152. At all events, as far as you are concerned, no claim has been made upon you in respect of them?—Not a shilling of any kind whatever; I should be very much surprised if there were.

6153. Did you come to any agreement at all with Mr. Moffatt in London, after the conversation to which you have before referred, as to a distribution of the expenses?—No. I expressed an opinion, as I have already stated, in favour of the one principle on which the division should be made rather than the

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other; but when it was proposed that we should settle it in that way, I said, "It will be quite time "enough to settle this when the time comes." Of course, what I meant was, that the time never would come, because I had not the least intention at that time of standing, and instead of committing myself, therefore, one way or the other, I thought that was the best way of putting it off. I never had any kind of agreement about it, beyond expressing an opinion in favour of a division by thirds. I have no doubt I said that which led Mr. Moffatt to suppose I agreed to his proposal; and I have no doubt he did consider me to have said so; but what I said was, "I agree to the principle, but it will be quite time enough to consider it when the time comes."

6154. It was conditional on your beoming a candidate?—I did not lead him to doubt that I intended to become a candidate, but left him to infer that that was the division I should prefer to adopt in case Mr. Monk and I contested the city jointly. The only arrangement ever made as to the payment of expenses was when I came down on the Thursday night after the dissolution, and when, for the first time, I agreed to contest the city.

6155. What arrangement was made then?—I met a great many gentlemen; I do not remember who they were. I came down by the last train from London, late at night; I met a great many gentlemen at the King's Head, and, of course, I consulted those who I knew would have the conduct of the election. Mr. Ellis, my own solicitor was present, and I said to them in his presence that I was perfectly willing, having agreed to stand, to pay one third of any legitimate expenses. I said, "Any such expenses as Mr. Ellis passes." And on the following morning, before the canvassing, I repeated that more formally to the committee, or to the gentlemen who were sitting in the committee room, in the house adjoining the Shire Hall.

6156. Were you at all aware that it was the intention to resort to bribery for the purpose of securing your return or the return of Mr. Monk?—Certainly not. I am quite sure there was no such intention on the part of Mr. Monk, and I need not say there was no such intention on my own part, because I never had occasion to resort to bribery.

6157. When were you first a candidate for Gloucester?—In 1847.

6158. You did not, on that occasion, go to the poll I think?—No; I canvassed, but I retired the night before the nomination.

6159. Was that because you found the result of your canvass not sufficiently favourable?—No; quite the reverse. The reason was this:—I came forward on that occasion on the retirement of Mr. Phillpotts. Mr. Phillpotts did not retire until the canvass had been half completed. I do not know for what reason exactly he retired; I believe it was partly on account of bad health, and partly because he did not like the excitement of a contest; but he did retire in the middle of the canvass; I was then asked to stand and I refused; I had no idea whatever of going into Parliament at that time. Some few days later than that I was applied to a second time, and they said; "If you will not stand we can get no one else to stand, and our old independent party will be broken up." I said, "If you mean to say you want me to lead a forlorn hope, I will do it;" and I stood with a view of keeping the party together. I think there was some little indisposition on the part of the Whigs at that time that matters should be disturbed; that was very natural; and at first, my canvass was not quite what I could have wished; subsequently however, and towards the close of it, I showed it to Sir Maurice Berkeley, and said, "Now, if you think upon this canvass, which you have had an opportunity of checking, that I ought not to stand, I will at once resign." Sir Maurice Berkeley said in the most manly and straightforward way, "It is impossible for me to say that your canvass does not give you every chance of success; therefore stand, although by so doing you will plunge me into a contest." Towards the day of nomination, I saw very clearly there would be a large expenditure of money on Mr. Hope's side, and I was very much afraid that I should not be able to control my own friends, that there might be an expenditure of money by them for the purpose of securing my return, that I should be elected, and that Sir Maurice Berkeley would be turned out. There was no advantage in substituting one Liberal member for another, and therefore I called some of my friends together, amongst others Mr. Evans, who has usually nominated or seconded me, and by their advice I retired. I felt that no good could be done by my continuing the contest, because the probability was, that Sir Maurice Berkeley, if I were returned, would be turned out, that there would therefore be no gain to the Liberal party, and that we should have all the corruption consequent upon a keenly contested election.

6160. You in fact, upon that occasion, resigned because you thought you might have to incur considerable expense, and also because you thought that, under the circumstances, one of the two Liberals would fail to insure his election?—Yes; I knew that Sir Maurice Berkeley would not spend a shilling, and I was sure that if he did not spend money, and the other two candidates did, there was no chance of his being returned.

6161. You eventually became member for the city in the year 1852, I think?—Yes; in 1852.

6162. You, I believe are largely connected with the commerce of this city?—Yes; I am.

6163. Do you consider that that circumstance would give you an advantage over a candidate who is not more intimately connected with Gloucester than you are?—Clearly so; because there has always been a general feeling in Gloucester that one at least of its members should be a local man, who, apart from his political bias, knows its local wants and interests.

6164. Are you aware that in Gloucester a preference is, generally speaking, given to those who are connected in some way with the interests of Gloucester?—I think the Liberal party have always tried to get a local man, and the Conservative party have always tried to get a rich one.

6165. Do you concur in the opinion which has been expressed in this court, that the Liberal party is sufficiently strong in Gloucester to return two Liberal candidates to Parliament if corrupt practices are not resorted to on the other side?—Yes; I have seen a great deal of electioneering in Gloucester for the last 25 years, and I have the strongest possible conviction that there is so very large a Liberal majority in this city, that, without bribery, no conservative would have a chance; that is not my opinion merely, but I believe it is capable of very easy demonstration. A great deal has been said about dividing the representation of the city, with a view of putting down bribery and corruption, and I would be the first man to consent to such an arrangement if I thought that the Conservatives were entitled to one of the two seats; that is, if I thought the electoral strength was so nearly divided that one and one would be a fair representation of it; but I do not believe that to be the case. I think that if two or three gentlemen on each side were to take the register and strike off from it the two or three hundred venal votes, which there would be no difficulty in indicating, and then construct a poll-book by the known tendencies of the remaining voters, there would be a majority of 150 in favour of the Liberals.

6166. (*Mr. Welford.*) What difficulty would there have been in Mr. Monk himself taking the 500*l.* down to Gloucester?—None that I know of; Mr. Monk was exceedingly anxious I believe, and I believe rather nervous; he was rather afraid, I think, of getting within the purview of the Corrupt Practices Act; but I see no reason why he should not have taken the money down, or why he should not have done just what I did, which was simply to tell Mr. Ellis to pay for him whatever was necessary.

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6167. Do you think Mr. Monk was afraid that the money would be employed for corrupt practices?—I do not think it necessarily follows that he was afraid of that; I think he was rather anxious that no money should be spent for him till it was spent by his own authorized agent, and having no authorized agent appointed, he hesitated very much about supplying it to anybody else; and I think that in that he was wise.

6168. But Mr. Monk having had the advantage of your experience, which led you to estimate the outside sum for legal expenses at 500*l.*, was told that 1,500*l.* might possibly be the expense of this election?—First of all I never told Mr. Monk what I considered ought to be the expense; it was Mr. Moffatt I told as to the 500*l.* Mr. Moffat no doubt was told by me that I thought 500*l.* would pay the expenses of Mr. Monk's election, but I do not know that he was ever told by anybody else that 1,500*l.* would be required for his expenses.

6169. You say that your own seat was in no danger?—Nobody supposed it to be in danger; I certainly did not myself.

6170. And you yourself did not intend to spend anything beyond legal expenses?—Certainly not; I never have done so; and now that I undervalued the seat I certainly should not.

6171. You say a sort of programme was shown on the occasion of the interview with Mr. Moffatt, do you recollect the nature and contents of that programme?—No, I do not. I never read it over. I saw on a sheet of paper, I think drawn up in the room, items which were put down for professional attendance and so on. There was such a programme; I never read it, but it brought the sum out to 1,200*l.*

6172. And in the course of conversation, somebody said it might extend to 1,500*l.*?—Some one said that.

6173. You do not at all recollect what proportion the cost of messengers bore to the whole sum in that programme?—I have never seen the programme, nor do I know what was paid for messengers.

6174. It did not occur to you that there was a sort of mystery in the mode in which this money was to be transmitted?—Not the least, for nobody had anything to do with the transmission of that money but myself; no one else was cognizant of it; not a soul living knew anything of it but myself.

6175. And Mr. John Wilton was named solely because there was no other recognized person to whom to send it?—Because Mr. Innell and Mr. John Wilton were the two gentlemen who invited Mr. Monk, and who, to a certain extent, were responsible for his return; upon the joint application of those two gentlemen I sent the money to Mr. John Wilton, considering him as being the nearest approach to an agent.

6176. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you directed that 500*l.* should be sent to Mr. John Wilton, did you intend that 500*l.* should be the sole expense to which Mr. Monk was to be put?—I really cannot say I had any idea about it. I had named 500*l.* to Mr. Moffatt for the reason I have stated, that I thought it a fair average, deduced from my experience in two previous elections; and that sum I recommended to be sent, and no more.

6177. When you made that recommendation, you intended the 500*l.* to cover the expenses of the election?—I thought it would cover them; I said that that was the sum I personally could recommend Mr. Moffatt to spend on Mr. Monk's election.

6178. If there had been a regular agent you would have recommended that money to be sent to the regular agent to cover the expenses of the election?—Yes.

6179. How much money did you yourself pay before the polling?—I never paid a shilling; Mr. Ellis always paid for me what he considered necessary.

6180. Did you pay the election auditor's account in one sum by one cheque?—No; I think I paid it in two cheques.

6181. Did you pay to Mr. Ellis the sum charged in the election auditor's account?—Just so, to a shilling.

6182. Mr. Ellis having authority from you to pay during the election such demands that might be sent in as he thought right?—Yes.

6183. Who is Mr. Swann?—Mr. Ellis's partner.

6184. Were you under the idea that Mr. Ellis had the charge of the expenses incurred by you?—Certainly, he always has had.

6185. Were you under the idea that Mr. Ellis deputed the discharge of his duty to others?—No; the only duty he had to discharge for me on this occasion, which varied from all previous occasions, was to pay money on the application of others, so far as he thought he could legally do so; that is to say, he was to have a discretion in paying what he thought right for me.

6186. Are you aware since the election, that the account which was sent in, and which Mr. Ellis paid, was a "cooked" account?—I never knew anything of that till I saw it in the paper this morning.

6187. I may take it for granted that you did not authorize Mr. Ellis to manage your election in the manner in which he did?—I do not think Mr. Ellis did manage the election at all; I do not understand that he had anything to do with managing the election this time; on the contrary, I believe that he purposely abstained from it, and only acted as treasurer for me, paying such sums as he thought right. I am quite sure that he had nothing to do with the management of the election; I only wish he had had.

6188. Was Mr. Ellis, in what he did, acting under your instructions?—I do not know how he did act. I know it was represented to me that Mr. Ellis had better not take any part in the election; and, with a view to avoid any jealousy, I requested him not to interfere, to pay whatever sums he thought right, but to abstain from any further interference, and I believe he did so.

6189. (*Mr. Welford.*) I think you say you knew nothing of the 200*l.* that was paid to Mr. Robert Wilton?—I did not; I was not likely to know it; I knew nothing of any transactions except those in which I took part myself. I had no communication with Mr. Monk on money matters.

6190. Did you know a man named Thompson, who was here during the election?—I never in my life heard of Thompson or Clarke until after the election was over, when I was told of it in London by a parliamentary agent.

6191. Then I need not ask you, whether a sum of 25*l.*, which is said to have been paid to Clarke, came from you?—No, it did not.

6192. Having now heard something of Thompson, was he the sort of "trustworthy person," or "private hand," by whom you intended the money to be sent down to Gloucester?—Certainly not; what I meant was a clerk; probably if time had suited for it, I should have sent a clerk of my own, though it was not my business to send the money at all. What I rather supposed was, that Mr. Moffatt having a large establishment would have sent some clerk of his. What I meant by a "trustworthy person" was, in fact, a man who would not steal the money on the road.

6193. You did not mean a briber?—Certainly not, in any way whatever.

6194. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any documents from Mr. Moffatt after the election?—After the election, Mr. Moffatt one day, at the Reform Club, told me, I think, that he had done something in consequence of some letters he had received, of which I had no knowledge, and he said he would send them to me, and he did send them.

6195. Were they numbered one to five?—I do not know; they were private letters; I do not know whether they were numbered or not.

6196. Were those documents accounts, in fact, of outstanding claims for the election at Gloucester?—I think they had reference to outstanding claims; I do not think they were in the nature of accounts, but they were private letters to Mr. Moffatt, stating

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that money was wanted, and stating for what purpose it was wanted.

6197. Do you know why he sent those documents to you?—Yes; he was speaking to me about them in London; I think they had no reference to the 500*l.*, but to a sum of 200*l.*, which he had sent after the election; I think he said he had done that in consequence of some letters which he had received; I said I knew nothing at all about them, and that I had never seen them, upon which he said he would send the documents to me.

6198. Were they sent to you in order that you might examine them, and that you might pay a portion of them?—No, I think not; I was never asked to pay any portion of them; I do not think they were sent to me till after the petition had been tried; as far as I remember they were not.

6199. You have told us what your election in 1857 cost you; did you ever hear from Sir Robert Carden, what his election had cost him?—Not from Sir Robert Carden himself, for I never held any intercourse with him in my life, but I have heard it often stated by others, as coming from him, and I believe he made no great secret about it.

6200. Do you know whether Sir Robert Carden ever made a communication to any person who stated to you what the effect of Sir Robert Carden's revelation to him was upon the subject?—I do not quite understand that question.

6201. Was any statement made by any other person to yourself as to any communication made by Sir Robert Carden to him with regard to the expense of his election?—Yes; I have heard it frequently mentioned; I do not know any particular instance, except that a short time before the dissolution, I think it was, Mr. Norris, the member for Abingdon told me he had been dining with Sir Robert Carden at a Sheriffs' dinner, and that he told him his election had cost him 4,500*l.*

6202. That was the election in 1857?—Yes; he said he was talking a good deal about the election; he was almost a stranger to him. What Mr. Norris said to me was this,—he came to me in the House and said, "Your city must be a very corrupt one from what I hear;" I said, "I do not know why you should think so." He said he had just been to a Sheriffs' dinner, and sat next to Sir Robert Carden, and that he had told him that his election, or his election expenses (probably including his petition for all I know), in 1857, had been 4,500*l.* that his unsuccessful contest had cost him 1,000*l.* besides, and that it would cost him 2,000*l.* or 3,000*l.* more to turn Price and Monk out. I know nothing about the truth of the statement. Mr. Norris made it to me; and I said to Mr. Norris, "Am I at liberty to repeat it?" and he said, "Certainly you are."

6203. That is a statement with reference to the last election?—With reference to the elections in 1857 and 1859. As I understood him, he said this, that his election expenses (I did not understand it to apply exclusively to the election itself, but to the election and petition too,) had cost him 4,500*l.*,—that his unsuccessful election in 1859 cost him 1,000*l.* more—and that it would cost him 2,000*l.* or 3,000*l.* more to turn Price and Monk out. I understood it to have been said in a boasting sort of way, but I have heard the same thing repeatedly in the city; I have heard that he is frequently boasting, on the Stock Exchange, of the large sums of money he has spent for electioneering purposes.

6204. Have you any reason to believe that in 1857 extensive bribery existed on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—I am as morally certain of it as a man can be of anything that does not pass before his own eyes; I have no doubt whatever that gross and systematic bribery was carried on at that election.

6205. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You said, that you were to pay one third, and Mr. Monk two thirds of the expenses of the election?—Yes.

6206. How came you afterwards to pay one half?—I stated that I assented to that principle, but without coming to any definite arrangement about it, and I do not understand that any definite arrangement ever did exist between us; when I came down to Gloucester on the Thursday, and made the statement to which I have referred, at the King's Head, and the next day in the committee room, I did express my willingness to pay one third of the expenses of the election. Why Mr. Ellis has paid one half I do not know; I always considered that anything of that sort would be settled between myself and Mr. Monk afterwards.

6207. Is it the fact that Mr. Monk was called on to pay only one half because he had paid some other expenses not charged to you?—That may have been so; the account was made up by Mr. Ellis; I think the natural settlement of that account between the agents would be to divide the expenses equally, because they would not know what had passed between Mr. Moffatt and myself; without special instructions, I should think that is the way in which the account would be settled.

6208. (*Mr. Welford.*) You gave no special instructions about expenses?—Mr. Ellis is my personal friend and confidential solicitor in all other matters as well as electioneering matters, and I never gave him any instructions at any election; he has always acted for me, and I have never interfered with him.

6209. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you now consider yourself liable to any demand with reference to the last election?—I should not consider myself liable to anybody but Mr. Ellis; if he asked me for 1,000*l.* I should pay it.

6210. If he were to ask you now for 1,000*l.*, as having been spent on your behalf at the last election. you would pay it?—I can only say, that with reference to this or any other matter, if Mr. Ellis asked me for that, or any other sum, I should consider that I owed it to him; but I am quite sure that Mr. Ellis will not ask me for it.

6211. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know, of your own knowledge, that any bribery was committed by the Liberal party at the election of 1857?—No; I do not believe that bribery at that election was possible with the sum of money that was paid by Sir Maurice Berkeley and myself. I know this, that I was petitioned against, but that is nothing, because I am always petitioned against with or without a case for a petition against me. No doubt there were one or two witnesses brought against me on that occasion, whose evidence, I am bound to say, was very unsatisfactory, and the impression produced on my mind certainly was, that somehow or other those men had money; but the sum of money that the election cost me and Sir Maurice Berkeley was such, that bribery in the ordinary sense of the word, was utterly impossible.

6212. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You mean direct bribery; you do not include the payment of messengers?—No; I quite admit that the payment of messengers was bribery; I have always thought so; but what I mean is, buying votes as you buy pigs, at so much a head.

6213. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Except that species of bribery, which you say is to be found in the payment of messengers, no money came out of your pocket in any way for the purpose of bribery at the election of 1857?—No; I think the election of 1857 cost me 350*l.* or 360*l.* Where that money went or what was done with it, I have not the least idea, but I am perfectly satisfied that out of that 360*l.* there could have been no bribery.

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DAVID MOWBRAY WALKER sworn and examined. *D. M. Walker.*

3 Oct. 1859.

6214. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you remember Mr. Robert Wilton coming to you one day in the week of the last election respecting procuring funds for the Liberal party?—The week before the election; it was on the 21st of April.

6215. Did he represent to you that it was necessary that funds should be procured from some quarter for carrying on the contest?—Yes; for the necessary preliminary expenses.

6216. Did he request you to see whether or not those funds could be procured?—Something to that effect.

6217. Did you write to any person about it?—No; I spoke to a gentleman in Gloucester who was a correspondent of Mr. Ralli.

6218. How came you to speak to him?—Because I knew that he had extensive dealings with Mr. Ralli in the way of business.

6219. Did you request him to communicate with Mr. Ralli upon the subject?—I suggested to him that he should, and I believe he did.

6220. What did you request him to state?—That it was desirable that money should be placed in the hands of some indifferent person in Gloucester to meet the current and necessary preliminary expenses, —that is, the expenses of canvassing out-voters and the payment of the staff at the committee room.

6221. Did you mention any sum?—That I am not quite sure about.

6222. Did you suggest that it should be sent to any bank?—I suggested that it should be sent to Mr. Robert Wilton.

6223. Did you say by what channel?—I left the parties to choose their own channel.

6224. I think you say that no sum was mentioned by you?—I think not; I will not be positive upon that point.

6225. How long after that did you hear that a sum of money had been so sent?—This which I have described took place on the 21st of April; on the 23rd of April, I believe, the money was paid in London into some bank, I do not know what, to the credit of Mr. Robert Wilton, of Gloucester, and I think he was apprised of it on the 25th.

6226. Do you know by whom that money was paid in London?—I have no doubt that it was paid by Mr. Ralli.

6227. What was the name of the gentlemen in Gloucester to whom you mentioned the circumstance? —Mr. William Charles Lucy.

6228. Do you know Mr. Monk?—Very well.

6229. Was not Mr. Monk in Gloucester at the time when you spoke to Mr. Lucy about the money? —Yes.

6230. Why did you not speak to Mr. Monk about it?—Because I understood it was a principle (I had understood it was so during the last election,) that the candidates should not have anything to do with money matters till after the election was over.

6231. Do you know why that principle has existed? —That I cannot tell.

6232. Have you any idea why it should not be considered desirable that the candidates should have anything to do with money matters?—No; I do not think I have.

6233. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you suppose that that principle was acted upon because it was understood that money was applied in Gloucester for illegal purposes? —No; certainly not. The same principle was acted on in 1857, when, to my own knowledge, no such means were applied, at least on the side on which I am.

6234. Did anybody suggest to you the application to Mr. Ralli for money?—I think not.

6235. Did Mr. Robert Wilton?—I am not sure whether he did or not; but I think not.

6236. Did Mr. Robert Wilton name any sum?— That I cannot say.

6237. You do not recollect it?—I do not. He might have named the 200*l.*, or I might, but I have no recollection of any precise sum being mentioned.

6238. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that 200*l.* the only sum you were aware of being sent during the period of the election?—The only one; for I made it a special point that I would have nothing to do with money matters.

6239. You did not know of any money coming from any other quarter?—I did not; nor of its application. There is only one observation I would wish to have an opportunity of making:—Of course, as a Gloucester man, I feel very much the position in which Gloucester is placed at present in the eyes of the kingdom, but I must say, I think the great cause of the demoralization that has got into the constituency of Gloucester is the scandalous expenditure of money, year after year, in contested elections for the town council.

6240. You say that that is the principal cause?—I look upon it as the principal cause.

6241. Do you consider that before the passing of the Municipal Corporation Act parliamentary elections for this city were pure elections?—Pure comparatively to those of the present day; but certainly at that time there was a bad system prevailing, because there was what was called head money given on all sides.

6242. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was before the Reform Act, was it not?—That was before the Reform Act; then there were large sums paid in those days in the shape of travelling expenses; a voter might come down from London, and bring his wife and family with him, and be maintained for a week.

6243. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Looking at the existence of that practice, and the payment of head money, do you still think that the principal cause of the present demoralization is the expenditure that takes place at municipal elections?—I do.

6244. Have you any further observation to make? —No.

6245. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you a general knowledge of the constituency of Gloucester?—I have.

6246. Do you concur in the statement that has been made, that a considerable number of the electors are venal?—I should think upwards of 200.

6247. Two hundred altogether?—Yes; I should say upwards of 200.

6248. Are they generally freemen or householders? —They are pretty nearly equally divided. A large proportion of the outlying freemen are of that description, and there are a great many of the householders also of that description.

6249. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Of what description?— Venal.

6250. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know whether Mr. Smith and Mr. Bretherton were appointed the agents of both candidates at the last election?—I understood that Mr. Smith and Mr. Bretherton were the agents of the Gloucester Reform Club.

6251. From whom did you understand that?— From the Reform Club itself; I understood it to be the committee of the Reform Club. I was asked to be on that committee, and I refused.

WILLIAM HIGGS sworn and examined. *W. Higgs.*

6252. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I am salesman for the firm of W. C. Lucy and Co., who have just been mentioned, merchants.

6253. Were you actively engaged at the last election?—During the last week only; from the last Monday to the Saturday, inclusive.

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W. Hugg.
3 Oct. 1859.

6254. Did you canvass any of the voters ?—Never.

6255. How were you engaged ?—In preparing a set of books, by which to ascertain during the polling the gain and loss which each candidate had as the polling went on.

6256. To show the gain and loss of each candidate by votes which differed from your calculations ?—Exactly. First of all to get as accurate an account as possible ; and as fast as any sheet came in from the polling booth to see who gained or who lost a vote upon it, which is, perhaps, of more importance than the ascertaining the gross poll as the election goes on.

6257. Did you keep that book yourself during the polling ?—No ; I had a room with something like a dozen clerks for that purpose. Having prepared one book to contain the names of each person who would poll at each separate booth, the next thing was to ascertain, as nearly as possible, how each person was to be expected to vote ; and that I did by inquiring of Mr. Jordan, and more particularly of the gentleman who was the last witness here, Mr. David Mowbray Walker. Then these books each came before a clerk, and as fast as the poll books came in with the manner in which each voter's vote was recorded, we could see exactly how the election was going on ; and it answered this purpose also, that we could see who were unpolled.

6258. Did the examination of those books during or after the poll demonstrate to you any loss of voters that you had expected upon your canvass to have gained ?—Yes, certainly, there were some losses and some gains to each party, as there always will be. I can give you the numbers we expected to poll for each candidate previous to the polling.

6259. What number did you expect to poll for Mr. Price ?—For Mr. Price we expected 829 ; for Mr. Monk, 759 ; and for Sir Robert Carden, giving him all the doubtful voters, of which we could get no return, 694.

6260. That was your expectation ?—Yes.

6261. What was the actual result ?—Price polled 807 ; Monk, 779 ; and if you add these together, you will find them within two what we expected for Price and Monk.

6262. And Carden ?—595 ; and 135 remained unpolled. The returns of the canvass I had chiefly from Mr. Walker, knowing that he was better able than any other person, from former experience, to give a good account of every voter ; and from the fact, that in the election of 1857, he named, the night before the polling, the exact number Berkeley actually polled. He told him he had 710 persons on whom he could fully rely ; and that was the exact number he polled.

6263. Did you look to see who those 135 were that remained unpolled ?—I have them here.

6264. Have you gone through them since ?—No.

6265. You could not tell whether those 135 belong to that class of electors who are considered venal, or to the class who may be considered independent ?—I think they were tolerably independent. They were generally persons belonging to Mr. Carden's friends, that is, the majority of them, who, finding the election was going against him, did not care to come to the poll.

6266. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In the result the return of Sir Robert Carden gave him a less number than you had expected ?—Only we had given him the doubtful votes, about 100.

6267. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you canvass any voters ?—Never.

6268. Did you bribe any voters ?—I am down in the list handed in to the Committee of the House of Commons as having bribed a voter of the name of George Huggins.

6269. Did you do so ?—No, never. I do not know the man, and never spoke to him, to my knowledge ; and, therefore, I am glad of the opportunity of answering your question. He was bribed by George Pickford, I think.

6270. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was he examined before the Committee ?—Yes.

6271. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you hold out any inducement to George Huggins ?—Never ; I do not know the man. I have not canvassed a voter these ten years, I am certain.

6272. Did any money pass through your hands ?—None whatever.

6273. Did any cases of bribery come within your knowledge ?—None whatever.

6274. Was any communication made to you as to the steps or practices that it would be necessary to take for the purpose of securing voters ?—Certainly not.

6275. Is that all you know about the last election in 1859 ?—Except by conversation. I have made a memorandum of several conversations (which I propose to hand to your secretary at a suitable time) with persons who were offered bribes, and others who received them.

6276. With regard to the election of 1857, did you take part in that ?—None whatever.

6277. Do you know at all whether or not there was bribery largely practised at that election ?—I do not, except from these conversations. I believe I have some memoranda.

6278. (*Mr. Welford.*) You spoke of 100 votes as doubtful, which you gave to Sir Robert Carden ?—In round numbers.

6279. Why did you consider them doubtful ?—There are always some who will not promise.

6280. Did you suppose them to be men who hung back for the purpose of selling their votes ?—Some of them might have been ; but Mr. Walker would be able to answer that question better than I.

6281. You cannot tell what proportion you considered venal, and what proportion you considered doubtful from their politics ?—I cannot.

6282. (*Mr. Fitzgerald*). Your name is not mentioned in the report of the Committee, I think ?—No. But it was mentioned in the list that was handed in to the Committee before the inquiry took place.

W. Probert, jun.

WILLIAM PROBERT, junior, sworn and examined.

6283. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the son of William Probert, who keeps the Queen's Head ?—I am.

6284. What money did you receive during the election at any time ?—I received several sums on the polling day. I received 5*l.* from Brewer Monk.

6285. What money did you receive on the polling day ?—Several sums at different times. I daresay 7*l.* or 8*l.* from Mr. John Wilton. I could not say exactly.

6286. At different times you received how much from Mr. John Wilton ?—7*l.*, or 8*l.*, or more. I could not be positive.

6287. May I say 10*l.* from Mr. John Wilton ?—It may not have been quite so much. I also received 5*l.* or 6*l.* from Brewer Monk during the canvass. I made no memorandum of it. I also, perhaps, received two guineas or a trifle more from Mr. Innell.

6288. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that during the canvass ?—Yes.

6289. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What else did you receive ?—I think that is all.

6290. Did you receive anything from Mr. Robinson ?—I think I did some few shillings, but it was very trifling indeed.

6291. Did you receive anything from Withers ?—No, not that I recollect.

6292. What did you do with it ?—I spent it mostly in treating.

6293. You spent most of it in treating ?—Yes.

6294. Treating whom ?—Principally among voters, many non-voters. It was done at my expense ; at least, out of the money I received.

6295. What voters ? Give me their names ?—I

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could not tell you. This was during the three weeks I was on the canvass.

6296. Cannot you give me the names of any of them?—I do not know exactly that I could.

6297. Where did you treat them?—At different houses; many houses.

6298. Where?—The Fountain. I may have treated several there.

6299. Where else?—The Berkeley Arms, and in fact many houses about the town.

6300. That is what I want to know?—The Saracen's Head, perhaps I may have called in there; in the Island at the Cooper's Arms, I think I may have treated a few there. This was in the evening part. I should not tell them to meet me exactly; I might be walking about and meet them, and they would stop me and ask for a glass of ale and what not, and I would do it if I had the money. I found other parties were doing it, and I did the same. Men would stop me in the street and ask me for a glass of ale, and they said if I did not do it they could go to Mr. Maysey's and get it, or to the Dolphin and get it; and if I did not give it them they should go to these other places.

6301. Can you give us the names of any other public houses where you treated voters?—The Bull's Head I think in St. Mary's Square, I treated a few there.

6302. Did you give them suppers?—No.

6303. Beer?—Beer and tobacco.

6304. Who did you bribe?—I bribed a man named Robert Dowers, in St. Catherine Street, for one.

6305. What did you give him?—5*l.*

6306. Who else did you bribe?—A man named Walter Wood, a freeman, he lives in Sweetbrier Street.

6307. What did you give him?—4*l.*

6308. Where does he live?—I think it is in Sweetbrier Street; he is registered there.

6309. Who else did you bribe?—That is the whole of the men I can recollect now. I was in treaty with several others, but I could not come up to the mark.

6310. Can you give me the names?—Yes.

6311. Who?—A man named Henry Hatch, a freeman residing in Barton Street.

6312. What did you treat him with?—I met him the evening before the nomination, and he asked me how things were going on, and I said, "Oh, pretty well." I said, "How are you getting on?" knowing that he had been drinking at a house at the expense of the Tories for some few days; and he said "Well, I should like to vote your side this time." He said, if I would do the same for him as they would, he would vote for me. I was to meet him the nomination night at seven o'clock to decide whether I would do this which he wanted. He said he wanted nothing but a "double finnif."

6313. What did you understand by that?—10*l.* I had heard of a "finnif" being a five pound note, and when he said a "double finnif" I concluded it was 10*l.* I was to meet him the night of the nomination if I could do anything with him, and there was his brother too. I was to meet him at the Queen's Head, at seven o'clock, the night of the nomination.

6314. Did you meet him?—I did not. I had a conversation with Thomas Brewer Monk, and we agreed to let him be quiet; it was too much money.

6315. Did you treat him?—No.

6316. I thought you said you treated this man Henry Hatch?—No, I said I was in treaty with him. There was another person I could not do business with—he was too heavy for me—a person named John Smart, a bookbinder, in Worcester Street. I should like you to understand it is the bookbinder, because there is another next door to him, a very different sort of man.

6317. What took place between you and him?—I saw him the morning of the polling, soon after eight o'clock, and I went across the street to him, and asked him how he was going to poll. He said he should like to poll for our men, for he did not like Sir Robert Walter Carden, he did not think he was a very popular man in Gloucester. He would rather poll our way if we could do the same for him. I asked him what he wanted. He said he could have 10*l.*

6318. From whom?—From Sir Robert Walter Carden's party. I think he said he could go to the Dolphin and get it, if I recollect properly. I think that was the place he mentioned. The Dolphin is a house kept by a man named Clutterbuck.

6319. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is Clutterbuck's Christian name?—Obadiah. I told him that was rather heavy, but I would see what I could do for him, and I went and treated him to a glass of gin, I think, at the Fountain. I went and paid for a glass of gin, and told him to stay there to see if I could manage it for him. He did not seem to like Carden, and I thought I would try and manage if I could. I kept him there I should think twenty minutes. I saw Thomas Brewer Monk about him. I went back and kept him off as long as I could, and he said he could stop no longer—he was afraid the shop would be shut up the other side, and he should be too late.

6320. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give him anything? I did not. He polled for Carden.

6321. Did you offer him anything?—I think I told him I could do about five.

6322. Is there any other person to whom you offered money?—Not that I recollect at present.

6323. By whose directions did you bribe Robert Dowers? was it by Brewer Monk's?—Not by his directions.

6324. Did you tell him you wanted to bribe Walter Wood?—No, I did not have the money from him for Walter Wood.

6325. From whom did you get it for him?—From Mr. Robinson; 5*l.* I had from him for that.

6326. I asked you just now if you got any money from Mr. Robinson, and you said only a few shillings.—I understood you to ask on the canvass.

6327. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then there are other sums of which you have not told us?—No, I told you I had bribed Wood and Dowers. I had the money from Brewer Monk for Dowers, and from Mr. Robinson, for Wood.

6328. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Just recollect whether, at or after the canvass, and up to the time of the election, you received any money from any persons except the persons you have mentioned?—I do not recollect it.

6329. 9*l.* or 10*l.* from Wilton, 5*l.* or 6*l.* from Brewer Monk, a few shillings from Mr. Robinson, and 5*l.* from Mr. Robinson?—Yes.

6330. Did you tell Mr. Robinson that you wanted 5*l.* to bribe Robert Wood?—I told him I had got a man I could have, or words to that effect, and he gave me the money.

6331. Did you mention his name?—I did not.

6332. You bribed both those persons to give their votes for Price and Monk?—I did.

6333. (*Mr. Welford.*) How was it they applied to you? Were you known as an agent for the candidates?—I was about canvassing the whole time for the party as I had had something to do with the registration.

6334. You had to do with the registration, had you?—Yes.

6335. Did you go about canvassing with the party, or by yourself?—I went with a party every day pretty well.

6336. It was chiefly in the evening you had these applications?—Yes, mostly in the evening. There is something I wish to say to you. In the evidence given before the Select Committee I see my name is mentioned as having been at George Bowers's house, by a man named John Horatio Evans; I solemnly declare I was not there.

6337. You do not mean to say your father was not there?—No; but I was not there. It says William Probert, junior.

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W. Roberts.

3 Oct. 1859.

WILLIAM ROBERTS sworn and examined.

6338. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—An innkeeper.

6339. Do you keep the Nelson Inn?—I do.

6340. The Nelson at Rudford?—Yes.

6341. What persons did you bribe?—No one at all.

6342. No one?—No.

6343. Are you sure of that?—I had some money of a person to do so, but I did not do it myself, or of my own head.

6344. Did you not bribe Wadley?—I gave him the money, but I only handed it from hand to hand.

6345. How much money did you hand to him?—I do not know exactly; I never counted it; it was put in a paper.

6346. What money did you receive?—I do not know; I received it in a paper.

6347. Who did you receive it from?—I received it from Mr. Bryon, the landlord of the Berkeley Arms.

6348. You received from Mr. Bryon something in a paper?—Yes, I did.

6349. Did you not open the paper?—I did not, not till after he had polled.

6350. What were you to do with it?—I gave it to the man, and he put it in his pocket.

6351. What did Bryon tell you to do with it?—To give it him; he would not poll without it; he said he could have it from the other party. He said, "You must not lose him, you had better give him this." I never knew what it was.

6352. Was that John Wadley?—Yes.

6353. Did you come to Gloucester on the morning of the polling with John Wadley?—I did.

6354. And with the Phelps's?—Yes.

6355. How many altogether?—Only two of the Phelps's were with me.

6356. Are the Phelps's the men from Barbers' Bridge?—One, and another brother.

6357. And who else?—Two men who were staying with me, three.

6358. What were their names?—John Wadley was one, and a man by the name of Beard.

6359. What is his Christian name?—I am sure I cannot tell; they were all strangers to me.

6360. Who was the other?—William Greening, I think, was the name of the other man.

6361. Why were they staying with you?—They were sent to me.

6362. Who sent them?—William Probert brought them to me; William Probert, of the Queen's Head in this city.

6363. Did he bring them to you?—He did.

6364. When?—On the Thursday; two were there on the Tuhrsday, and one on the Friday morning or afternoon; I think it was the Friday afternoon that Beard came.

6365. What did he bring them to you for?—For protection.

6366. Did he say so?—Wadley did; he said when he came into the house "Landlord, I want nothing of you; all I want is for you to take care of me, or else I am a murdered man."

6367. Protection from whom?—He said he wanted me to take care of him, and protect him from the Tory party, or else he should be a murdered man; he said that repeatedly.

6368. Was he tipsy at that time?—No, not particularly; he had had a little drop.

6369. Should you call him sober?—I should not call him sober.

6370. Did he know what he was about?—Yes.

6371. Did Greening say anything?—He was not stopping with me; he was sent to me first, and I told the man who brought him that I could not accommodate him, for I was short of bedrooms, but I referred him to a neighbour of mine who keeps the inn below.

6372. Did Beard say anything to you?—No; he was sent over; he said nothing more than that he was come over to stop with me.

6373. Each of them told you they were come to stop with you?—Yes; he said he was come to look after these men; those were his words when he came in.

6374. To look after the other two men?—To look after the other two men.

6375. You did not consider that it was a kind of kidnapping, did you?—No; I wanted to know who was to pay me.

6376. Are you a voter?—No.

6377. What was the amount of your bill?—*2l.* 12*s.*, but I received fifty shillings.

6378. Did any persons from the Tory party come to your house?—If you will allow me I will state. I think it was three or four in the afternoon of the Friday—I would not be sure as to the time—I was sitting with this man Wadley in the taproom very quietly; I think Beard was with us, and I think Greening. We were all together sitting very quietly, and in comes a noted character of Sir Robert Carden's, a sweep of the name of Clements, with his brush in his hand as if he had been to business; he came in and called for a quart of ale; I served him with it. He drove up within a hundred yards of my house, and left his trap in the road in the care of some man, and came in by himself; I did not know that he had any trap. He got questioning this man Wadley about what brought him here? what made him come here? and Wadley, I think, made him no answer. In a very few minutes Probert came back—the senior Probert. He said he had met them on the road, and he thought there was something wrong, and he came back. He came into the house, and said, "John," (meaning Wadley,) "there is something wrong going on, you had better go along with me;" and the sweep spoke directly, "No, John, you will not go." Probert said again, "You had better go with me John, there is something wrong going on;" and Wadley directly said, "Well, I will go;" and the sweep said he should not go. He put on his hat, and Mr. Probert had a fly at the door, and we put him in the fly, and off he drove him; he wished to be driven off. I sent him to a neighbour of mine, at a farm called Barbers' Bridge. I had not been there half an hour before I heard there were twenty or thirty bullies coming out from Gloucester.

6379. Coming to your house?—Yes, and I had no one but my mistress and a young child, and I did not know what to do; I directly got a lot of men to go there.

6380. To your house?—Yes, for the protection of my life.

6381. Did twenty or thirty people come to your house?—Eight or ten, headed by Curly Bick, the celebrated fighter, and a man of the name of Douglas, a fighting man, and another fighting man, I believe, but I really do not know them myself.

6382. When they came to your house what did they say?—The sweep stood in one corner, and sent some of those men in; two came in first and said, "Mistress, we do not want to hurt you; it is all right—I am working under the firm of Mr. Price—if you will tell us where the voters are." "That is all right," (my mistress said), "if you had been here ten minutes ago you would have seen them, but they are gone, and I do not know where they are;" and then all the rest flocked into the house, eight or ten, and one pulled out a piece of paper and said, "I have a search warrant, and I will search your house, for I am determined to have those men that are here if it costs us 50*l.*"

6383. Did they search your house?—No; my mistress dared them to do so. She said, "If you put a foot on my stairs I will put you out;" and with that they left. They searched the rooms down stairs; after that they left. They went about half a mile

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further on the road, and met a boy, and said, "Boy, did you meet a yellow fly?" He said "No." They said, "If you will tell us the truth we will give you a sovereign. Do you know where the yellow fly went?" He said "I do not."

6384. Is that the statement you have to make?—That is the statement. There is one thing I should like to say respecting what Wadley said before the House of Commons, and that is, that all he said about me there was untrue.

6385. You wish to say that all he said about you was untrue?—Yes; on the morning of the nomination he wished me to take him to see Mr. Price. He said that he never had seen him, and that he wished to see him.

6386. Did you take him to Mr. Price?—I did, with his own inclination. He pressed me very much to do so. I was going to a place just below on a little business, and I took him with me.

6387. You did not take him there yourself voluntarily, but you were requested by him to take him there?—That is the truth.

6388. (*Mr. Welford.*) You say that as to these men you have been speaking of, you wanted to know who was to pay you?—Mr. Bryon; I asked him who was going to pay me. I said, "I have nothing to "do with the election, neither do I want to have "anything to do with it." He said, "I will pay you "if no one else will."

6389. Did he tell you you should look to anybody elese in the first instance?—No; not any other person, and that was the way I had 50*s.*; my bill came to 2*l.* 12*s.*, and I received 50*s.*

WILLIAM HENLEY sworn and examined.

W. Henley.

6390. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a printer?—I am.

6391. You were acting, I believe, as member of the committee in the north ward?—No; I had nothing to do with any committee at all, that is to say, I attended no committee meeting whatever.

6392. How long before the election were you engaged in canvassing voters?—I was not aware that I was engaged by any particular person whatever.

6393. But you were engaged; you did employ yourself in canvassing?—Yes; I should say for about a fortnight; it may have been from twelve to fourteen days.

6394. Did you canvass a great many?—I canvassed the greater portion of the out-voters.

6395. Did you represent to anybody that it would be necessary to obtain considerable sums of money for the purchase of the votes of the out-voters?—I am not aware that I did. I may have intimated that money would be required, knowing the tactics of the parties canvassing on the opposite side.

6396. Knowing the tactics of the canvassers on the opposite side, you may have said that money would be required for the votes of the out-voters?—I may have said so. I certainly did say on one occasion to Mr. Kendall, that money was absolutely required for the purpose of canvassing those voters, and that I thought it necessary that something should be done for them.

6397. How much money did you receive during the whole time from different parties for the purposes of the election?—105*l.* 10*s.* or thereabouts.

6398. From whom?—I received a sum of 3*l.* 10*s.* and 12*l.* from Mr. Wilkes.

6399. That is 15*l.* 10*s.* then from Mr. Wilkes?—Yes, that was for nothing more I think than for the purpose of paying legitimate expenses.

6400. What did you receive from Mr. Robinson?—From Mr. Robinson I received 25*l.*

6401. How much from Mr. Wilton?—25*l.*

6402. Mr. John Wilton?—Mr. John Wilton.

6403. Brewer Monk?—Mr. Brewer Monk I had no connection with whatever.

6404. Just tell me the name of the other parties?—From Mr. Jefferson Bryon I received 30*l.*, Mr. Wilton, I think, in his evidence, has stated that the sum was 45*l*; 30*l.* was the sum, and 10*l.* that was left at my shop.

6405. By whom?—I do not know; it was left there on the morning of the election, but I do not know by whom.

6406. 10*l.* by some unknown person?—10*l.* by some unknown person.

6407. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But left with you?—With my assistant; I presumed for what purpose it was left, and I made no inquiries.

6408. Did your assistant know?—I should say not.

6409. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How did you expend that money?—Do you wish for the names of the persons I paid that money to for the purchase of votes?

6410. Yes; the names of the persons that you bribed?—Samuel Vaile, of Bollow, Westbury-on-Severn.

6411. How much?—8*l.*

6412. For what?—For the purchase of his vote.

6413. For Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

6414. Who else?—George Harris Vaile, a son of the latter; the same price.

6415. Does he live at the same place?—Yes; I also gave a gratuity to Thomas George Vaile of 5*l.*, that is to say, to his wife.

6416. Is he a voter?—Yes; but he had had the misfortune to break his hip, and was then confined in the Gloucester Infirmary; I gave that to his mother for the purpose of assisting his wife and family.

6417. Did you give that to the mother of Thomas George Vaile for the purpose of obtaining his vote?—It was impossible to obtain his vote, for he was an in-door patient of the Gloucester Infirmary, therefore he could not possibly come to the poll.

6418. Did you know at the time you gave that money that he could not come to the poll?—I did.

6419. Was that 5*l.* given to the mother of Thomas George Vaile, as an additional inducement to Samuel Vaile and his son to vote?—It may have been taken so by them, but it was not intended so by me.

6420. (*Mr. Welford.*) They knew of the gratuity having been given?—I gave the money into the hands of the mother of Thomas George Vaile.

6421. Who is the next?—William Vaile, also a son of Samuel Vaile.

6422. How much?—The same sum.

6423. 8*l.*?—Yes.

6424. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes. The next person is James Vaile, residing in the same neighbourhood.

6425. The same money?—Yes, 8*l.*

6426. For his vote also?—Yes. The next person is Samuel Skillern, of Apperley.

6427. How much did you give to him?—I could not be positive whether it was 8*l.* or 9*l.*; it was one or the other; I would swear it was one or the other; I cannot say which.

6428. Did you give that also to him for his vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did.

6429. The next?—The next is Thomas Perks, also of Apperley.

6430. How much?—The like amount; I could not swear positively whether it was 8*l.* or 9*l.*

6431. For his vote also?—For his vote also.

6432. The next?—The next person is Thomas Davis, of Haresfield, labourer.

6433. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) A freeman?—A freeman.

6434. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much?—5*l.* 10*s.*

6435. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; I have it here as "Thomas Davis, labourer, Haresfield."

6436. How much did you give him?—5*l.* 10*s.*

6437. Who is the next?—John Ashmeade, of Elmore Back.

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6438. How much ?—9*l.* John Bosley of Epney, a ship owner or boat owner, or something of that kind, 10*l.*

6439. Also for his vote ?—Yes.

6440. William Davis, of Haresfield ?—Yes.

6441. How much ?—3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.*, I could not say which ; the whole of those voters gave plumpers for Carden in 1857.

6442. Did you canvass those parties ?—I did.

6443. And did you understand from them on your canvassing them, that they would not vote unless they received money for their votes ?—I should previously tell you that that is not the whole of my list.

6444. Did you understand from them that they would not vote unless they were paid for their votes ?—Certainly, they gave me to understand the price they had received before, and the price they should expect to receive now.

6445. Now, go on.—The next is Matthew Davis, of Longney, 4*l.* ; this voter, I think, polled for Price and Berkeley in 1857.

6446. You paid him 4*l.* for his vote ?—Yes.

6447. For Price and Monk ?—Yes ; George Davis a like sum, the nephew, I believe, of the other.

6448. Where does he live ?—Also of Longney.

6449. Also for his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes ; George Davis, I should say, of Epney, and to John Dunn, of Gloucester, 5*l.* That is the whole of my list.

6450. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what parish does he live ?—I do not know.

6451. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he ?—An ostler, I think.

6452. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him ?—5*l.*

6453. Are those all the persons ?—Yes, to the best of my belief they are.

6454. Have you exhausted the sum you had received ?—No, there is a balance of some 12*l.* or 13*l.* that was expended in travelling, refreshments, cab hire, paying turnpikes, and so on. Travelling in quest of country votes is very expensive work.

6455. Travelling and treating voters ?—And treating voters.

6456. Where did you treat them ?—When such has been the case, it has been in the country where I have been with them.

6457. At inns in the country ?—Yes ; or I may have given them a small gratuity to procure some refreshments ; they generally expect it.

6458. Could you give me the names ?—I could not give you the names of any individual persons, because I believe they were all alike, more or less.

6459. They generally wanted gratuities or treating ?—Yes ; gratuities or treating of some kind.

6460. In that way you account for the balance ?—Yes. I should say it was more rather than less. I may have been money out of my own pocket.

6461. When you received the money from the different persons, whose names you have mentioned, were you instructed to bribe particular individuals or to act on your own discretion ?—To act entirely on my own discretion.

6462. The names of the parties you were to bribe were not mentioned ?—No ; there are other persons that I canvassed that I did not succeed in bribing.

6463. Did you offer money to those persons ?—I did.

6464. To whom ?—I offered money to a man of the name of Ashmeade,—James Ashmeade, of Minsterworth.

6465. Is that a brother to John ?—Yes ; that man gave evidence, I believe, before the Election Committee in London.

6466. How much did you offer him ?—10*l.* In his evidence he swears I offered him a bottle of brandy. I repudiate it altogether.

6467. You did offer him 10*l.* ?—I did.

6468. But you did not offer him a bottle of brandy ?—I did not ; nothing was said about it.

6469. Did he agree to take the 10*l.* ?—No ; he took time to consider it.

6470. Did you offer him 10*l.* for his vote ?—I did.

6471. And he took time to consider it ?—He did.

6472. Did you see him afterwards ?—No ; I saw his brother. He told me it would be useless to think of procuring him ; that Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck had been there, and he could not offend his master, Mr. Reuben Artus, a local postmaster. Mr. Ward had told him that he should have 5*l.*, and that he should be on the Blue committee two days ; that would make it 5*l.* 10*s.*, and that was all he could do. This voter swore before the Election Committee in the House of Commons, that he received no consideration whatever, and never expected any.

6473. Now, the next ?—The next is Job Bosley, of Epney, boat builder.

6474. Is that the son of John Bosley ?—The father of John Bosley.

6475. What did you offer him ?—5*l.* It may have been more ; but I could not swear to more. He was very willing indeed to support Messrs. Price and Monk ; and I think he did say, that he should be willing to vote for them without receiving any money whatever ; but that he was at that time working for a Mr. Rowles, at Frampton, and was doing a considerable amount of stone-work for other parties ; and that if he voted for Price and Monk, he should be out of work a great part of the winter. I believed what he stated to me, and did not press him any further.

6476. How did he vote ?—For Carden.

6477. Who was the next ?—John Lake, of Ashleworth. I canvassed him. Previous to making him any offer I had some conversation with him, as to which way he was likely to go. He informed me that he had voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1857, which I already knew, and that it entirely depended upon the price. He said, Lawyer Clutterbuck had been there, and had shown him eight sovereigns. I said, "Very well, then, I will make it ten." I called upon him afterwards, and he informed me that his landlord had put the screw on, and that he could not take it ; that was his own expression.

6478. Who was his landlord ?—I do not know his name. I heard it, but I do not remember it now. I can procure it and send it to you.

6479. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did he vote ?—He voted for Carden.

6480. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) But you did offer 10*l.* ?—I offered 2*l.* upon the market price. Mr. Clutterbuck's offer was 8*l.*, and I offered him 10*l.*

6481. For his vote ?—Yes. The next person was William Coopey, of Churcham, for himself and family ; they are termed the family. There are about eleven or twelve of them ; they reside, most of them, in the vicinity of Churcham, Huntley, and so forth.

6482. What did you offer to the family ?—I think it was on the Sunday before the election. I went there between the hours of eight and nine, and I drove to Mr. William Coopey's house, who keeps a cider or beer house, at Churcham. I inquired for Mr. William Coopey. I said, "Are you Mr. William Coopey ?" He said, "I am." "My name," I said, "is Mr. William Henley. I live at the Cross. I am "come to see if we cannot come to some arrangement "about you and the whole lot of you voting for the "two Liberal members." He, first of all, said, "Let "us come in and have some cider." I went in, and I think I paid for seven or eight gallons. I cannot say, I am sure, how many there were ; but there was a large number of the family, both wives and otherwise ; at all events, it amounted to seven or eight shillings. I then called William Coopey outside, and we went, I suppose, some 50 yards up the Huntley road. The first question I put was, "What is your price ?" He said he did not know ; what could I give. He said it must be something handsome. I said, "Will 80*l.* do ?" He says, "Hold "out your hand," and struck my palm ; it was just the same as if you were purchasing a lot of pigs. He is a pig dealer. I think I offered him 5*l.* down

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to bind the bargain; but he said there would be plenty of time for that.

6483. *5l.* for each vote?—No; *5l.* down as a deposit, and I think I said I could procure one or two of his nephews some Government appointment, or something of that kind, as a further inducement. He accepted the offer, and it was arranged that Mr. William Stephens (who gave his evidence on Saturday) should come over on the following morning, and arrange as to the payment of the money.

6484. You offered *8l.* for each vote I suppose?—No; to make use of a common term, we lumped them, eighty the lot; I think there were eleven; I would not swear, but it is ten or eleven.

6485. Did you see them afterwards?—I never had any further communication with them; I handed them over to Mr. Stephens; I believed them always purchaseable, and I had no doubt whatever that they were to be had.

6486. Do you know that they were purchased in 1857?—Yes, and at the proper time I shall be prepared to prove it.

6487. Who was the next person?—Mr. James Dowding, of the White Hart, in Bell Lane.

6488. Is that the person you went to with Mr. Wilkes?—The person I went to with Mr. Wilkes. Mr. Wilkes's evidence is perfectly correct upon that point. I certainly made an offer to Mr. Dowding, that if he would promise to vote for either of the Liberal candidates I would fill his house. I had no authority to say that, but if he had made the promise I should have endeavoured to carry it out.

6489. You promised you would have a meeting of the friends of the Liberal candidates?—Yes.

6490. And a supper or something of that sort?—No; three or four pounds, or five pounds.

6491. Was anything said about the Reform Club?—I would not swear that; it was tantamount to the same thing; it was a meeting of the Liberal party.

6492. Have you anything to add to the statement of Mr. Wilkes, as to Dowding?—No; nothing more than that I protested against his calling upon Dowding, knowing that his son was a member of the Blue committee—Carden's committee. I considered it to be useless.

6493. His son was so at that time?—He was.

6494. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is his son a voter?—No; I do not recollect positively that there are any more persons that I canvassed.

6495. Those are the persons to whom you gave or offered bribes?—To the best of my recollection. There is a person I have to allude to, Decimus Best; Mr. Wilkes wished me to give him a sum of two pounds to return to Jacobs, for the purpose of getting some information respecting previous elections.

6496. That was a few days ago?—Yes; last Saturday week or Monday week.

6497. Did you get any information from him?—None whatever; he strongly protested that he had not been promised the Bartlemans, but that it was merely an idea that he should get it. With respect to those persons I have enumerated, I should like to tell you the remarks they made at the time that I bribed each of those individuals as near as my memory will serve me. As to the persons I have bribed, I have merely enumerated the sums I have paid to them.

6498. Will the statements you propose to make be an explanation of the circumstances under which you gave them money?—To some extent.

THOMAS HICKS sworn and examined.

T. Hicks

6499. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a surgeon?—Yes.

6500. Do you know James Orpin?—Yes.

6501. He lives in Albion Street?—Yes.

6502. Does he keep a beerhouse?—Yes.

6503. Is he at present unable to attend the court?—Yes, he is.

6504. What is he suffering from?—From gout.

6505. When do you think he will be able to attend?—I hope in the course of a day or so.

WILLIAM HENLEY'S examination continued.

W. Henley.

6506. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were about to tell us what was said to you by the persons you bribed?—I should say that as to the first persons on my list, Samuel Vaile, George Harris Vaile, and Thomas George Vaile, the money was paid to the wife of Samuel Vaile, in one sum, about three o'clock on the morning of the polling. These voters had been canvassed by Messrs. Ward and Clutterbuck, on behalf of the Conservatives; and I think the offer was *5l.* a piece; I could swear it was from what they told me. In one of those conversations—I could not be positive as to dates—but in one of those conversations, Samuel Vaile said, "Mr. Ward, I have every reason to believe you have been giving the Coopeys more than you have us." He says, "I have not." He said, "William Coopey has told me that the Coopeys of Huntley have always had *8l.* a piece." Mr. Ward said, "I make no difference; I treat you all alike." William Vaile, I think, I fetched about half-past nine o'clock on the morning of the polling; he was to have come with his brothers and father at midnight. I met Mr. Clutterbuck at his house on the morning of the polling, and, I think, it was entirely a question of price. I remained in the fly outside while Mr. Clutterbuck held a conversation with Mr. and Mrs. Vaile; eventually they came to Gloucester with me.

6507. That was William Vaile?—William Vaile.

6508. You met Mr. Clutterbuck there?—Yes; and I think it was entirely a question of price.

6509. For whom did he poll?—He polled for Price and Monk in 1859.

6510. Which Mr. Clutterbuck was that?—Mr. Walter Clutterbuck the attorney. On my road from William Vaile's I met a man, if I may call him one, of the name of James Vaile, cousin, I believe, of the last four, at least, I should say, I did not meet him, I overtook him on the road. It was the coachman who said, "Mr. Henley, here is a voter on the road," and I invited him inside; I think he had a son with him; I could not swear it was his son; and I drove with the other Vaile and his wife to the Berkeley Arms.

6511. Which Vaile did you take?—William Vaile and his wife, and this James Vaile that I had picked up on the road. He came to me in a very cringing manner, and said he had been promised a sum of money in 1857 to vote for Carden, and had not received it. He said he had made up his mind that, under no circumstances again would he leave his own colours, or words to that effect; and that he had been offered *5l.* by Mr. Ward to vote for Sir Robert Carden in 1859, but that he would take the same price as I gave the others, namely, *8l.*

6512. Did he say he had been offered *5l.* to vote for Sir Robert Carden in 1859?—He said he had been promised a high sum in 1857, but had not received it. He did not mention the amount. The next person is Samuel Skillern, who resides at Apperley. On the day of the nomination I went, about twelve in the morning, to his employer, a Mr. Crump, of Whitfield Farm, in the parish of Apperley; and being a farm labourer, it was requisite at that hour of the day that I should see his employer before finding him. I met Mr. Crump, who informed me that Samuel Skillern was at work for him, and if I wanted him I must find him; "but," he said "it is of no use "your seeing him, he will vote Blue after all; and, "therefore, it is only your time wasted." I, however, sent a messenger to Skillern, and met him by the

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appointment of this witness at six o'clock on the morning of the polling.

6513. And he voted for Price and Monk?—He voted for Price and Monk.

6514. You gave him the money?—I gave him the money, and he voted. He voted some hours before he was paid.

6515. Then Thomas Perks?—He was canvassed by Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck. Mrs. Perks and her husband met Mr. Clutterbuck at the New Inn. Mr. Clutterbuck says, "I shall make it all right with you "as I have done before, but I cannot do it all just now." They appeared to have a feeling of mistrust about Mr. Clutterbuck; and, accordingly, went down to Sir Robert Carden's committee-room and saw Mr. Lovegrove; Mr. Coroner Lovegrove they termed him. Mr. Lovegrove said, that whatever Mr. Clutterbuck promised he would see carried out; and, turning to a person in the room, instructed him to send a fly for Mr. Perks on the morning of the polling, which he did. I had secured him the night before. The next voter is Thomas Davis, of Haresfield. He promised Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward, I think, in the presence of his master, to vote for Sir Robert Carden; he told me so. On the Sunday after he had made this promise, I visited him, and I think I gave him 3*l.* to vote for Mr. Monk; one vote to please his master and one to please himself. I also think I promised his wife some pictures or something of the kind, which I afterwards gave her, if she would induce her husband to give Mr. Monk one. I received a letter from him on the Tuesday afterwards, saying, he had mentioned the matter to his master, Mr. Chandler, who was much annoyed and offended; and that if anything should occur to compel him to go for Sir Robert at last, he would return whatever I gave him. He came to me on Saturday, the day of the polling, and said, his master was so much annoyed that he did not care whether he voted or not; and, therefore, I gave him 2*l.* more, and he voted for Price and Monk.

6516. Who is his master?—Mr. Thomas Chandler, of Haresfield. The next is John Ashmeade. This was a witness who was "bottled" by the Blues in 1857. I think I gave him 1*l.*, when I called upon him, and his wife eight sovereigns afterwards. I would not swear whether I gave him the pound first or the 9*l.* together. He had been very badly treated, in consequence of voting for Carden in 1857, and was anxious, I think, to make amends for it. He stated that Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck had visited him.

6517. How do you mean that he was badly treated?—They are all Liberal in the parish of Elmore, and they knew very well that he had been bribed to vote for Carden in 1857, and they would not let him any potato ground, or something of that kind, and he was very anxious to return to his old principles as soon as he could. I made an arrangement two or three days before the election that I would call for him on the evening of the nomination at eight o'clock, which I did; and on my arrival he told me that Mr. Ward had been over in company with his brother, James Ashmeade, and induced him to go across the Severn, where Mr. Walter Clutterbuck was waiting with a fly to convey him and his brother to Gloucester; but he declined, saying, he should not go across the Severn that night. Mr. Ward then called him out of the house, and said, "Now you had better come; and "then Clutterbuck will think it is not my fault, and "I shall give you 5*l.* and put you on the Blue com- "mittee two days, and that will be 5*l.* 10*s.* a piece; "that is the same as I am going to give your brother." This witness swore that he never received anything. The next is John Bosley, of Epney. He is, I think, a boat owner or something of that kind. He was not at home for some few weeks before the election. This voter must have cost a large amount of money, for he was canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward two or three times a day in flys in pairs, for some days previous to the election.

6518. That is your opinion only?—The voter will say so.

6519. Did he make any statement to you?—His wife made a statement that Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward had offered her a large sum of money, but she would not say what. I told her I would give her husband 10*l.* I thought it absolutely essential I should mention a large sum, in consequence of the competition that raged between Mr. Ward and myself as to who should possess the voter. I could swear I promised a set of pictures for herself if she would induce her husband to vote for the two Liberal candidates. Those were for herself, to induce her to persuade her husband to vote for the two Liberal candidates, and he did.

6520. Then William Davis?—William Davis; I think 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* He was a tenant of Mr. Baker's, but his master was a Mr. Hawkins, a Liberal gentleman; and, I think, I induced him by a promise of 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* to split his vote, and he polled for Monk and Carden. Then Matthew Davis I also paid 4*l.* to. I have no remark to make upon either of the others, George Davis or John Dunn.

6521. Besides what you have stated, are you aware of other cases of bribery at the last election?—I am not aware, personally; I can only answer for myself in this case. I have no doubt there was bribery to a considerable extent on both sides.

6522. Did you take part in the election of 1857?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1857 partly from the pressure of my landlord, who happens to be Sir Robert Carden's agent; I should say partly from my landlord's agent, who happens to be agent for Sir Robert Walter Carden, and partly in consequence of a little difference with reference to a band score in 1853.

6523. Did you take part in the election of 1857?—No; I merely recorded my vote from the circumstances I have mentioned.

6524. Have any circumstances of corruption at that election come to your knowledge that you wish to mention to the Commissioners?—Certainly; many at the proper time.

6525. (*Mr. Welford.*) You say the moneys you received you were to apply according to your discretion?—Yes.

6526. But the persons from whom you received them knew you were going to apply them in bribery?—They never told me so.

6527. Did you ask them for the money?—Yes; I asked them for it. I know it was within my knowledge, and I presumed it was within their knowledge too.

6528. It was understood between you?—On my part; I do not know whether it was on theirs.

6529. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you aware whether these proceedings were approved of by Mr. Monk or not?—I never had any conversation with Mr. Monk whatever, except on one occasion.

6530. Did you ever hear whether he approved or disapproved of bribery being practised?—I never made any inquiries. Mr. Monk canvassed me, and I made him my promise.

6531. Did you consider yourself entitled to commit Mr. Monk in this way without his authority?—I did not see how it could commit Mr. Monk; I had nothing to do with Mr. Monk; I was not on any committee. One of the witnesses swore he saw me in and out of the committee-room at least a dozen times; I repudiate that altogether.

6532. You practised this bribery entirely on your own behalf?—Not entirely on my own behalf; it was necessary to be done, knowing the tactics on the other side.

6533. Would you have resorted to bribery if Mr. Monk had expressly said he did not wish bribery to be practised on his behalf?—I cannot say if he had said so what I should have done.

6534. Did he not say so?—Not that I am aware of.

6535. Do you not know that he did?—No; I have

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W. Henley.
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no knowledge of it. The first commencement of my visiting the out-voters was from a conversation that took place between Mr. Wilkes the attorney and myself. He said he was morally certain that these out-voters were bribed, and that the persons employed for that purpose were Mr. Walter Clutterbuck and Mr. John Ward; and, therefore, it was necessary that some person should be sent round to counteract what they did; and I went most days at my own expense.

6536. You did not think it necessary to consult Mr. Monk or his agent?—Certainly not.

THOMAS MILES sworn and examined.

T. Miles.

6537. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a railway clerk at Stonehouse, are you not?—I am.

6538. You are employed by the Midland Railway Company?—I am.

6539. Did you take any part yourself in the last election for Gloucester—did you canvass any voters?—No.

6540. You did not canvass any?—No.

6541. Did you bribe any persons?—I did not.

6542. What did you receive for your vote yourself?—I received nothing for my vote. Mr. Brewer Monk has stated that I received *5l.* from him for my vote, but that was wrong.

6543. What did you receive?—The station master wrote for two days for me; I had one day and a night, and after the election was over, when Mr. Monk and Mr. Price were returned, Mr. Brewer Monk came from the committee-room and said, "Well, we have had a glorious majority;" and I said, "We have." I said, "I have expended fifty shillings out of my own pocket for pastime and treating persons that did me a service," or words to that effect; and he said "Well, here is *5l.* 10*s.*, that will pay you for your time." I had five sovereigns and a half from him.

6544. Were you in Gloucester the whole time?—I was.

6545. A day and a night?—One night and one day.

6546. And during that night and day you spent *50s.*?—I did, out of my own pocket.

6547. You received *5l.* 10*s.* afterwards from Mr. Brewer Monk?—Yes; but not for my vote.

6548. What did you receive it for?—For my time; he said "Will that satisfy you for your time"?—I said, "It will, amply."

6549. Had Monk canvassed you before?—He never had.

6550. Had any person canvassed you before?—No one from the city of Gloucester.

6551. Did you come in voluntarily?—I did.

6552. Did he say it was for your loss of time?—It may have been for my loss of time; he said, "Will that repay you for your time and trouble?"

6553. Did he say that?—Yes, he did to me.

6554. Had you lost anything in consequence of coming into Gloucester to vote?—Merely paying a man during the time I was away.

6555. How much did you pay him?—I may have given him five shillings a day, with what I might have paid for his food and otherwise; about five shillings a day.

6556. Would you have paid ten shillings?—In the two days; I could not say within a shilling; I could say I did pay it. But there were my wife and family, they had to be maintained; there were their expenses.

6557. What did you receive a week?—Sixteen shillings.

6558. That is rather more than two shillings a day?—Two shillings and eightpence.

6559. You spent fifty shillings for your expenses in Gloucester, and received *2l.* 10*s.* for your time?—I did.

6560. Do you mean to swear that that money was not paid to you for your vote?—I will swear it.

6561. Had you any conversation at all with Brewer Monk about this money before you received the money from him?—Never in my life.

6562. Then he came voluntarily and put the money into your hands?—He came to me after the poll was declared in favour of Monk and Price, and said "We have had a glorious majority;" and I said "It is so," or words to that effect. I said "I have expended fifty shillings," and he gave me *5l.* 10*s.*

6563. Do you mean to say that Brewer Monk never said a word to you on the subject of your vote before he spoke to you after the poll was over?—I will swear it.

6564. And did he then voluntarily offer to give you *5l.* 10*s.* for your time?—Yes, I swear it, not only for my time, but for my expenditure and my time.

6565. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did he know that you had voted for the Liberal candidates?—I am not aware.

6566. Perhaps he was not aware of it himself?—Undoubtedly he was.

6567. Without knowing that you had voted for the Liberal candidates he offered you this money?—He knew perfectly well I had voted for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk because I stated so to many persons.

6568. You just told the chief Commissioner you had no conversation with him at all?—I had not; I have sworn it.

6569. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you under the idea that Mr. Brewer Monk was paying all the voters who had come in to vote for Price and Monk?—I was not.

6570. What special reason then had he for offering you this *5l.* 10*s.*?—I anticipated that it was from his own resources, because he took such an active part.

6571. What reason was there for his giving you this *5l.* 10*s.*?—He knew that I was living at Stonehouse, and that I had been here one night and one day; that may have been his special reason—I know no other.

6572. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did he know you were here a day and a night?—I saw him in the street together with young Mr. Probert.

6573. When?—On the night of the nomination day I saw him in the street, but not to have any conversation with him.

6574. How do you know he saw you?—I do not know that.

6575. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How did you come to Gloucester?—By railway.

6576. How long were you in Gloucester?—I came by the twenty-five minutes past five train, and I was in Stonehouse at twenty minutes past seven the following evening.

6577. How came you to spend *2l.* 10*s.* in Gloucester?—I had a few pounds of my own, which I have now, thank God.

6578. How did you spend it?—Treating parties when they saw me or anyone else; if I knew them, I did treat them with a glass or so.

6579. For the good of the cause?—For the good of the cause.

6580. Did you tell that to Brewer Monk?—I did not.

6581. When yon expended that *2l.* 10*s.* did you do it in the expectation of receiving it back again?—I never did.

6582. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay your railway fare?—No; I had a pass.

6583. You have a pass I suppose to day?—I have not.

6584. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not requested to come into Gloucester at the election?—No; I was not requested.

6585. Not by anyone?—No; not by anyone.

6586. You were not canvassed by anyone?—I was

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by one gentleman in the railway, but I do not know his name.

6587. After you left Stonehouse?—Previous to that.

6588. You were not requested by anyone to come to Gloucester to vote?—Unless it was by that gentleman.

6589. Was no letter written to you?—None, I will swear.

6590. Why did you not come in on the Saturday?—What Saturday?

6591. On the day of the polling; why did you come the night previously?—Because in the morning our trains were so late.

6592. Do you mean to swear that?—I do; it may have been twenty-five minutes past seven, and I wished to see what was going on, and endeavoured to take every possible chance I could to avail myself of an opportunity to obtain votes for Messrs. Price and Monk.

E. Kendall.

EDWARD KENDALL sworn and examined.

6593. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A ship-broker.

6594. Living in Gloucester?—Yes.

6595. Did you take a part in the last election?—Very little indeed; I did not canvass except in two or three instances.

6596. What cases were those?—I canvassed one or two men when I accidentally met Mr. Monk; one or two parties he wished to see.

6597. When you met Mr. Brewer Monk?—No; the candidate.

6598. You canvassed two or three persons in connexion with himself?—Yes; I recollect one or two.

6599. Do you remember offering any person any money for a vote?—No.

6600. Or giving any money to a man to vote?—No; I recollect one man telling me that if he did vote he was to have 10*l.*

6601. Who was that?—A man of the name of Baker.

6602. What Baker was that?—I do not know his Christian name, nor do I know how he voted; I have never looked at the poll book to see.

6603. Do you know where he lives?—No; he is a servant of Partridge and Company.

6604. You did not give him the money?—I did not; nor did I give him any inducement to lead him to suppose he would have it.

6605. Do you remember going to Mr. Robinson about some money?—Yes; I recollect that I was one day passing Mr. Wilkes's office door, when two or three parties standing in the door-way called me in; Mr. Henley was one of them, and Mr. Becks, Mr. Wilkes's clerk, I think was there.

6606. What took place?—It was named by Mr. Henley, I think, that he was incurring a good deal of expense,—he was travelling about in cabs to visit out-voters,—that he was spending money and had none, at least, that he had none left.

6607. How long was this before the election?—I think three or four or five days; I cannot exactly say.

6608. What did you say then?—I was requested by one or other of the parties, I do not know now who, to see if I could procure some; I was asked to go to Mr. Wilton.

6609. Did you go?—I did with Mr. Robinson.

6610. To Mr. John Wilton?—No, Mr. Robert Wilton.

6611. Did you obtain some money?—No.

6612. Do you remember what you told Mr. Robert Wilton on that occasion?—I told him just what I have told you now, that Mr. Henley and Mr. Becks, who were both canvassing together, had asked me to procure some funds.

6613. Did you give him to understand that the money was wanted for illegal expenses?—No; I told him what they said to me, that it was wanted for these out canvassers.

6614. Do you remember Mr. Robert Wilton saying he could only let you have money for legitimate expenses?—I think he said generally that he could only let parties have money for legitimate expenses, but he did not apply that to my application to him.

6615. He did not?—No; I think not.

6616. Mr. Robert Wilton gave us to understand that it was so?—Mr. Wilton may have drawn an inference,—because I named the parties who had applied to me,—for what purpose the money was intended; he stated in general terms that he could only advance money for legitimate expenses.

6617. He did not let you have any?—No.

6618. Did you consider that you were making an application for money to be expended illegally?—Not unless you consider the little treating that would necessarily go on if I went to see an outvoter at a distance illegal. There might be a description of treating which might not be strictly legal.

6619. With that exception you did not think it was intended to be used illegally?—No; because Mr. Henley told me he had cabs to pay, and so on.

6620. Is that the only application formoney that you made?—Yes.

6621. Did any other money pass through your hands?—No; I was asked to supply money, which I declined.

6622. Did any instances of bribery come within your own knowledge?—No; none whatever.

6623. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who asked you to advance money?—These same parties, at the time I applied to Mr. Wilton, asked me if I would advance money on my own responsibility.

6624. Which you declined?—Yes; they asked me both previously and when I returned, I think.

6625. When this man Baker said if he voted he must have 10*l.*, was Mr. Monk with you?—Yes, Mr. Monk was present at the time, and the moment the man mentioned it Mr. Monk very properly walked away. I may state, hearing by accident the evidence of that man Miles just now, who I never saw before, that I applied to the manager of the railway company for permission for him to come here to vote; he, I dare say, had no knowledge of it. It was the only application made to me; one of the canvassers of the party mentioned this man to me, and requested that I would get the man sent up here.

6626. You applied yourself?—I did, and got the order transmitted for him to come up.

6627. When did you apply?—A day or two before the nomination; I think I applied on the Saturday.

6628. The week previous to the election?—The week previous.

6629. Did you apply for him to come to poll?—Yes, and an order was sent down I know for him to come on the nomination day. I thought it right to state that, because there appeared to be an inconsistency in his coming up on the nomination day, instead of the polling day, but I know permission was given him to come up on the nomination day.

6630. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not privy to his having 5*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

6631. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not yourself canvass him?—No, I never saw him till I saw him in this witness-box; I did not know him.

T. Upton

THOMAS UPTON sworn and examined.

6632. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a publican?—I am a maltster and publican; an innkeeper and a maltster.

6633. What inn do you keep?—The Fountain Inn, in Westgate Street.

6634. It is at your house that the Reform Club holds its meetings, is it not?—It is.

6635. How many times during the progress of the election were meetings of the Reform Club held at

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your house, during the three weeks?—There might have been three meetings, two or three, it may be three; I believe one was a special meeting for revising the law; the half-yearly meeting, I think.

6636. Were there any meetings of the committee of the Reform Club at your house, besides the general meetings?—Yes, there had been.

6637. During the three weeks before the election? No; there may have been, I cannot say; whatever committees there were, were on the club business.

6638. There was no meeting of any committee connected with the election?—The club I believe was called together.

6639. Was there a full meeting when the club was called together?—Yes.

6640. Were there a great many persons backwards and forwards at your house during the three weeks before the polling?—No.

6641. Not a great many?—Occasionally.

6642. Did persons come in and eat and drink?—Whatever they ate and drank they paid for.

6643. Did they always pay?—Do you mean on the election day?

6644. During the three weeks before the election?—I cannot say; I have no account; our business is generally a drawing and drinking business, and what is drawn is paid for over the counter, also what is sent up to the club; what they have they pay for.

6645. Were all the refreshments, eating and drinking, for three weeks before the election, paid for at your house?—Yes, by those who ordered them.

6646. At the close of the election had you no bill against the candidates?—I had no bill for a fraction of a farthing; on the day of the election one or two of the committee came down in the morning, and had something; they were knocking about, and it amounted to 8*s.* 10*d.* I believe, and one of the parties, not on that day, but three days afterwards, called and paid the 8*s.* 10*d.*; that was the whole amount that I drew that was not paid for.

6647. Did you receive any money from Brewer Monk?—No; when do you mean?

6648. At any time during the election?—There was beer paid for perhaps; I cannot say what was taken up in the room; I think Probert ordered a small quantity of beer. Monk might have been in the house, I cannot say.

6649. Was there any sum of money given you by Brewer Monk?—There was a sum of money given by Probert for all that was drawn up stairs on those nights—one night 1*l.* I think—another night another 1*l.*, and another night 2*l.*; the whole of that was paid.

6650. The total amount I understand you to say you received in consequence of those meetings was about 4*l.*?—That was the whole of the money and the 8*s.* 10*d.* Independent of that whatever was had at my house was paid for when called for. We were very busy on the day of the election; it was a wet day; we could not serve them fast enough. We would let them help themselves; we had not time. In London a person named Coates stated that he had plenty to eat and drink at the Fountain; if he had plenty to eat at the Fountain it was at my expense, for as is usual from ten in the morning till one, that there is the bread and cheese on the counter—such was the case on that day; and if he had anything to drink he must have either paid for it himself or some friend must have treated him.

6651. That sum of 4*l.* you received either from Probert or from Brewer Monk?—I received it from Probert; in fact I was sickened of electioneering before; I am an old stager. At my house some years ago I had a good many there, and the greater part of what they had is still unpaid for, I am sorry to say. I never have any bills; I never trust either party.

6652. Had you anything to do with any voters?—I never asked a voter. I never received a bribe nor gave a bribe, and I never asked a single voter for his vote.

6653. Is that the whole money that passed through your hands, 4*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*?—That is the whole amount of money.

6654. (*Mr. Welford.*) If voters were treated, what they had was paid for at the time?—Yes; if anybody came and had anything, it was paid for.

JOHN ORGAN sworn and examined.

John Organ.

6655. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—An innkeeper.

6656. What inn do you keep?—The Black Dog.

6657. Where is that?—In this city.

6658. In what street?—In Northgate Street.

6659. Was your house one of the houses of the Liberal party at the last election?—Yes; at least it was not an open house.

6660. It was a house frequented by the friends of the Liberal party?—I profess to be a Liberal myself, but we had nothing of the sort at my house; I never encouraged anything of the sort.

6661. You never encouraged anything of what sort?—Treating or anything of that kind.

6662. Do you mean to say that no treating went on at your house?—Not that I am aware of at all.

6663. Have you any bill for which you now have a claim for refreshments supplied at your house?—No.

6664. Were you paid at the time for all the refreshments supplied, and for all the drinking and eating that took place at your house?—Everything.

6665. Were many persons in the habit of coming to your house?—Not many.

6666. Do you remember to have seen Mr. Wilkes there?—No, I do not.

6667. Do you remember to have seen Mr. Brewer Monk there?—No, never; in fact, I do not know Brewer Monk to my knowledge; by name I know him.

6668. Mr. Probert?—I know him.

6669. You do not remember to have seen him at your house?—I do not recollect it; perhaps he may have been there.

6670. Could he have been at your house without your knowing it?—Perhaps he may have looked in with the canvassers and the candidates.

6671. Is James Organ your son?—Yes.

6672. Does he live with you?—No; he keeps the Saracen's Head.

6673. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you attend to the business yourself at the Black Dog?—Yes.

6674. Were there more people at your house during the election than usual?—No, there were but very few; there were a few friends of the Liberal party who came in one evening just previous to the election coming off.

6675. Was that a supper?—No; nothing more than a meeting; they had something to drink.

6676. Who paid for it?—It was paid among them, I do not know who by.

6677. One man did not pay for the rest?—No, I believe most of them paid for themselves. I was talking to a man the other day, and he said, "I can only say this, I am surprised at your being summoned to appear, because what I had I paid for myself."

6678. There was no direction given to you to afford refreshment to voters?—Not the least.

THOMAS GARDNER sworn and examined.

T. Gardner.

6679. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A maltster.

6680. Where do you live?—I have no fixed residence at present. I should not have been in Gloucester unless I had been summoned here.

6681. Where are you living now?—At Painswick; I am sometimes in Painswick and sometimes in Gloucester; I have no fixed residence at present, but I might have had if I had not been summoned here.

6682. Did you receive any money from Mr. Wilton?—I did.

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6683. Mr. John Wilton?—Mr. John Wilton.

6684. How much money did you receive from him?—12*l.*

6685. What were you to do with it?—To bring in the voters and to pay expenses; I had a very long way to go round and canvass the out-voters.

6686. Who did you bribe with that money?—In the first place, I canvassed Mr. Charles Keen, Thomas Charles Keen, I think.

6687. Where does he live?—At Woolley. I met him in Gloucester.

6688. What did you say to him when you canvassed him?—I asked him to vote for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

6689. What did he say when you canvassed him for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I asked him to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk, but I think I had asked him before when Admiral Berkeley was talked of, to vote for the Liberals.

6690. Did you canvass this man Keen, and offer him a sum of money for his vote?—I did not.

6691. Did you give him any money?—I did not, I might have treated him with some ale or a little gin and water.

6692. Did he say when you canvassed him how he intended to vote?—Yes.

6693. For whom did he say he intended to vote?—The same way as I did.

6694. Did you tell him which way you were going to vote?—I did.

6695. Which was that?—For Price and Monk.

6696. Did he say he would vote for Price and Monk?—He did.

6697. And did he vote for them?—He did.

6698. Tell us the name of any person you canvassed to whom you offered any money for his vote?—Mr. Keen told me that he was paid some expenses in 1857; I asked him who paid him, and he said Alderman Whithorn; if he can charge his memory he will think of it.

6699. How long was this before the election?—I cannot say; perhaps a fortnight it might be, or it might be longer than that; I cannot recollect.

6700. Did he say how much he was paid?—He said he had his demand, what he charged.

6701. How much was it?—He said he met Mr. William Curtis, the grocer, in 1857; he said that he was looking after me; that if he had seen me he would have went and voted along with me, but that he met Mr. Curtis and talked to him, and he said he had made up his mind to vote for Mr. Price before.

6702. Are you speaking of the election of 1857 or 1859?—No, 1857.

6703. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You gave no money to this person you canvassed in 1859?—No; I did not.

6704. Who was the next person?—Samuel Gardner, of Sheepscomb.

6705. Where is that?—In the parish of Painswick.

6706. How did you spend the 12*l.* you had received from Mr. Wilton?—In travelling expenses, and one thing and another; Gardner, with what I paid for his dinner and his son and daughter—he and the son together had somewhere about 8*l.*; the daughter was here at the election.

6707. What is the son's name?—John.

6708. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is he a voter?—Yes, he was then.

6709. At the last election?—At the last election.

6710. You gave those two men for their votes 8*l.*, did you?—Altogether. I gave it to the daughter. I gave the son half a sovereign, and I gave the daughter all the rest, besides what I paid.

6711. You gave the son half a sovereign, and to the daughter you gave the remainder of the money?—I gave the daughter the money first.

6712. For what purpose did you give that money to the daughter? Was that for the votes of Samuel Gardner and John Gardner?—I gave her 5*l.* 10*s.*; there was half a sovereign for herself, and she knew what the other 5*l.* was for.

6713. You said just now that you gave 8*l.* altogether?—That was what I paid. Then I saw the son afterwards, and he was not satisfied. He said he could have had more from the Tory party, and he would never vote for the Liberals again unless he was paid better. He said he had had to come better than 20 miles, I think; so I gave him another half sovereign then. And his father told me since that he would never vote for the Liberals again unless he was paid more than he was paid last time.

6714. Samuel Gardner told you that since the election?—The father.

6715. Did you pay that money, the half sovereign, the 5*l.* 10*s.*, and the other half sovereign for the votes of those two men?—Certainly; I should not have paid it if they had not voted.

6716. For Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes. But I should say, when I canvassed him in the first place he never mentioned a bribe, nor nothing of the sort; he never asked me for anything. I think I said "Is that your daughter?" He said, "Yes; don't you recollect her? She was here at the last election, and you gave her a present of colours or something;" and I might have said, "I will give her something this time;" and I believe I did. That was all the promise I made him; and then, when I came back to Gloucester a few days after, I was told that the Tories had been up there, and if I did not mind I should lose the votes; and I knew he was bribed by the Tories in 1857, and I thought I would walk up again.

6717. You knew that Samuel had been bribed?—Samuel; the son had not a vote then. I went up to his house, and saw his wife, and inquired for him; and she said he was not at home. I asked her where he was, and she said, "That way," pointing her hand.

6718. Did you see him?—I saw her, his wife.

6719. What did she say to you about the vote?—I asked her if her husband was at home, and she said he was not; and I asked her where he was, and she said somewhere, I do not remember where she said he was. I asked her in what direction it was, and she came outside the door, and pointed, and said, "That way." I went about half a mile, and met a man, and said, "Do you know where Samuel Gardner is?" He said, "He is up in the woods, a mile another way." That made me very cross, and I almost swore that the Tories should not have him unless they paid very dear for him. I went along a little further, and saw a female walking very fast, and I thought it was his daughter. I was between two high walls, and could not see much, so I got out into a plantation where I could have a good view. I did not know which way to go to the wood. Some time after that I saw him, and I went to him. He said, "How do you do?" I said, "I have come out for a stroll, and I thought I would give you a call." I could see that he was an altered man, and I thought the Tories had been with him.

6720. Did he say anything to you about it?—He did.

6721. Who did he say had been with him?—He said young Mr. Lovegrove had been to him. I asked him what he had said to him.

6722. What did he say young Mr. Lovegrove had been to him for?—To canvass him; he told me so.

6723. What did he say about young Mr. Lovegrove?—He told me that he said Sir Robert Carden had got plenty of money this time, and that he had better come down to Gloucester, and his uncle could give him a job of sawing. I said, "I hope you are not to be bought." He said, "I have got a large family, twelve children altogether." I walked down the road, and we went into a house, and had some refreshment there; after that, I think, his wife, and daughter, and son came in. They said there had been three or four more Tories there, and that they had come in a fly.

6724. Did they say who they were?—One was Mr. Walter Clutterbuck; and she said that one of

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them was so drunk that he could not get out of the fly.

6725. Did they tell you that any of them had made any offer of money?—No.

6726. Did you ever promise to put this man on the Liberal committee?—No, I never did. He told me that he was on.

6727. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did you dispose of the rest of the 12*l.* which you received from Mr. Wilton?—I think some of it at Mr. White's, at the Beaufort Arms.

6728. What did you give to Mr. White?—I think I paid Mr. White; I went in there one day.

6729. What day?—I cannot tell. White told me we were a damned shabby lot. He said he had had the Tory party there and had a dinner, and had Sir Robert Carden there, and he was going to send him some perry.

6730. What did you do upon that?—After that I thought I must do a little, and send some of the voters there to have a dinner, and I sent Gardner for one.

6731. How many besides did you send?—I think seven or eight.

6732. All voters?—No; there was Gardner's daughter, and there was another person that was not a voter—a voter's son.

6733. How much did you pay for that?—I am sure I do not know.

6734. Did that take all the rest of the money?—No; it did not. I spent some at the Cooper's Arms.

6735. How much did you spend there?—A few shillings; I cannot say what.

6736. Did you spend that on voters or on yourself?—On voters and some that were not voters; anybody who was in the cause.

6737. What White was it whom you paid for the supper or the dinner?—James White, at the Beaufort Arms.

6738. How did you spend the rest of the money?—I am sure I cannot tell.

6739. Was it all in treating?—All in treating.

6740. Was most of it spent in treating voters?—Most of them were voters. There were the Bishops. I called on them to ask them for a vote.

6741. Did you give them anything?—No, I went into the shop and asked them to vote for Price and Monk, and they said, "Mr. Monk—Was not his father a bishop?" I said, "Yes, but he is no Tory; he is as liberal as I am."

6742. Did you give them anything?—I stopped there by the fire and smoked, and I asked him to come along, and gave him some bread and cheese and ale.

James Organ.

JAMES ORGAN sworn and examined.

6743. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep the Saracen's Head?—Yes.

6744. Was that place frequented by voters at the last election?—Not that I am aware of.

6745. Was it not a good deal frequented by messengers?—There may have been messengers come in, but not to my knowledge.

6746. Did you ever receive any order to give refreshments or entertainment to any voters or messengers?—No.

6747. Were you ever paid any money by Brewer Monk in respect of any refreshments?—No.

6748. Nor by any one else?—No.

6749. Did the persons who came and ate and drank at your house pay for what they had at the time?—Yes, they did.

6750. Did you know that people came there and brought in voters from time to time, and paid for what they had?—Everybody paid for what they had.

6751. Do you know whether or not persons who were active in canvassing for the Liberal candidates brought voters there and entertained them, and then paid for what they had?—No; there were no voters brought there and treated, without they paid for it themselves.

6752. Do you not remember Mr. Wilkes coming to your house?—No.

6753. Are you generally in the house, or your wife?—I am there generally myself, or on the premises.

6754. Did you take any part yourself in canvassing voters?—I did not.

6755. Did you take part in bribing them?—No.

6756. Or did you offer any person any bribe?—No, not one.

6757. Did you receive any money from any person for that purpose?—No.

6758. Did any money pass through your hands for the purpose of the election?—No, not a halfpenny.

J. Payne.

JAMES PAYNE sworn and examined.

6759. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I am a quarryman and a stone merchant in the Forest of Dean.

6760. And you live where?—In Southgate Street.

6761. Who did you offer money to?—Several people I gave money to.

6762. Give me the names, if you please?—I gave Heyward Coopey 1*l.*

6763. Of what place is he?—I think he is on the register as of Barton Terrace.

6764. What did you give him that for?—For his vote.

6765. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you give him?—1*l.*

6766. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To induce him to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

6767. Who was the next person?—I gave Joseph Lane 1*l.*

6768. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does Joseph Lane live?—I really do not know; I think somewhere down in St. John's parish.

6769. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give him more than 1*l.*?—Only 1*l.*

6770. Was it on account of some rent?—No; I will explain that presently if you will allow me.

6771. That was also given as an inducement for him to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes. I gave John Emmings 6*l.* He is a voter in Littleworth. I think I should have got his vote for about 2*l.* or 3*l.*, had not Mr. Ward been treating with him; and then Mr. Ward offered him 3*l.* if he would vote for Price and not for Monk; the man was at work for me at the time of the election.

6772. If he would give a split vote?—If he would vote only for Mr. Price, and not for Mr. Monk; he was at work for me at the time.

6773. In consequence of that were you obliged to increase the price?—Yes.

6774. And you gave ultimately 6*l.*?—I did.

6775. To vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

6776. Who was the next?—Browning—I forget the Christian name; he is a blacksmith living in Mercy Place—Henry Browning; he lives in St. Owen's, now Mercy Place.

6777. Where did he live at the time of the election?—There.

6778. What did you give him?—5*l.*

6779. Was that also for his vote?—Also for his vote: and since that he told me that Alderman Carden had put six sovereigns into his pocket, and

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he said he had five of me, and that made eleven, and he went and polled for Price and Monk. He said Alderman Carden gave him half a sovereign in 1857. I know he must have had money in 1857, because I took up his freedom at my own expense in 1856, and I thought I had a claim on his vote, but he recorded his first vote for Carden.

6780. Are you sure he told you it was Alderman Carden that put these six sovereigns into his hand? —Yes, he told me since the election.

6781. Where was it he told you that?—Down by my yard at the docks. Whithorn he said put the six sovereigns—did I say Carden?

6782. Yes.—Then I made a mistake.

6783. Did you make a mistake also with regard to the half sovereign?—Yes; that was Whithorn, of course; the same as the six sovereigns.

6784. Are you quite accurate with regard to the rest of your statement?—Yes.

6785. Who was the next person?—I gave Joseph Jordan three sovereigns; not for his vote but for money claimed for canvassing in 1852; and he said he would not vote for the Liberals unless he had it.

6786. Where does he live?—In High Orchard, South Hamlet.

6787. You distinctly say that that was not for his vote but for some claim due to him in 1852?—Yes; I think he polled for Carden in 1857 on that account —that they did not give him his money.

6788. Did you know that he had no claim at all for that 3*l.* which could be substantiated?—He said he was with them out canvassing for three weeks, and he claimed 1*l.* a week.

6789. That was in 1852?—Yes.

6790. You had nothing to do with that transaction? —Certainly not; I was here; I polled in 1852.

6791. Did you not understand that that 3*l.* was paid to him for his vote?—No; he told me as I tell you, that he would poll for them if he could have his 3*l.* for his loss of time in 1852.

6792. Who was the next?—There was no one else except Greening. It appears that he owed Mr. Bick 1*l.* 16*s.* for rent.

6793. Is that John Greening?—William. Mr. Bick had put him in the court, and I think had got a commitment against him for thirty days, if I recollect right. I said, "Well, Bill, you shall not go to prison; I will pay the money for you." I paid the money to Bick, and got Greening's I O U for the 1*l.* 16*s.*

6794. Who is Mr. Bick?—He is a retired shoemaker.

6795. Did you consider that to be a payment made to him for his vote?—Well; it would not be much otherwise.

6796. How much was it?—1*l.* 16*s.* I should not have lent it to him at another time certainly.

6797. It was an inducement?—Yes, but he always polled for the Liberals; he is a freemen.

6798. Where did you get that money from?—I had got no money that belonged to the party. I went to see for Mr. John Wilton, and could not find him at home. I saw Mr. Thomas Robinson, and he said he had not any money; I said, "I have about 100*l.* at home; if that is of any use to you, I will fetch it." He said, "So do." I fetched it; I think it was 95*l.*, and I put it on the table, and I took 25*l.* away from it.

6799. That left 70*l.*?—Yes.

6800. Where was this?—In King Street.

6801. At whose house?—I believe John Wilton's house; young John Wilton. John Wilton was not at home.

6802. In what room was this?—I suppose his surgery. I never was in the room before to my knowledge.

6803. Who was there?—There was Mr. Robinson there, and my son was there, and several others; I could not call to my mind exactly who. I think Mr. George Ball, a son-in-law of him at the Berkeley Arms, was there, and I think Joseph Davis was there, and Halcombe.

6804. What day was it?—The night before the election.

6805. The evening of the nomination?—Yes.

6806. What did you leave that 70*l.* there for?—I suppose to be made use of to get some votes.

6807. In whose hands did you consider that you left it?—Not in Mr. Robinson's, for he never saw it, I believe, though he gave me his check for the money— he paid me at the time.

6808. You have been repaid the 70*l.*?—I have been repaid the 95*l.*

6809. 25*l.* you took away on your own account?— Yes.

6810. Were the various sums you have mentioned here paid by you out of that 25*l.*?—Yes. I think there was about 2*l.* 4*s.* left.

6811. I make it 15*l.* 16*s.*, the amount you have given us?—There is more than that. 5*l.* I gave to Richard Price; he was down at Newport or Cardiff, or somewhere like that, and I gave the wife 5*l.*, and she was to fetch him up to poll,—it was to pay expenses, and to pay a man to look after the trow.

6812. Did you consider that was for his vote?— No.

6813. Would it not be more than his expenses?— No; she went to Bristol and across to Cardiff.

6814. How did you spend the rest?—In treating.

6815. Where did you spend it?—I spent some of it in the Berkeley Arms after the election was over, and some little in the morning before the election was over, and some in Littleworth, and different places. I cannot call to mind where, for at such times as that we are rather excited.

6816. Did you canvass any persons to whom you offered money?—No one but those I have told you of; no one else.

6817. Did any of those persons whom you canvassed make any statement to you besides that which you have already related to us?—Not to my knowledge.

6818. (*Mr. Welford.*) Jordan would not have voted for the Liberals unless you had paid him this 3*l.*?—I do not think he would have voted at all.

6819. When you gave him the money he agreed to vote for them?—Yes; I gave it to his son. He told me he would send his son up. I said, "If you will send your son or child, or wife, I will give it them."

6820. That was a payment for his vote, was it not? —I think not. He had spent his time in canvassing.

6821. But he would not have voted unless you had given him the money?—I think that very likely.

6822. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you not pay him the money in order to induce him to record his vote for Price and Monk?—Certainly; I wished to swell the numbers. I knew we should win with anything like fair play.

6823. You had not employed him in 1852?—No.

6824. Are you a voter?—Yes; in two parishes I am registered, the South Hamlet and St. Owen's.

J. Davies.

JAMES DAVIES sworn and examined.

6825. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—My present residence is 15, Hampden Place, Gloucester.

6826. What are you?—An accountant.

6827. I believe that you have lived at Shrewsbury for some time?—No, never.

6828. Are you acquainted with Mr. Frail?—The clerk of the course?

6829. Yes?—Yes; I know him by sight.

6830. As clerk of the course at Shrewsbury?— As clerk of the course at Shrewsbury and Ludlow.

6831. Do you know him very well by sight?—Yes.

6832. Did you see him in Gloucester during the last election?—No.

6833. Not at all?—No.

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6834. Did you see him anywhere near Gloucester?—No.

6385. Were you in Gloucester during the last election?—Yes.

6836. Were you in Gloucester during the whole election?—Yes; I was in a situation then in Gloucester.

6837. Did you see Mr. Frail during the week of the election?—No.

6838. At any time before the election?—No; I never saw him in Gloucester.

6839. You never saw him in Gloucester in your life?—No.

6840. Do you know a person named Ping?—Yes.

6841. Did you ever tell him that you had seen him in Gloucester?—No; Mr. Ping sent for me, and I called on him yesterday. We sat down and had a pipe and a glass of brandy and water; and he asked me if I had seen him, and I laughed at him and said, "No." I never told him that I did; and several others have been asking me if I had seen him; I thought they were only joking with me.

6842. Did you ever tell Mr. Ping that you had seen Frail in Gloucester during the week of the last election?—Never.

6843. That you swear?—That I swear.

6844. You swear you never told him so either seriously or jokingly?—No; I never did see Frail here. Mr. Ping sent for me yesterday, and I suppose that was what it was for. He introduced me into his room, with pipes and brandy and water, and he wished me to stop and have more, and I declined; and he told me he would bet me a bottle of wine, or a pound to a shilling, that I had seen Frail.

6845. What is he?—An iron founder, I think, or ironmonger.

6846. Where does he live?—In the same street, or adjoining the same street, that I do; Wellington Parade or Wellington Street.

6847. Did you tell Mr. Ping that Frail had been in Gloucester, and that he had left Gloucester for Wales?—No, I had heard so; it was the common talk, of Mr. Frail and many other agents, who, I believe, were never here.

6848. You mean to swear you did not say that you knew he had been here, and that he had left for Wales?—Yes.

6849. Was there anything said about Wales?—Yes; and Bristol and Derby, and different other places where Frail has been conspicuous.

6850. What was said about Wales in connexion with Mr. Frail?—He said he went from here to Bristol, and I said "No, it was Wales I believe;" but I did not think anything was coming out of this when he got me in there.

6851. When you said you believed it was Wales, had you any reason for saying that?—Only what I had heard other people say; only common conversation.

6852. And so far as your own knowledge goes you know nothing about Mr. Frail in connexion with the last election at Gloucester?—Not anything.

JOHN BARHAM sworn and examined.

J. Barham.

6853. (*Mr Vaughan.*) What are you?—A currier.

6854. Living in what street?—I live in Conduit Street now.

6855. Where did you live at the time of the election?—In St. Aldate Street.

6856. You were one of the Committee that met at Mr. Hutton's house, were you not?—No; I never was in his house in my life.

6857. Did you ever give a man of the name of Jeffs any money for his vote?—No, nor promised him.

6858. Did you give any money to any person during the election?—No.

6859. Not as a bribe?—No, not a farthing.

6860. Did you offer any person any money?—I did not. I called upon this man Jeffs, and asked him what he was going to do, and he said he would vote for the party that would give him the most money, and he asked me what he had better do, and I said, "You had better hold hard, then."

6861. Was that the same man Jeffs who went before the Committee in London?—It is.

6862. Did he tell you what he had been offered by the other party?—No; he did not say he had been offered anything in particular, but that he would not vote for any party unless he had a goodish sum.

6863. Who did he say had made him an offer?—He did not say; but he said he would not vote for either party before he got the money this time; that he had been deceived before. He named one gentleman; he said he promised him pounds before the election, and after that he only got shillings.

6864. Who was that?—His name was Maysey. He said he had no doubt that he pocketed the difference himself, and was able through that to build a row of cottages up the Tewkesbury Road. That was his conversation with me. I called upon him the day after the election, and he told me he had been offered 50*l.* to prove a case of bribery.

6865. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When did he tell you this?—The day after the election. He said some of the Blue party had been with him, he did not say who, and offered him 50*l.* to prove a case.

6866. Had you known that man Jeffs for some time?—Yes, for many years.

6867. Has he worked for you?—No.

6868. What is he?—A shoemaker.

6869. A master shoemaker or a journeyman?—Yes, or second-hand, or anything. He makes some small portion of new shoes as well, and sells second-hand clothes, and so on.

6870. Do you swear you never offered Jeffs any money in your life?—Never in my life.

6871. And that you never offered money to any other person during the election?—I never had anything to do with any other person.

6872. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not guarantee him 5*l.*?—I said, "Most likely you will get something from somebody if you hold hard; there is every probability there will be a very strong contest." I should tell you that he told me the morning after the election that he went up the street to see what he could do, and that he went to Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Whithorn told him not to be in a hurry, that he would be sure to do something; that he met a person named Hutton, and they arranged for him to come up in the morning, and he was to have 5*l.*

6873. You paid no money?—Not a farthing.

6874. Did you treat anybody?—No, not a farthing passed out of my hands to anybody connected with the election.

EDWIN PARKES sworn and examined.

E. Parkes

6875. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a currier?—Yes.

6876. In partnership with Mr. Barham?—Yes.

6877. Did any money pass through your hands at the last election?—No.

6878. Not in bribery or in any way?—No.

6879. Did you offer any person any money for his vote?—No.

6880. Did you say anything to Samuel Jeffs?—I spoke to him about it the evening previous to the election; I asked him what he was going for; what was the sum he intended taking?

6881. What did he say?—He said 8*l.*

6882. Did he say he could get 8*l.*?—No, he did not say he could get it; he said he would not take less than that.

6883. Did you offer him 8*l.*?—No.

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6884. Or anything at all for his vote ?—Nothing at all.

6885. Did you see him after the election ?—About a week after the election I saw him.

6886. Did he come to your place of business ?—Yes ; to purchase some leather.

6887. Did any conversation take place between you and him then about the election ?—Yes.

6888. What took place ?—He said the Tory party had sent to him. Mr. Boughton he said had sent his man to him, and said he could have 50*l.* if he could make up a case against the Liberals.

6889. Who is Mr. Boughton ?—I believe he is an ironmonger, if I do not mistake.

6890. He said he had sent his man down to him to say he could have 50*l.* ?—Yes.

6891. If he would do what ?—If he would make up a case against the Liberals.

6892. Did he say where Mr. Boughton had sent his man to ?—To his house.

6893. Did he make any observation upon that ?—He said he would not do it ; he said, " Of course I would not do it."

6894. Was that the whole of the conversation ?—No.

6895. What took place besides ? What else was said ?—I asked him why he told me on the evening previous that he would not go for less than 8*l.*, when at that time he had arranged with one of the agents for 5*l.* ? He had then arranged to vote for 5*l.*, when he stated to me that he would not go under 8*l.*

6896. How do you know he had arranged to go for 5*l.* ?—Because I was told so.

6897. When you told him that, what did he say ?—I do not know what he said exactly, but he said he found that he could not get any further than the sum stated from the Tory party, and he thought he had better have that than nothing, as he had once held out and got nothing ; that he thought he had better take it than nothing at all.

6898. That was the reason he gave ?—Yes.

6899. He did not deny that he had got 5*l.* ?—Oh dear, no.

6900. Did you ever say to him that you were very sorry that he, Jeffs, was so hasty in getting five sovereigns, for that you had got an order from Mr. Innell for eight ?—No.

6901. You never said that to him ?—No.

6902. Or anything of the sort ?—I said it looked as though I meant to rob the Liberal party out of 3*l.* by stating to some of the party that I had just seen him go for 8*l.*, when at that time he had arranged to go for 5*l.* ; it looked as though I wanted to rob the Liberal party of 3*l.*

6903. I do not understand what you mean by that. I first asked whether you did not say you were sorry he was so hasty in getting five sovereigns, for that you had got an order from Mr. Innell for 8*l.* ?—I never said anything of the kind.

6904. Did you ever mention Mr. Innell's name to him in that conversation ?—No.

6905. Neither before nor after the election ?—Neither before nor after the election.

6906. Just explain what you mean about robbing the party of 3*l.*?—I met him on the evening previous to the election, as I have already told you, and asked him what was the lowest figure he would sell his vote for, and he said 8*l.* At that time he had arranged with Mr. Hutton for 5*l.* ; and when I mentioned it to the party I then heard that he had at that time, or ten minutes or a quarter of an hour previously, arranged for 5*l.*, and I said he had no business to state to me 8*l.* when he had arranged for 5*l.*, as it looked as though I wished to rob the Liberal party of 3*l.*, and make 3*l.* out of his vote.

6907. When was it that you had this conversation with him about 3*l.* ?—It was about a week after the election.

6908. Was the place at which the conversation took place your shop ?—Yes.

6909. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you make a return at any of the committee rooms of this voter Jeffs ?—No ; I did to one of the committee men ; I just stated what Jeffs had told me.

6910. You told them that he was to be had for 8*l.* ?—Yes.

6911. To whom did you tell that ? — James Williams, a poulterer.

6912. Where was that ?—That was outside the committee room.

6913. Outside the central committee room ?—No ; outside Mr. Hutton's committee room.

6914. And did Williams go in and report that ?—I believe he did. I went in with him in fact.

6915. And did you report it ?—I did not report it further than to Williams.

6916. Did you hear Williams report it ?—No, I did not, though I was in the room at the time.

6917. Who was the person of the Liberal party to whom you represented that he was to be had for 8*l.* ?—To this Williams.

6918. Do you believe that Williams told it to the committee ?—Yes.

D. Lane.

DAVID LANE sworn and examined.

6919. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A bootmaker.

6920. Where do you live ?—In Westgate Street.

6921. Were you active at the last election ?—Not very.

6922. You took a part in it, did you not ?—I did on the Saturday.

6923. Did you canvass any of the voters ?—Only on the Saturday.

6924. (*Mr. Welford.*) The day of the election ?—Yes.

6925. Who did you canvass ?—I was standing in the middle of the street, opposite the Shire Hall, and a person named Smart came up to me, and told me he should like to vote for the Liberals, but that there was ever so much money to be had from the other side, and he should not like to vote for the Liberals, unless he had some money.

6926. What was the man's Christian name ?—I do not know.

6927. Is he a printer ?—I think he is.

6928. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman ?—I do not know ; he is an old man.

6929. Do you know his Christian name ?—I do not ; he is an old man. I understand since he has a son.

6930. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said there was ever so much money to be had from the other side : what else did he say ?—That he had rather vote for the Liberals for a little less money. I asked him what he should want for his vote, and he said 8*l.* I told him I knew nothing of money matters, that I had not a penny in my pocket, and did not know who had the money or had anything to do with it. I asked him if he would not go for 7*l.*, and if he would, I would go and see about it. He said "No." While we were talking another person, who I found out since was a son of his, another printer, came and took him from me, and walked very fast up the street. He took him away in a very abrupt manner, and I ran after him, and caught him in about five yards, and I touched the old man, and said, " I thought you were going to vote for the Liberals ; how is this ?" He said " I offered to go for you for eight sovereigns, and now I have got ten." I then went up home.

6931. Did his son say anything upon that occasion ?—No, not a word. He walked along with his son up the street.

6932. You went home ?—Yes. I then met with a man named John Dix. The week before that he was waiting with his work in my shop. I told him he had worked for me and my father a great many years,

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and that I had never asked him a favour yet, and I told him I did not like what he did at the last election. I expected he was bribed; and I said that we had Sir Robert Carden, a man I did not like, and I hoped he would vote this time for the two Liberal members.

6933. What did he say?—I said I always expected he had been bribed; and I told him as soon as he had an offer made to him at this election to come and let me know. He came up the same morning, just after I came in from the Shire Hall, after I had seen Smart, and he told me he wanted 10*l.* for his vote. I told him that was a tremendous lot of money; that I should have thought about 5*l.* would have been enough. He said that there were four of them.

6934. Four what?—Four of the Dix's; that is, three others besides himself.

6935. He said there were four of them; were they all voters?—All voters. That he had had an offer of 40*l.* from the other party, and that he should not vote for us under. I said, "That is a tremendous lot of money; it is a dreadful state of things." I told him so; and he said they had had as much as 16*l.* apiece; 16*l.* each at previous elections.

6936. Was that in 1857?—At previous elections, he said. I did not ask him. I had no doubt of it at the time.

6937. 16*l.* for himself?—Yes. I think he said five of them had 80*l.* I think I offered him 8*l.* apiece for the four votes. I said I would go and see if I could get it.

6938. Did you offer him the money?—I told him I would go and see if I could get 8*l.* apiece. I think I made him an offer of 8*l.*; I should say I did.

6939. Did you offer him 8*l.*?—I recollect now I offered him 8*l.*

6940. For his vote?—Yes.

6941. And the same sum for the votes of the others?—Yes.

6942. What were their names?—I do not know; two of them were his sons, and one was his brother. They would not take the 8*l.* each, because they said they could get 10*l.* from the other party; and ultimately I gave them the 40*l.*

6943. You gave them the 40*l.*?—I did ultimately, when I found they would not vote without.

6944. And they voted, did they?—They did.

6945. What else did you do in the same way?—I did nothing else. I thought that was quite sufficient. I knew those men were always bribed before by the other party.

6946. (*Mr. Welford.*) They voted for Price and Monk, did they?—Yes.

6947. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer Smart 7*l.* for his vote?—I do not think I did. I said, would he take 7*l.*? I did not intend to give anybody any money at that time. I knew that was about the price, or I should not have given the Dix's the money. I knew 10*l.* was about the price.

6948. Did you give or offer any money to any other persons?—No one.

6949. Are you certain you did not offer to give Smart 7*l.*?—I think I said I would try and get it. I certainly never offered him the money.

6950. From whom did you get that money?—No one.

6951. It was your own money?—Yes.

6952. Paid out of your own pocket?—Yes.

6953. For the good of the cause?—For the good of the cause.

6954. Have you ever sent in a claim for the payment of that money?—None.

6955. Was that money paid by yourself without consultation with any person or without reference to any person?—I cannot say it was exactly. I went into the committee room; it was the first time I had been in the committee room at all, near the Shire Hall, and I saw Mr. Robinson.

6956. In the committee room?—In the committee room.

6957. Did you lay before him the case of the Dix's? I told him I had four men—the Dix's—and that they were offered bribes on the other side.

6958. Did you ask what you were to do?—He told me to do the best I could; those were his words.

6959. You told him they were the Dix's?—Yes.

6960. Did you tell him they wanted 10*l.* apiece?—No.

6961. He told you you were to do the best you could?—Yes, nothing about the price; he only said I was to do the best I could.

6962. Do you look at all to Mr. Robinson for the repayment of that money?—I have never sent in any claim to him. I do not know whether I shall be ever paid it or not. I suppose not.

6963. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then you do look to Mr. Robinson?—I cannot say I can make any charge to him.

6964. (*Mr. Vaughan*) Was it a joint speculation on the part of yourself and Mr. Robinson?—None whatever.

6965. Do you know of any other cases in which bribery was committed except those two?—None.

6966. By either side?—No; I know what I heard many men say at the previous election. I have a great many men that work for me, and I think a great many took bribes.

6967. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay the 40*l.* to the father?—I had nothing to do with the rest of the men; I only had to do with the father, and gave him all the money.

6968. They all voted?—They did.

6969. When you paid them the money you thought you should receive it again, did you not?—I thought I might get it; I did not give it much thought; I was always annoyed by those men being bribed previously, or I should not have done it.

6970. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) From whom did you hear that there was money going about in bribery?—I heard it from the Dix's.

6971. And from whom did you hear that you had a right to pledge Mr. Monk's credit by bribery?—No one. Mr. Monk never canvassed me, nor Mr. Price nor Sir Robert Carden.

6972. I suppose you looked to receive the money back from somebody?—I thought I might have it perhaps—not any person in particular.

6973. From the candidate did you expect it?—No, certainly not. I never spoke to Mr. Monk in my life, I believe.

6974. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you hear that money was being paid on the Liberal side?—Not previous to the election.

6975. When you agreed with Dix, had you heard that money was being paid on the Liberal side?—I do not know that I had.

6976. Did you go to Mr. Robinson for the purpose?—I went into the committee room.

6977. Mr. Robinson was the first person you met there?—Yes.

6978. Did you apply to Mr. John Wilton for any money?—No; I never applied to any person.

6979. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Supposing there had been no petition, and that this Commission had never been issued, to whom should you have applied for repayment of this 40*l.*?—I think I should have applied to Mr. Robinson; I had no other person to apply to.

G. Ping.

GEORGE PING sworn and examined.

6980. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know James Davis?—I do.

6981. Does he live now at 15, Hamilton Place?—I believe he does.

6982. Did you see him yesterday?—I did.

6983. Had you a conversation with him about Mr. Frail, of Shrewsbury?—I had.

6984. Did he make a statement to you as to when

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G. Ping.
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he had seen him in Gloucester ?—He did not say he had seen him in Gloucester directly. I entered into conversation with him first, asking how long he had known Frail ; he said, fifteen years. He enumerated what he had been, and what he had been doing, and afterwards I said, "Have you seen him in Gloucester?" and it appears the man guessed my motive in asking the question, and fought shy of it, and would give me no direct answer. In the course of conversation I said, "Frail went to Bristol from here ;" he said, "No ; he went to Wales."

6985. You inferred from what he said that he had been here ?—Yes.

6986. That was the inference you drew from the conversation ?—Yes.

R. Trueman.

RICHARD TRUEMAN sworn and examined.

6987. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A printer now.

6988. Where do you live ?—In Albert Street.

6989. What part did you take in the last election ?—I was employed in the committee room.

6990. What committee room ?—At the committee room as door keeper.

6991. At which committee room ?—In Westgate Street.

6992. At the committee room of Messrs. Price and Monk ?—Yes.

6993. Are you a voter ?—Yes.

6994. What did you receive for keeping the door of the committee room ?—I received about 3*l.* 12*s.* for twenty-one days.

6995. Who did you vote for ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

6996. Did you consider that as a payment to you for your vote ?—Very near.

6997. Very near a payment for your vote ?—Very near a payment for my labour.

6998. I want to know whether it was a payment for your vote ?—It had nothing to do with reference to my vote.

6999. You received 3*l.* 12*s.* ?—Yes, for labour.

7000. For keeping the door ?—Yes.

7001. And that was the door of the committee room, was it ?—Yes.

7002. Had you anything to do with the election except as door-keeper ? No, nothing at all.

7003. You had nothing to do with regard to voters? —No.

7004. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you attend all the twenty-one days ?—Yes.

7005. Every day ?—Every day.

7006. Did you attend all day ?—Yes, all day.

7007. It was pretty good pay, was it not ?—No ; I consider not, myself.

7008. What do you earn generally a day ?—3*s.* 6*d.* and 5*s.*, and sometimes 4*s.* 6*d.*, according to my work.

7009. Do you work by piece ?—Yes.

7010. Then you work a good many hours for that, do you not ?—Oh, no.

7011. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know a man named Murrell ?—Yes.

7012. Did you offer that man any money ?—I did not.

7013. Did you not offer him 2*l.* ?—I asked him what he wanted ; I did not offer him anything.

7014. You did not give him any money ?—No.

7015. Nor offer him any money ?—No, I did not.

7016. Were you door-keeper in the room where the messengers were ?—Yes.

7017. How many messengers did you, generally speaking, see in the room ?—I cannot say exactly.

7018. Did you see half a dozen ?—Oh, yes.

7019. A dozen ?—There might be a dozen.

7020. Was that about the general number ?—Yes, somewhere about the general number.

7021. That was the usual number of messengers that were in attendance ?—As far as I know.

7022. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you sure you received no more money than you have stated ?—Yes.

7023. Did you give information to the other side about the election before the petition to the House of Commons ?—I said what I expected I should have.

7024. Did you give any information to the other side with regard to the petition ?—What I ought to receive for the labour I considered I had given.

7025. You considered you ought to have received from the liberal side 5*s.* a day ?—Yes.

7026. Did you go and state that to the other side ? —Yes.

7027. Did you offer to go up before the Committee of the House of Commons ?—No ; they wanted me to go, but I would not. I paid my own expenses.

7028. You went up to London ?—Yes.

7029. And paid your own expenses ?—Yes ; I had a promise to go there, and I went. I have never received anything for it.

7030. What were you to do there ?—Merely to state the case ; what I had been employed in and what I had received, and what I had done.

7031. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you do ?—I did nothing, but was merely a door-keeper.

7032. You opened and shut the door ?—Yes.

7033. Did you keep any account when people came in ?—No.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at ten o'clock.

Eighth Day, 4th October 1859.

(*Mr. Boughton.*) With reference to a statement which was made yesterday to the Commissioners, that I had sent one of my clerks to a man named Jeffs to offer him 50*l.* to get up a case for a petition, I beg to say that I know nothing whatever about it.

C. J. Monk.
4 Oct. 1859.

CHARLES JAMES MONK sworn and examined.

7034. (*Mr Vaughan.*) You were one of the candidates at the last election for this city ?—I was.

7035. How long before the election had you been communicated with about becoming a candidate ?—Perhaps the more convenient course will be for me to state the circumstances connected with my becoming a candidate for this city. On the 27th of March, in the afternoon, I was at the Travellers' Club. A friend came to me and said that a deputation from Gloucester was at the Reform Club and wished to see me there. I went with him to the Reform Club, and found Mr. Price in the hall. Mr. Price introduced me to the deputation, consisting of Mr. Innell and Mr. John Pleydell Wilton. I had known Mr. Wilton before, but I did not recognize him when I saw him there. Mr. Price showed us into the waiting room of the club and left us there. Mr. Wilton, who was the spokesman, said that he and Mr. Innell and another gentleman, who could not leave Gloucester, had been deputed to go up to London

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to find a second Liberal candidate to contest the city in conjunction with Mr. Price; that they had communicated with Mr. Price and asked his advice; but that Mr. Price declined to interfere. He told me also that he had wished to induce Mr. Bernal Osborne to become a candidate, because he was a well-known man; that he had been in Parliament for a long time and would be very popular down at Gloucester, but that he declined to leave Dover. Mr. Wilton then said that my name was also on the list and that it had been favourably received by the committee of the Gloucester Reform Club; that I was the next person to whom they had applied; that he felt quite sure that a second Liberal might be returned in conjunction with Mr. Price; that if Sir Robert Carden was also a candidate there was not the slightest doubt of the success of both the Liberal candidates, because Sir Robert Carden was exceedingly unpopular in Gloucester. He also observed that his own party were heartily tired of Sir Robert Carden. He said there was one indispensable condition in any candidate, which was the support of the ballot, and that if I would support the ballot and held Liberal principles generally I should be an eligible candidate. He then told me that he considered that the total expenses, or probable expenses, of the election for both the Liberal candidates would be under 1,200*l.* Subsequently he added that in case of a protracted contest he could guarantee them under 1,500*l.* for Mr. Price and the second Liberal. He told me that it had been the custom at Gloucester for the old member to pay one-third of the expenses of an election, and for the new candidate to pay two-thirds; that Mr. Price had done that himself; and that if I became a candidate I should be expected to do the same. I believe that that was the whole of the conversation as far as Mr. Wilton was concerned. I then thanked them for the honour they had done me, and explained to Mr. Wilton that I was at that time in possession of the field for Cricklade; that I had contested that borough at the last general election; that I was prepared to contest it again in the event of a dissolution; that I had attended to the registration there at some expense to myself; and that if there was not an election before a Reform Bill passed I was quite certain of being elected, but that if there was a dissolution before a Reform Bill passed I had every probability of success. I may add that the gentleman who succeeded me at Cricklade as a candidate (Lord Ashley) came in and was within two of the head of the poll.

7036. Are we to understand that that was the whole of the conversation that you had either in the afternoon or in the evening at the Reform Club?—Not quite so; I will state what took place in the evening. This conversation was in the afternoon only; Mr. Innell, Mr. Wilton, and myself, were present. I said that consequently I must consult my friends, or a friend, before I could come to any decision, and I made an appointment to meet them at their hotel, at ten o'clock that same evening.

7037. You afterwards met them at the Reform Club?—Yes; prior to that I saw Mr. Moffatt; this was at the Reform Club; but before I saw them in the evening I had an interview with Mr. Moffatt, and told him what Mr. Wilton and Mr. Innell had said, and asked him to advise me whether the probability of success at Gloucester seemed so great as to justify me in leaving Cricklade for Gloucester; and I may here add, that Mr. Moffatt had arranged the payment of all the expenses connected with my Cricklade election in 1857. Mr. Moffatt at once objected to the proposal that I should pay two-thirds of the expenses and Mr. Price one third. He said, "There should be an "equal division, and you, as the new candidate, "should go to the wall, in case only one Liberal can "be returned." He then agreed to meet Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton that night; he had some engagement the next day; I think he was going out of town. He went to the Reform Club between ten and eleven o'clock that night. I fetched Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton from their hotel to the Reform Club, where they had an interview with Mr. Price and Mr. Moffatt. I was not present at the interview. After that interview, Mr. Moffatt came to me, and said that he had fought hard for an equal division of the expenses, but that after the explanation which Mr. Price had given him, and the statement he had made of what he had done on former occasions himself, he thought we ought to yield. He then told me that there would be only one exception to this proportion of the expenses, and that was that each party should pay their respective agents and for their respective committee-rooms, if they had any; but that all the expenses incurred by the authority of the Gloucester Reform Club should be divided in the proportion of two-thirds to myself and one-third to Mr. Price. This statement he repeated before Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton, and they assented to the correctness of it.

7038. I believe the next morning you gave your assent to become a candidate?—The next morning I gave my written assent to become a candidate, and on the following day, on the Tuesday, the next day but one, I was invited to attend a meeting of the Liberal party at Gloucester on the following Thursday, which I did; when I was introduced to the electors, I addressed them, and was unanimously requested to become a candidate. It was on the Thursday that I came to Gloucester; that same night the division took place and the Government were defeated, and on the following Monday the dissolution was announced. I then wrote an address, which I sent off to Gloucester; I followed on the Tuesday, the next day, the 5th of April, and commenced my canvass on the Wednesday, and was joined by Mr. Price on the Friday, and canvassed with him.

7039. Did you understand either from Mr. Wilton or Mr. Innell, when they mentioned the sum of 1,500*l.* as being the outside sum that would be required, that that sum would comprehend any sum to be expended in bribery?—No; I had not the slightest suspicion of any sum being required for bribery. I may here state that if I had had the slightest suspicion that bribery would take place I should never have come to Gloucester. I hold a high official position in this diocese, and I bear a name which I wish on no account to be connected with dishonourable practices in this city.

7040. Did you hear from either Mr. Wilton or Mr. Innell anything said respecting the payment of messengers?—No. I do not recollect that messengers were mentioned. There were no items whatever gone into in my presence; neither Mr. Innell nor Mr. Wilton said anything about messengers in the afternoon when I was present.

7041. Had you afterwards a conversation with Mr. Moffatt, as to providing funds?—On the Saturday evening, as Mr. Moffatt was leaving the club, he said to me, as far as I can recollect, "After a dissolution "takes place, go down to Gloucester, and canvass, and "stick to the place till the election comes off. You "need not trouble yourself about any expenses con-"nected with the election; if any money is wanted "for the preliminary expenses I will provide it "myself, or if I go to Mr. Ralli, I suppose he will "have no objection to advance me some money for "that purpose." I replied, "I am sure he will not." I cannot recollect the precise words that were used, but that is the substance of what passed; it made very little impression on me. I was not aware that any sum would be required for preliminary expenses at the time. It made so little impression upon me that I never mentioned the conversation, or anything connected with it to Mr. Ralli; indeed Mr. Ralli would have been the last person, as a foreigner, with whom I should have conversed as to any expenses connected with the election; he knows nothing whatever about elections or the mode in which they are carried on.

7042. It made so little impression upon you that you did not mention it to Mr. Ralli?—I did not men-

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C. J. Monk.
4 Oct. 1859.

tion it. Mr. Ralli was aware that Mr. Moffatt was my advising friend about Cricklade and my advising friend as to coming down to Gloucester.

7043. Had you had a conversation with Mr. Ralli about it yourself?—I was staying at Mr. Ralli's house. He was well aware that Mr. Moffatt had advised me with regard to Cricklade, and also with regard to Gloucester.

7044. Had you told Mr. Ralli yourself that Mr. Moffatt was your advising friend about Gloucester?—Yes. I told him at breakfast that I was going to give up Cricklade, and that Mr. Moffatt had advised me to stand for Gloucester.

7045. Did you leave London and come to Gloucester, and remain here until the close of the election?—Until the close of the election, until the Saturday night, when I returned to London after I had been declared duly returned.

7046. And beyond the statement which you say you made to Mr. Ralli at breakfast, that you had given up Cricklade and were going to Gloucester, do you mean to say you had no conversation with Mr. Ralli on the subject?—I certainly had no conversation with Mr. Ralli about the expenses of the election in any way. I was staying at Mr. Ralli's house at the time, between that Sunday evening and Tuesday week, but we were talking far more about the probabilities of a dissolution and the chance of the Reform Bill being carried than about the election. Indeed, until the Monday week in the evening I had not the slightest suspicion that there would be a general election. It was believed that Lord Derby would have accepted certain modifications in his Reform Bill, and that he would not have appealed to the country, and I had very little idea of coming down as a candidate to Gloucester during the present year.

4047. Although you told Mr. Ralli you had given up Cricklade and were going to stand for Gloucester, do you state that you had no conversation with Mr. Ralli about the expenses of the election?—I state that most unreservedly.

7048. Had Mr. Moffatt communicated with Mr. Ralli when you were a candidate for Cricklade?—Mr. Ralli was at Rome at the time.

7049. Was no communication at all made to you while you were at Gloucester by any person there that funds were required for the purposes of the election?—By no one.

7050. Did you think it singular that no such application was made to yourself?—No; I did not. I can only state that at Cricklade, which has exactly the same number of electors as Gloucester, there being 1,499 electors there and 1,500 at Gloucester, I was not asked for a shilling until after the month had elapsed during which claims might be sent in after the election; and I did not know why that rule should be departed from at Gloucester. I had no reason to suppose that that rule ought to be, or would be, departed from.

7051. Did you not hear from Mr. Moffatt, between the time you came to Gloucester and the date of the election, that money had been sent down to Gloucester from Mr. Ralli?—No; certainly not.

7052. Were you aware that money had been sent down by Mr. Ralli to the County of Gloucester bank?—No; I was not. I did not hear of that till several months afterwards, and I was not only astonished but a good deal annoyed when I did hear of it, because I left the whole management of the expenses to Mr. Moffatt, and I was surprised to find that anybody else had interfered.

7053. When did you first become aware that there had been a large expenditure of money on your account at Gloucester?—The first I heard of it was through Mr. Moffatt. I went up to London from my house in the country to the election of the Speaker; I forget when that was, but I think it was either the end of May or the beginning of June; I think it was the last day of May; I then saw Mr. Moffatt (I was living within ten doors of Mr. Moffatt in Eaton Square); either Mr. Moffatt called on me or I met Mr. Moffatt, and he told me that he had had applications for money from Gloucester.

7054. Did not Mr. Moffatt tell you before that that he had received money from Mr. Ralli?—No; he did not.

7055. Did Mr. Ralli tell you he had paid money?—Mr. Ralli never told me anything about it. He never advised me of it at all; I had never seen Mr. Ralli.

7056. Then, in fact, from the time you came to Gloucester you knew nothing of any of the expenses of the election until you saw Mr. Moffatt in London at the end of May?—I had communications with Mr. Jones respecting the payment of the expenses. The first time I heard about claims being brought in and money being required was I think in a letter I received from Mr. Innell in which he told me that Mr. John Pleydell Wilton was engaged in getting in all bills; that he was assisting (I think he stated) Mr. Ellis and Mr. Jones in getting in the election bills. That was about the middle of May.

7057. That was the first intimation you received that there were claims upon yourself in respect of the election?—I can hardly answer that question. I was aware that there were claims upon me; I had had some conversation and some correspondence with regard to the under Sheriff's bill for the hustings. I do not know whether it is in evidence, but the Sheriff declined to put up the hustings unless a very large sum of money was paid by the candidates to him.

7058. It was at the end of May that you first of all had any communication with Mr. Moffatt upon the subject?—No, it was the beginning of June. I may say the very first letter I received connected with the expenses at Gloucester, was on the 5th of May, from my agent, Mr. Jones. I had written to him the previous day or two before, requesting him to advertize in the Gloucester papers for all claims upon me; and upon the 5th of May he wrote to me as follows:—

"My dear Sir,

"The experience of to-day convinces me that "it is quite unnecessary, and indeed inexpedient, to "advertize for claimants to bring in claims of ex-"penses of Gloucester election, and Mr. Ellis will "not take such a course on the part of Mr. Price. I "trust, therefore, you will acquiesce in my refraining "too; at all events, for the present.

"Yours faithfully,

"A. G. Jones."

That was the first letter, I having previously written to Mr. Jones requesting him to advertize.

7059. You sent a sum of money down to Mr. Jones, your election agent, did you not?—No, I did not. As soon as the month was over for sending in claims, I requested Mr. Jones to send in all the bills to Mr. Moffatt, to whom I had left the entire settlement of the expenses connected with the election; I wrote him a letter on the 3d of June, the day after I saw Mr. Moffatt.

7060. And did Mr. Jones send you the bills?—Mr. Jones said he was unable to send them in at that time, that they were not ready. The letter refers to the Under-Sheriff's claim.

7061. You need not go into that?—He says, "I "hope, however, to send Mr. Moffatt the desired "particulars in a few days, and you may rely on my "best endeavours to speed matters on;" that was the 4th of June.

7062. Before I go on to the month of June let me ask you this question;—Did you go to the County Bank in Gloucester, on the day of the polling, for the purpose of getting money?—I was going to say I never was in the County Bank in my life. I may have been in it when a boy, when I was residing in Gloucester, but I certainly never went into the County Bank during the whole of the month I was down here. I do not think I have been in the County Bank three times in my life.

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7063. I understand you to say you did not, on the nomination day or on the polling day, go to that bank?—Certainly not.

7064. Or to any other bank in Gloucester?—Or to any other bank in Gloucester.

7065. Did you send any person to that bank or to any other bank to obtain money?—I did not; certainly not. I may say I have brought my pass-books and check books with me, and in case it should be considered desirable to refer to them, they shall be produced.

7066. You wrote on the 2nd of June to Mr. Ralli, asking Mr. Ralli to pay Mr. Moffatt a sum of 500*l.* if he should apply to you for it; do you remember that?—I do. I will not be certain what day it was; it was on the following day that I wrote that letter to Mr. Jones. I am not sure as to the day, but it was immediately after seeing Mr. Moffatt that I requested Mr. Ralli to give a credit of 500*l.* to Mr. Moffatt.

7067. Was that letter written by yourself to Mr. Ralli in consequence of Mr. Moffatt telling you of certain claims which had been made with respect to the election?—Yes, partly so; it was partly because certain claims had been made to Mr. Moffatt, and it was in order to put into his hands a sufficient sum to pay the total expenses of the election.

7068. Those monies, I presume, were advanced by Mr. Ralli to Mr. Moffatt on your account?—On my account.

7069. He had advanced them to him on your account?—Yes.

7070. I presume the former advance of 500*l.* was also on your account?—That I knew nothing about; that was between Mr. Ralli and Mr. Moffatt.

7071. At that time you had no knowledge that any money had been already advanced by Mr. Ralli?—No. I ought also to state this,—Mr. Moffatt also told me at that time that he had advanced some money to Mr. Price for the purposes of the election.

7072. But he did not state the amount?—I am not certain whether he stated the amount or not.

7073. Was it on the second of June that Mr. Moffatt told you that?—Yes.

7074. That he had advanced some money to Mr. Price?—He mentioned it on the 2nd of June, but I rather think he had told it me before.

7075. But did he mention it again on the 2nd of June?—Yes.

7076. That he, Mr. Moffatt, had advanced money to Mr. Price?—He said that he had sent down some money to Mr. Price.

7077. That he, Mr. Moffatt, had advanced money to Mr. Price?—No; what he stated was, that he had sent down some money to Mr. Price.

7078. Did he say where he had obtained that money from?—I do not know that he did.

7079. When did you first learn that the 500*l.* which was sent down had come from Mr. Ralli?—I do not recollect when I first obtained information of that, but it was soon after I went up to town.

7080. You saw Mr. Moffatt on the 2nd of June. You wrote a letter to Mr. Ralli requesting him to advance 500*l.* to Mr. Moffatt if he wanted it; and up to that time you were not aware that any money had been paid by Mr. Ralli for the purposes of your election?—I knew Mr. Moffatt had advanced some money, but I am not sure whether I knew that he had obtained it from Mr. Ralli. My belief and suspicion however was, that he had gone to Mr. Ralli, as he had stated he would do, before the election; but at the same time Mr. Ralli had not advised me of any money having been paid to Mr. Moffatt or any one else before the election.

7081. You say neither Mr. Moffatt nor Mr. Ralli had ever told you so?—Mr. Ralli certainly had never told me so; it was so decidedly my belief that Mr. Moffatt would have gone to Mr. Ralli, and not have advanced money himself, that I should never have thought of asking him the question.

7082. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You assumed that it was so?—I assumed that it was so.

7083. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much money altogether have you paid in respect of the election?—I have paid to Mr. Jones, 464*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, and 16*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* for the auditor's fees; those are the only sums I have paid in respect of the election.

7084. We understood from Mr. Ralli, that he paid 900*l.* altogether; 500*l.* sent down, 200*l.* sent down to the credit of some one, to the Gloucester Bank, and 200*l.* in respect of this order or direction given by you to him?—Yes.

7085. £900 altogether?—Yes. I had better add here, that when Mr. Moffatt found that there was a petition before the House of Commons, he stated to me that he would rather not have the further claims sent in by Mr. Jones to him,—that was in July,—as he presumed that he would be examined himself.

7086. Either in the month of July, or since that time, what is the amount of claims that you know of with respect to the Gloucester election?—I know of no other claims than those which I have mentioned.

7087. Has no statement of claims, for which it is presumed you are liable, been sent in to you since the election?—That was the statement that was sent in (*handing a paper to the Commissioners*). It was sent in to me just before the end of the three months by my agent.

7088. That is the joint account?—It is.

7089. Have you received notice of any claim since the render of this account?—No, I have not; except for the petition.

7090. You made a complaint to Mr. Ralli, did you not, as to the expenses of the election?—No; I never made any complaint to him. I stated to him, when I was turned out on petition, that I considered there had been a most profuse and shameful expenditure of money in Gloucester for purposes of bribery; I made no other statement.

7091. There was no statement made by yourself to Mr. Ralli with regard to the expenditure, arising out of any knowledge of facts communicated to yourself by any person?—No; I had no knowledge of facts, and I certainly made no statement whatever of that kind.

7092. You had been living in Gloucester for some years, when your father was Bishop of this diocese?—Yes; I had been here at different periods, from 1830 to 1856.

7093. Were your political principles known to the inhabitants of Gloucester during the time of your residence here?—I do not know that they were.

7094. You never attended any public meetings?—No.

7095. And you do not know that the inhabitants of Gloucester were aware, during your residence, what your opinions on political subjects were?—I do not know that they were; I should think not. I took no part whatever in politics, not the slightest.

7096. Did it come to your knowledge, during the election, that there was any large expenditure of money going on for illegal purposes?—No, it did not; but one morning, when Mr. Price, who drove in usually from Tibberton, came to the hotel to commence canvassing with me as usual, I said to him, as we walked up Westgate Street, "What are all these "men about the Committee-rooms doing; are they "messengers, or what?" Mr. Price said to me, "I "do not know; we will go and ask Mr. Ellis." We went to Mr. Ellis and asked him how many messengers were employed; Mr. Ellis said he did not know, but that our best plan would be to apply to Mr. Innell or Mr. Wilton. We requested them to meet us at Mr. Ellis's office, which they did; Mr. Price then questioned them about the messengers; they stated that they did not know anything about the messengers; that they were put on by Brewer Monk. I endeavoured to learn from Mr. Innell how many messengers there were; and he said he really did not know how many there were, but he thought there were more than were required. I then stated to him and to Mr. Wilton, that if any colourable number of messengers were employed, or if any practices were resorted

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to which might render a petition against my return, in case I was elected, probable, I would at once retire from the contest; and Mr. Price also stated, "If any-" thing of the sort goes on I will retire myself, as I " wished to do before I became a candidate, and I " will advise Mr. Monk to do so also." Mr. Price then, at my request and of his own motion, requested Mr. Ellis to write to the Committee of the Gloucester Reform Club, desiring them to cut down the number of messengers to 20, which we considered to be a sufficient number; and we were informed afterwards that a number of messengers had, in consequence, been dismissed. That was all I knew about any profuse expenditure of money, or about anything going on which would cause a profuse expenditure of money. I should also state, that both Mr. Innell and Mr. Wilton said that we had not as many messengers on for the two candidates as Sir Robert Carden had for himself. When I first came down I requested Mr. Robert Wilton to become my agent. I have a copy of my letter to him, in which I said, "I may as well state, " at once, that I shall set my face steadily against " anything in the shape of bribery, and that I am not " prepared to pay more than the legitimate expenses " which must necessarily attend an election." I did so because I had been informed that Sir Robert Carden had gained his election entirely by bribery on the last occasion.

7097. You had been informed of what had taken place at the previous election in 1857, and were anxious to guard yourself against any corrupt practices being resorted to?—Yes; that letter was written, as it were, to appoint Mr. Robert Wilton to be my agent in case he would accept it. I had known him for many years.

7098. What was the date of that letter?—That letter was written the moment I knew that Sir Maurice Berkeley had retired from the contest—on the 25th March 1859—two days before I saw his nephew and Mr. Innell.

7099. Then there had been before that some communication with you respecting your becoming a candidate?—I had conversed with Mr. Price on one or two occasions previously. I believed it was not at all improbable that I might be asked to become a candidate; in fact, I had had a Gloucester newspaper sent up to me, in which I saw my name mentioned as a probable candidate, though at that time I had not the slightest intention of leaving Cricklade.

7100. You were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, and you were asked a question as to whether you "furnished the means, or " were cognisant of the money being furnished at this " time;" and your answer was, "I neither furnished " the money nor was I cognisant of any money being " furnshed at the time of the election?"—Just so.

7101. Does that answer refer to your not being cognisant of any money being furnished during the progress of the election?—Until the close of the election, certainly.

7102. Then there is a further question, "You have " no notion where this money came from?" and you say, "I have no knowledge whatever"?—I should like to explain the circumstances connected with that question. I was never put into the witness-box before the Committee of the House of Commons as a witness to be examined by the counsel on each side. After I had retired from contesting my seat (which I did in order, if possible, to save Mr. Price's seat), I tendered myself as a witness to be examined by the Committee, and the chairman of the Committee put those questions to me. At the end of the question immediately before that the chairman said to me, "The Committee " have no further questions to ask you." I was rising from my chair, when a member of the Committee (not the chairman—I do not think it is necessary to name him) turned round and spoke to me. I then sat down again, and he said, "Mr. Monk, you have no notion " where that money came from?" That was a question which I could not answer; I could not say "No," and I did not choose to say "Yes." It was not a fair question to put to me when the inquiry was as to my knowledge of what took place at the time of the election. I therefore replied as follows—"I had no know-" ledge whatever." The inquiry, you will see, if you refer to the first question, was as to my knowledge up to the day of polling, of what took place.

7103. You did not consider that a fair question, and therefore you returned an answer which was not true?—It was precisely true; I had no knowledge whatever up to the time of the election.

7104. The question was, "You have no notion " where this money came from?"—I declined to answer that question, and replied, "I had no knowledge what-" ever." The whole of the questions had reference to my knowledge at the time of the election of what had taken place.

7105. This examination took place about the end of July?—It did.

7106. In the beginning of June I understand you to say you did know that the money came from Mr. Ralli?—I did.

7107. The 500*l.* that was sent down to Gloucester?—I did not know it, but I had my suspicion that Mr. Moffatt had obtained money from Mr. Ralli, and sent it to Mr. Price.

7108. Then when you were asked at the end of the month of July the question, "You have no notion " where the money came from?" was it true that at that time you had no notion where the money came from?—If I had replied to that question I should have said "Yes;" but I did not choose to give that answer, because it was not a fair question to put to me.

7109. You ought to have said, "Yes, I do know where it came from."—But I did not choose to give that answer; it was not a fair question to put to me.

7110. If you had given an answer according to your knowledge then, you would have said, "Yes, I " do know where the money came from?"—Most undoubtedly.

7111. Instead of which you said, "I have no know-" ledge?—Excuse me; I said "I *had* no knowledge " whatever," meaning at the time of the election.

7112. It is put down here (*referring to the minutes*) " I *have* no knowledge"—in the present tense?—That is a decided mistake; it is a very slight one, but a very important one.

7113. You say it is a mistake of the shorthand writer?—It was a considerable time before I gave any reply to that question; it was not asked me by the chairman, but by a member of the Committee. It was not a fair question to put to me, Mr. Price's seat being still in jeopardy; and my answer to the question was, "I *had* no knowledge."

7114. Do you wish to correct that answer?—I wish to correct that answer from "I *have* no knowledge," to "I *had* no knowledge."

7115. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You think it was a mistake of the shorthand writer?—It must be either a misprint or a mistake of the short-hand writer. I should like to put in an analysis of my canvass for the information of the Commissioners, and the result of it up to the 28th of April (*producing a paper*).

7116. Will you read it, if you please?—"The " promises to Price and Monk of separate votes were " 702; Price and Carden, 42; Monk and Carden, 15; " plumpers: Price, 18; Monk, 2; Carden, 462; " giving a total for Price of 762, for Monk 719, and " for Carden 519; making the total number of voters " pledged 1,241; the number of voters who would " not vote (that is, who refused, or could not vote,) " 38, and the number of voters unpledged, 216; " making a total of 1,495 voters; double entries " and dead, 226; total, 1,721—the number on the " register."

7117. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did not Mr. Wilton place before you, in one of your early interviews, some programme as to the expenses, or some analysis of the constituency, or some written document of that kind?—No, he did not.

7118. Were you aware, when you consented to become a candidate, that Mr. Price had said that the

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expenses necessary to be paid by you would amount to 500*l.* ?—No.

7119. You had not heard that Mr. Price had made such a statement ?—No ; the only person who could have told me that was Mr. Moffatt; and he certainly did not, nor did Mr. Price.

7120. You consented to become a candidate, with a probability of the expenses being about 1,200*l.*, and that they might amount to 1,500*l.* for the two Liberal candidates ?—Yes.

7121. And you were to pay two-thirds of that sum ?—That the probability was that my expenses would be under 800*l.*, and that Mr. Wilton was ready to guarantee them under 1,000*l.*

7122. And you intended to provide for the expenses through Mr. Moffatt ?—Entirely.

7123. You understood that Mr. Moffatt, if necessary, would advance the money himself or go to Mr. Ralli ?—Yes.

7124. And you had no doubt at any time, having made that provision, that whatever money should be required would be forthcoming ?—No, certainly not ; whatever money might be required.

7125. Within the limits of 1,000*l.* ?—Within the limits of 1,000*l.*

7126. Were those limits mentioned to Mr. Moffatt while arrangements were being made about the money ?—Mr. Moffatt repeated those conditions to me in the presence of Messrs. Innell and Wilton.

7127. Knowing something of Gloucester, and having had a little experience in parliamentary contests, did you think that a sum of 1,000*l.* could be properly and legally expended in a Gloucester election ?—I had no doubt that it might. I had had the experience of a contest for Cricklade, in which I may say not one shilling was paid which did not pass through the hands of the election auditor; and my total expenses there were 964*l.*

7128. That is a small borough, is it not ?—Cricklade is an agricultural borough. I was told it was not an excessive sum at all.

7129. That is, that 1,000*l.* was not an excessive sum ?—Yes.

7130. And that for legal expenses ?—I was told first of all, that there would be a whole army of solicitors, who expected to be employed ; and I knew something about solicitors, because at Cricklade I had had very large amounts sent in, and it was principally with regard to them that Mr. Moffat had to battle for me there in reducing the expenses.

7131. But you knew nothing about the employment of messengers ?—No, nothing whatever ; the moment I had the slightest suspicion about it I called Mr. Price's attention to it, and desired that the number should be reduced.

7132. And you believed that after the attention of Mr. Price had been called to it the number of messengers had been reduced ?—I was told so.

7133. Did you not practically obtain some idea of what the legal expenses of an election would amount to for the solicitors' bills that you speak of, the hustings and various other necessary legal expenses ?—I suppose they must differ very much according to the number of the constituency ; hustings may be required for every hundred voters ; I believe there was an exorbitant sum charged for the hustings. I had to canvass the out-voters; Mr. Price had declined to do it. I was employed about ten days going within a circuit of seven miles round Gloucester ; there was great difficulty in getting many of the voters to come in ; a large number of conveyances were required, and a large number of canvassers were necessary to bring the voters in; I certainly had no notion that those men were to be bribed to give their votes.

7134. Were you aware of the Act of Parliament under which an election agent and election auditor are directed to be appointed ?—Yes ; I think so.

7135. Were you aware that that Act was neglected, and that it was treated as a dead letter ?—I was not aware that it was. I have heard that it has been now.

36. Did you not then know that all expenses to be paid by a candidate ought to be disbursed by the election auditor ?—I wrote to my agent, Mr. Jones, requesting that every sum to be paid might be paid by the auditor ; he wrote back that it was not the practice at Gloucester to do so ; that the auditor had given his consent to their being paid by the agents of the respective parties ; but that certainly was not with my consent, and was very much against my will.

7137. You paid Mr. Jones 464*l.* odd, and the auditor's fees besides ; then, I think, you understood that Mr. Jones or somebody had some further demands upon you, because I think you mentioned that Mr. Moffatt was of opinion that they should not be called for pending the petition ?—Mr. Moffatt thought he would be called as a witness.

7138. That assumes that there must have been some further amounts; was that after you had paid the 416*l.* ?—No ; a month or six weeks before.

7139. After that sum had been paid you believed that every claim upon you had been satisfied ?—So late as last night I went to Mr. Jones, and said, "Is "there any possibility of any other claim being sent "in to me ?" He said, "No ; I do not know of any "other claim, nor do I believe there are any other "claims upon you."

7140. You have heard something about some monies that were paid during the election. Do you consider that you are bound to pay them ?—What sums ?

7141. Mr. Lane spoke of a sum yesterday ?—Certainly not.

7142. You heard of somebody paying 95*l.* ?—I did not hear that ; if anyone has paid it, I do not consider there is any claim whatever upon me for it.

7143. Mr. Bretherton lent 200*l.* to Mr. John Wilton ?—Without some further explanation that seems to me to have been a most unjustifiable proceeding on the part of Mr. Bretherton.

7144. Do you think yourself liable to pay that ?—No ; I do not.

7145. Mr. Wilkes paid 95*l.* in a way you may have heard ?—I read it in the papers.

7146. Do you consider yourself liable to pay that ?—No, I do not.

7147. Neither legally nor honourably ?—Neither legally nor honourably.

7148-9. Should you be disposed to make it up to him in any way ?—No, I shall not.

7150. He having done an illegal act you will let him take the consequences ?—I placed my election (and Mr. Price, unfortunately, did the same) in the hands of the Reform Association, which was hardly organized here. They have done a great deal which is illegal ; there has been a large sum of money received and expended by them illegally. I do not know how it has been divided, but no doubt there has been a very much larger sum advanced on my behalf than ought to have been advanced for the purposes of this election.

7151. The 500*l.* advanced by Mr. Ralli will, of course, be charged to you ?—I have no doubt of it.

7152. And you will in effect pay it ?—I suppose I shall, I have no doubt of it.

7153. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You received back 113*l.* I believe, of the money sent to Mr. Robert Wilton ?—I instructed Mr. Jones to make inquiries of Mr. Robert Wilton, after the petition had been decided, with respect to that 200*l.* which seemed mysteriously to have come down to Gloucester ; he called on Mr. Robert Wilton, who told him he was ready to account to me for every shilling of it. When I was next in Gloucester, I called on Mr. Robert Wilton, and he told me that he had received that sum of money, and that he had expended 86*l.* 16*s.*, and he gave me back 113*l.* odd.

7154. Having lived so long in Gloucester, as you have stated, had you no knowledge of the reputation which the borough enjoyed ?—Yes, I had heard a good deal in old times about Mr. Hope's elections. I was a mere boy then, and one heard of fabulous sums

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as having been paid by him. I heard that on one occasion he won the election by buying a hundred voters for 1,500*l.*

7155. At all events you knew it did not bear a very high reputation?—Yes; but I understood that the bribery was always done on the Tory side. I think yesterday Mr. Price was asked a question with reference to what Mr. Norris, the member for Abingdon, had stated to him with regard to the cost of Sir Robert Carden's last election; I happened to be in the library of the House of Commons, not when Mr. Norris made that statement, but when it was repeated, and I took it down at the time, and I have kept it in my pocket-book since. There is a little discrepancy between what Mr. Price stated yesterday, and what he told us there; it is very slight; it is this; that the cost of Sir Robert Carden's election in 1857 was 600*l.*; that the cost of the petition was 4,000*l.*; that his present contest (for 1859) had cost him 1,100*l.*; that he expected to pay 400*l.* more, making 1,500*l.*, and he supposed the cost of a petition to turn out Monk and Price would be 1,000*l.*; I think it was stated 3,000*l.* yesterday.

7156. Do you say that this is a correction of the statement made by Mr. Price, yesterday?—That is what I heard stated in the House of Commons by Mr. Price; I think it slipped his memory, there is a very slight difference.

7157. Do I understand you, then, to say, that from your previous knowledge you had no reason to suppose that bribery was practised in Gloucester on behalf of the Liberal party?—I scarcely knew any member of the Liberal party in Gloucester.

7158. Had you reason to believe that there was no bribery practised on the Liberal side?—I had never heard of it. Mr. Price had told me again and again that it was not practised on the Liberal side, and he told me over and over again (for I had some conversation with him at the time the petition was going on against Sir Robert Carden) that Sir Robert Carden was perfectly certain to be unseated on the petition. He said, "Lord Fitzhardinge is, I think, on the point "of death, and it is very probable that Sir Maurice "Berkeley will be made a peer;" and then we had some conversation about the possibility of my being asked to stand for Gloucester, and he said that if no money whatever had been spent in bribery on our side, this election could not have been lost; he said it was quite unnecessary.

7159. You had no reason for taking precautions, in coming down to Gloucester as a candidate, to avoid bribery?—No, I had no suspicion that bribery would be resorted to.

7160. And when you put yourself in Mr. Moffatt's hands you thought you were in safe hands?—Yes; I had the most perfect confidence in him and Mr. Price.

7161. You felt that Mr. Moffatt would do nothing in an illegal manner?—No, I was under that impression.

7162. You had not the smallest idea that he would employ such a person as Thompson?—Certainly not.

7163. Have you ever heard from Mr. Moffatt, since the election, anything with reference to the employment of Thompson?—Yes, I have heard him state that Sir William Hayter had sent a very improper person, or had employed a very improper person, to take down the money. He said that when Thompson called upon him and asked for the money he was astonished to see a person like Thompson come; that he declined to give him any money whatever, and consequently sent the cheque to Sir William Hayter, in order that he might transmit it.

7164. Did you understand from Mr. Moffat that he had employed Thompson not only to take the money down but also to act in any way as an agent?—Certainly not. I understood from Mr. Moffatt that he had not employed Thompson at all, but that Thompson was sent by Sir William Hayter.

7165. Were you in court when Thompson was examined?—No.

7166. Have you read his evidence?—Some part of it.

7167. Are you aware that he stated that Mr. Moffatt engaged him on the terms of giving him 50*l.* if the election was lost and 100*l.* if it was won; did you ever hear that stated?—No, I was astonished to hear such a statement. I understood from Mr. Moffatt this; that when he saw the man (who turned out to be Thompson) who came and asked him for a cheque or money to take down to Gloucester, he had little or no conversation with him; but that he said, "I will write to Sir William Hayter, or the person "who sent you."

7168. That was what we understood from Mr. Moffatt, and therefore we were rather astonished when we heard Mr. Thompson state that he had agreed with Mr. Moffatt that he was to have 100*l.* if he won and 50*l.* if he lost?—I was as much surprised at it as the Commissioners were.

7169. (*Mr. Welford.*) We have heard that it was perfectly well known in Gloucester that there was a certain number of the constituency who were venal and who had to be bought; were you informed on the occasion of your invitation to become a candidate that there was such a body of men?—Yes, I heard that there were a number of venal voters who had turned the election on the last occasion. I may state that I heard in court yesterday the names of a family of voters supposed to be venal, and I heard them named as being open to bribery by some person when I was on my canvass. I was at Longford, I think, among the out-voters; I called at the house of one of this family; he was not at home, but I saw his daughter, who at once divined the object of our coming. She said, "You are canvassing, I suppose?" I said, "Yes, I am come to ask for Mr. So-and-so's "vote." She said, "Ah, it is no good coming here; "father cannot afford to vote without being paid for "it; him as pays best shall have his vote." It made an impression upon me. I at once turned to the person who was with me and said, "I hope I shall "not have the votes of one of that family."

7170. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When did you first hear that Mr. John Wilton was acting as an agent?—The first I heard of it was in a letter I received from Mr. Innell, written on the 12th of May. He told me that Mr. John Pleydell Wilton was collecting the bills, assisting Mr. Jones and Mr. Ellis.

7171. After the election?—After the election. I knew that Mr. Wilton was one of the leading members of the Reform Club, but I had not the least suspicion that he was employed in bribery.

7172. Or of any money being sent to him?—No, or that he was disbursing money.

7173. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know how the person whose daughter gave you that answer voted?—No; I was told that the whole family voted for Sir Robert Carden. They were pointed out to me on the day of the election; they came up, not in a state of sobriety, walking arm-in-arm, and twelve or fourteen of them polled one after another at nine o'clock in the morning.

7174. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is the only cheque you have drawn yourself a cheque for the payment of the election agent's expenses?—I drew two cheques. On the 11th of August I drew the first cheque for 464*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* on my London bankers; then I learnt that the auditor's account had not been included in it, and I drew a second cheque, on receiving a reply two days afterwards, on the 13th, for 16*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*, which was the amount due to the auditor; those are the only two cheques I have drawn.

7175. Who is your London banker?—Messrs. Drummond. I have here both my pass-book and my cheque-book, if you would like to see them. My Gloucester bankers are the Gloucestershire Banking Company, on whom I drew the second cheque; I have a very small balance there.

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7176. Are you certain that you did not draw any cheque on that bank in respect of the expenses of the election?—On the Gloucester Bank I am quite certain; I do not think I ever had a balance of above 100*l.* there.

7177. If we require to see your pass-books, we can see them?—Yes; I have them at the hotel.

7178. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Moffatt in his examination says this, "It is clear I either wrote to Sir "William Hayter or to the person introduced to me "to take the money down to Gloucester; I think the "probability is that I wrote to that person to go to "Sir William Hayter;" so that Mr. Moffatt, when Thompson called upon him, simply gave him an order to go and get the cheque which he had before deposited?—Mr. Moffatt told me that he had had nothing whatever to say to him. His observation was that he was excessively glad to see him out of his office, and that he told the man, "I will communicate with "the person who sent you." I believe those are the words he used. I think he said, "I told Thompson 'I "'will communicate with the person who sent you.'" I should state that the conversation I had with Mr. Moffatt previous to seeing Mr. Wilton and Mr. Innell was entirely upon the subject of the division of expenses, Mr. Moffatt not at all approving of my paying more than my share; at the same time he said he thought I ought to pledge myself so far as to say that I would accept the Chiltern Hundreds if I should be elected instead of Mr. Price.

WALTER WILKINS sworn and examined.

W. Wilkins.

7179. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the cashier in the County of Gloucester Bank?—I was cashier; I am now the manager.

7180. You were cashier at the time of the election?—I was cashier at the time of the election.

7181. Do you remember a sum of 200*l.* being paid in by your London correspondents to the credit of Mr. Robert Wilton?—I signed a declaration of secrecy when I entered the bank. Of course I am justified in answering on this occasion?

7182. You are bound to answer?—On reference to the books I find there was such a sum paid in.

7183. Was that paid in by Mr. Ralli?—Mr. Ralli's name was not mentioned.

7184. It came from your London correspondents, did it not?—It came from Robarts and Company.

7185. But it was to be paid to Mr. Robert Wilton?—Yes.

7186. Do you know how much Mr. Robert Wilton drew out in respect of the credit of 200*l.*?—This amount went to Mr. Robert Wilton's general account, and, of course, I cannot tell how much of that sum was drawn out.

7187. It was not kept separate?—No, certainly not.

7188. Was any other sum at that time paid in to Mr. Wilton's credit by your correspondents in London?—No.

7189. That you are sure of?—You have not given me any date?

7190. I say about the period of the election?—No other sum that I am aware of; I have not searched for that. My evidence is founded on Mr. Robert Wilton's evidence; it has reference to that sum which was spoken of in Court the other day.

7191. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What date was that?—I can tell by reference to my books. (*The witness examines a book.*) On the 25th of April.

7192. Can you see whether there was any further sum paid in between that day and the 30th?—No; there certainly was no other sum paid in.

7193. Was there any sum between the 21st and the 25th of April?—Certainly not.

GEORGE BALL sworn and examined.

G. Ball.

7194. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A tailor and outfitter.

7195. Where do you reside?—In Southgate Street.

7196. What money passed through your hands during the last election?—£13.

7197. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Robinson.

7198. Mr. Thomas Robinson?—Yes.

7199. What did you receive it for?—For bribery.

7200. Who did you bribe with it?—William Wright, I think his name is.

7201. What is he?—A chinaman; I think his name is William; I am not certain.

7202. Where does he live?—In Southgate Street.

7203. How much did you give him?—5*l.*, through his brother-in-law. I gave it to his brother-in-law, and he gave it to him.

7204. Who is his brother-in-law?—His name is Gregory.

7205. What is his Christian name?—John.

7206. In order that he might vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

7207. Did he vote for them?—Yes.

7208. Did you tell Mr. Robinson that you required money to bribe that man Wright?—No; I did not.

7209. Who was the next person?—James Baddams.

7210. Who is he?—He lives in Bedford Street.

7211. What is he?—A shoemaker.

7212. How much did you give him?—£5.

7213. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

7214. Who else did you bribe?—I did not bribe anyone else. I gave 2*l.* to Mr. Jeffs, a carver and gilder.

7215. What for?—He had not money enough to give a voter. I believe it was a voter, and I gave him 2*l.* towards it out of the money I had.

7216. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know the name of that voter?—No.

7217. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where does Jeffs, the carver and gilder, live?—In Southgate Street.

7218. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is his Christian name?—James.

7219. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that to make up a sum he wanted for a voter?—Yes.

7220. Did he tell you at the time the name of the person he wanted it for?—He did not, that I recollect.

7221. What did you do with the other 1*l.*?—I spent it in different places.

7222. In treating?—Yes.

7223. Is that all the money you paid to voters?—Yes.

7224. You did not pay any out of your own pocket?—No.

7225. Did you offer money to any other person?—Yes.

7226. To whom?—A man named White, in Longsmith Street? I think his name is Charles White.

7227. How much did you offer to him?—£5.

7228. For his vote?—Yes.

7229. For Price and Monk?—Yes; he said he should have liked to have gone that way, but that he had been ill for a long time, and was much backward with his rent; that he owed 10*l.* for rent, and he supposed he must vote the other way, as the house belonged to the other party.

7230. Did he say to whom the house belonged?—I think he said Mr. Goodrich. I believe it was Mr. Goodrich.

7231. Was that the only reason he gave you?—He said that his rent would be made right by the other party if he voted for them.

7232. Did he tell you by whom he had been told that?—No, he did not.

7233. Did you offer any bribe to any other person?—No.

7234. You made no offer to any other person but

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White ?—No ; I have no recollection of having done so.

7235. Is that all you had to do with the last election ?—Yes, in the shape of money.

7236. Did you treat any person on your own account ?—Yes, many.

7237. Where did you treat them ?—At different houses. I was in several houses during the election.

7238. Where were you ?—At the Red Cow for one. I did offer another man, I recollect now, at the Red Cow.

7239. Whom did you offer ?—Charles Newth.

7240. What is he ?—He is a plumber and glazier.

7241. Where does he live ?—In Sudbrook hamlet.

7242. What did you offer him ?—8*l.*

7243. For his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes ; he wanted 15*l.*

7244. Why did he want 15*l.* ?—I do not know. The morning of the polling he sent Daniel Taylor, the landlord of the Red Cow, to me, and said, if I would send him the money he would vote for 8*l.* ; that was on the morning of the polling, and I told him it was too late, for I had no money to give him, and he said he would go and get 15*l.* from the other party, and he went and polled for the other party. I believe he mentioned the name of Stamper to me that he had been with.

7245. You treated people at the Red Cow ?—Yes.

7246. Where else ?—At the Saracen's Head.

7247. At any other place ?—The Boot.

7248. Where else ?—The Berkeley Arms ; no other place that I am aware of.

7249. Who did you treat ?—I do not remember the names ; I was not particular who I treated.

7250. Cannot you remember the names of any persons you treated ?—I treated Wright several times ; the one that I bribed. He told me that several of the other party had been to him and offered him 10*l.*

7251. Can you give me the names of any other persons ?—He told me he had been offered 10*l.* by several of the other party, and one of the parties' names was Hanman ; another man, named James, he said, had offered him 10*l.*, and some one else said he was a quarter's rent in debt, and that they would pay the quarter's rent for him if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden. I believe that was old Mr. Hanman, the grocer. He told me so.

7252. Can you remember the name of any other person except White that you treated ?—No ; I treated many people, but I do not recollect who they were. Newth, I treated him.

7253. Did you take these men to any of the public houses you have mentioned, the Red Cow, Saracen's Head, Boot, or Berkeley Arms, and give them refreshment ?—I never took them ; when I have gone into the house and have seen them there I have treated them.

7254. (*Mr. Welford.*) And I suppose you paid at the time for what they had ?—Yes.

7255. You did not desire the landlord to put it down to the committee ?—No.

7256. You simply went in as any other customer would and paid for it at the time ?—Yes.

7257. When you had this 13*l.* from Mr. Robinson did you tell him what you wanted it for ?—I had 15*l.* from him.

7258. That is 2*l.* more than you mentioned ?—I mentioned 15*l.*

7259. No, 13*l.* ?—£13. I paid away ; I had 15*l.* You asked me what passed through my hands. I paid away 13*l.*, but I had 15*l.*

7260. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you do with the other 2*l.* ?—I have it now ; if any one will ask me for it, that is if the party I had it from asked me for it, I would give it him.

7261. You have 2*l.* left ?—Yes.

7262. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you tell Mr. Robinson what you wanted that money for. Did you ask him for it ?—No ; it was laid on the table. I believe a check was given by Mr. Robinson for 95*l.*, and I had 15*l.* out of this 95*l.*

7263. In what form was it paid to you ?—It was placed on the table. The money was brought there by Mr. Payne.

7264. Out of that money brought by Mr. Payne you had 15*l.* ?—Yes, out of that money.

7265. And Mr. Robinson had given a check for that money ?—Yes.

7266. Therefore, in fact, you received it from Mr. Robinson ?—I received it from the table ; no one gave it me. I took up three 5*l.* notes.

7267. Did you say what you intended to do with it ?—No ; I never told any one ; in fact no one asked me.

7268. How is it you said you received it from Mr. Thomas Robinson ?—He gave the cheque for it, and I thought it was his money.

7269. You considered it was Mr. Robinson's money on the table ?—Yes ; I saw him write a cheque for it.

7270. And you took it up ?—Yes.

7271. With his consent ?—No ; he did not say anything about it ; it was on the table, and I took it up.

7272. Mr. Robinson saw it and did not object to it ?—Just so.

THOMAS FIELD GILBERT sworn and examined.

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7273. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a parliamentary and election agent in Parliament Street ?—I am.

7274. Do you remember Sir William Hayter coming to your office some time in April last ?—I heard of it.

7275. Did you not see him ?—No.

7276. Did you hear for what purpose he came ?—No ; I did not till afterwards.

7277. When did you first hear of it ?—After the election in Gloucester was over.

7278. Did you hear what day it was that he came to your office ?—No, I did not.

7279. Did you not hear when the election was over on what day he had come ?—I did not.

7280. Were you in London at that time ?—No ; I was in London when I was told of it.

7281. I understand you to say that that was after the election was over ?—Yes.

7282. Were you not written to upon the subject ?—No.

7283. You were not in London and you do not know on what day it was that Sir William Hayter came to your office ?—No.

7284. Where were you at that time ?—At Wakefield.

7285. Have you a clerk in your office of the name of Webb ?—I have a person there who assists me of the name of Webb.

7286. Is he in partnership with yourself ?—Not as a parliamentary agent.

7287. Is he in partnership with you ?—He has all his life been an accountant, and he carries on his business as an accountant, in which if there are any profits we are jointly to share them.

7288. Does he not take any part in the election business ?—Only under my direction.

7289. In that respect he acts not as a partner but as a clerk ?—As a clerk.

7290. Has he been with you for some time ?—He has.

7291. For how many years ?—Well, I have only been in London about two years.

7292. Has he been with you during that time ?—Yes.

7293. Did you know him before ?—Yes ; I have known him many years.

7294. Did he not tell you in the month of April last, that Sir William Hayter had been to your office ?—No.

7295. Did you leave any instructions when you left London to go to Wakefield as to the part he was

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to take in respect of any elections that were confided to your care?—I gave him general directions; we had a list of names handed in of persons who wished employment, and when I went to Wakefield, I said, "You will do the best you can to manage matters "during my absence, and let me know if there is "anything requiring my attention."

7296. Did you not hear from Webb of an application having been made for a trustworthy person to come to Gloucester?—No, I did not.

7297. Was the name of Richard Thompson in that list of persons who sought employment?—I do not think the name was in the list, because Mr. Thompson was in the habit of calling daily at the office.

7298. For what purpose was he in the habit of calling at your office?—For general conversation about the state of political parties, and the probability of employment arising out of it.

7299. Have you known Thompson for many years?—I have known him from 1857.

7300. Not before that time?—Not before that time; we met together at Pontefract upon the Pontefract petition, in 1857.

7301. Did you understand from Thompson, or did you understand from any other person, what Thompson's particular vocation was?—Do you mean in 1857, or subsequent?

7302. From the time you first knew him down to April 1859?—I knew him in 1857 to be an election agent; he was sent to Pontefract to me by Mr. Coppock.

7303. What definition do you give of the term "election agent"?—The definition is this: a person who is employed either to manage an election entire or to act under another.

7304. When a person, such as Richard Thompson, is sent to "manage an election entire," does that comprehend the management of any bribery that may be necessary?—Not always; if he is sent to manage an election, I generally understand that he is sent to act according to the circumstances of the place. Boroughs and cities and counties are differently situated.

7305. And if the circumstances require that bribery should be committed, he is to commit bribery?—I do not know what his instructions might be.

7306. What would you understand?—Perhaps I shall better satisfy you by telling you exactly what I know about this Gloucester affair.

7307. You say an election agent, when sent down to manage, is to act according to the circumstances of the place?—I do not know what other parties may have received instructions to do. I only know that I have not received such instructions.

7308. What do you mean by "the circumstances of the place"?—There are certain circumstances arising out of the peculiar position.

7309. What peculiar position?—Sometimes the election turns upon the question of temperance; there are a number of teetotallers in a given place whose votes can carry the election either one way or the other; that was the case in Bristol at the last election.

7310. What is another "peculiar circumstance"?—In some cases I should not wonder if it did not turn upon intemperance.

7311. What else?—I can hardly tell you.

7312. Does it not depend also upon the employment of money in the purchase of votes?—It may, but not in my experience.

7313. Such a man as Richard Thompson being sent down to act "according to the circumstances of the place, and according to its peculiar position," do you not think he would be expected to resort to bribery, if bribery should be found to be necessary?—No, I think not, because I have been sent in the same way as he was, merely as the bearer of money.

7314. As "a trustworthy person"?—Yes.

7315. To manage an election?—No; in some instances it has been simply to take the money, and when I have taken it to return.

7316. And in other cases, what?—To manage the legal department of the election.

7317. Not the illegal part?—Not the illegal part.

7318. Do you mean to swear you do not think Thompson was employed to come down here to manage the illegal part of the election?—I do not think he was.

7319. You mean to swear that?—Yes; I have no reason to believe that he was, because I think from my knowledge of Thompson, that if he had been employed to do that, he would have done it better.

7320. Are you not aware that Thompson himself did not pay any money in bribery to any parties?—Yes, I am aware of it from the evidence which I have seen.

7321. Do you know a person of the name of Patch?—I do.

7322. Is he a gentleman in your office?—No.

7323. Is he employed in your office at all?—No.

7324. Has he been employed in your office?—On one occasion.

7325. When was that?—In February.

7326. For how long?—Perhaps a week or ten days.

7327. Had he not been in the habit of going to your office?—Yes.

7328. In what way did he go to your office?—I allowed him the use of a drawer at one of the tables, and liberty to go to it when he chose; and I might just state, that the nature of his employment in February was to canvass the London voters for East Worcestershire, and nothing more.

7329. Is Patch a man in poor circumstances of life?—I rather think so, though he is respectably connected.

7330. Why was he to have a drawer at your office?—Because I met with him under the same circumstances in 1857. He and Thompson and myself, and several others, were engaged in most of the contested election petitions in 1857.

7331. Had Thompson a drawer in your office?—No.

7332. Why did he not have a drawer at your office as well as Patch?—Because he did not ask for it, or else I should have given it to him.

7333. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you say you were engaged with them in most of the contested election petitions?—Yes. I was upon the Dublin, and Oxford, and Ipswich, and Pontefract with Mr. Thompson; we were engaged for Mr. Coppock.

7334. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Has Patch a drawer in your office now?—I do not know.

7335. Do you know whether Patch has been in the habit of going to your office of late?—I should think not.

7336. When was the last time he went to your office?—I cannot tell.

7337. When did he give up the drawer?—I do not know that he has or that he has not given it up.

7338. Do you know the day on which you went to Wakefield?—The 6th of April.

7339. Did you give any instructions to Webb before you left as to the receipt of telegrams?—No.

7340. You left all that to himself, did you?—Yes, I never knew that he had a telegram till it came out publicly.

7341. What time is your office shut up?—We never keep it open after five—more generally at four.

7342. Would not letters be received there after that time?—They would be received at any time by the housekeeper.

7343. Are you aware that Thompson received a telegram from Webb stating that he had seen "P."?—I know it by the public papers.

7344. Is that the only way in which you know it?—That is the only way in which I know it.

7345. Have you had any conversation with Webb about it?—No.

7346. Neither before nor since?—No.

7347. Have you seen Webb since he has been examined here?—I saw him yesterday.

7348. Had you any conversation about it?—No.

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7349. Had you no conversation with him?—He said he heard I was coming down to-day, and I told him that was so.

7350. Was that all?—That is all.

7351. Do you mean to swear that no conversation took place between you as to the evidence he had given, or as to the evidence you were to give?—I swear that most distinctly. I only know his evidence from the public papers; and he knew very well that I knew nothing at all about Gloucester.

7352. Do you believe that when Webb stated that by the "P." in that telegram he meant "Patch," he stated that which was true?—I cannot tell what the "P." meant; I cannot see what "P." meant, more than "Peter," or anything else.

7353. Do you believe, from your knowledge of Patch, and from your knowledge of Webb, that "P." in that telegram meant "Patch"?—Well, I should think not. It is a mere matter of opinion.

7354. Who should you think it did mean?—I cannot tell.

7355. Have you ever said anything to Webb at all upon the subject of the meaning of it?—No, I have purposely avoided conversing upon the subject of the Gloucester election with everybody I have met with.

7356. And I suppose you think you exercised a wholesome discretion in doing so?—Yes. I will tell you how I knew anything about Thompson being here. I wrote to Webb to say I wanted a person to come down and take the management at Huddersfield. I received a letter from him, stating that Thompson, of whom I spoke in my letter, was gone to Gloucester; that there was no other person but one left in London, a friend of Thompson's, whose name I forget, and who would not come down without an engagement for 100*l.* and 50*l.* down; therefore that was out of the question. After that a person of the name of Thomas was sent to Huddersfield. I did not return to London upon the close of the Wakefield election, because I was engaged in managing one division of the West Riding of Yorkshire; and after my return to London I met Thompson. He told me that he had been to Gloucester, and I said, "So I have heard, but I want to "know nothing about it; I have had nothing to do "with it, and do not wish to know anything about "it;" and that is all I know about Gloucester.

7357. Why did you not want to know anything about it?—Because I did not want to be brought before the Committee, or in any other way to give evidence upon the hearsay of Thompson or any one else.

7358. Did you think that Thompson had been engaged in something improper?—I did not know.

7359. Did you suspect it?—I thought it might be. I told him at the same time not to ask me anything about Wakefield; if he did I should not tell him.

7360. What is the amount that you were in the habit of paying Thompson, and that you have paid him when he has been engaged for you?—He has never been engaged for me, but in assisting, with Patch, in canvassing the London voters for East Worcestershire.

7361. That is the only way in which he has been engaged by yourself?—By myself, except that he went to Frome to make some inquiries, and merely received the amount of his travelling expenses.

7362. That was before the Gloucester election?—Yes, or just upon it.

7363. You sent him down there?—Yes.

7364. Were you engaged in that election for the Conservatives?—No.

7365. You were not engaged at all?—No.

7366. How came you to send Thompson down to Frome?—I was asked to go myself, and I was unwilling, and could not go.

7367. Who asked you to go?—Well, really I forget the name of the party now.

7368. On which side were you to have gone?—Well, no particular side, but to make general inquiry.

7369. What is the arrangement generally with Thompson as to the amount that he should receive if he goes down to manage an election? Has he told you what he would expect?—I have heard him say that he should not go unless he got 50*l.*, or 100*l.* or 150*l.*, according to the work to be done and the time it would occupy, because some elections will take four or five weeks and some only a week. I have received 150*l.* myself for managing an election which has lasted only a week.

7370. Were you, before you left town to go to Wakefield, at the office of Messrs. Baxter, Rose, and Norton in London?—Several times.

7371. Did you ever see a subscription list on the table?—No, I did not.

7372. Never?—No.

7373. You did not see any list upon the table upon which were certain sums affixed to the names of particular places?—No; I heard various things said there while I was waiting for Mr. Rose, but it would be a breach of confidence for me to state what took place in the outer office.

7374. But we must hear what you heard?—I do not know the parties that said it.

7375. What did you hear in the outer office at Mr. Rose's?—I heard that they were succeeding very well in their subscriptions, and that their prospects of general success were good.

7376. Did you hear anything said about Gloucester?—No.

7377. Did you ever hear anything said about any sum of money being sent to Gloucester?—No.

7378. You did not hear from Mr. Rose about the success of their subscriptions?—No.

7379. Thompson is sent down to manage "according to the circumstances of the places," you have told us?—I do not know that he has been, but that is generally the way in which election agents are sent.

7380. If he was sent down to manage an election at a place where there were a considerable number of venal voters, you would not be surprised if he was employed in bribery?—I should not be surprised if he was not.

7381. Or if he was?—No.

7382. That would come within his duty as manager of an election?—I do not know that it would come within his duty; it would come within his work, perhaps.

7383. And you think, also, if Thompson had been employed to bribe, he would have done it better than it was done?—I think he would.

7384. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Instead of seeing Webb, if Sir William Hayter had seen you, and asked you to recommend a trustworthy person to take money down to Gloucester, should you have recommended Thompson?—I certainly should, if he had been at liberty.

7385. Should you consider that Sir William Hayter meant by "a trustworthy person" a person who could conduct the election?—That is all I should have understood from Sir William Hayter, from what I have seen of his evidence.

7386. Sir William Hayter says he went to your office and asked for a trustworthy person to take money down to Gloucester; should you have considered he wanted a person to conduct the election, or simply a clerk, to take money down and deliver it?—What I should have thought was, that he wanted Thompson to take the money down, as a trustworthy person, and then that Thompson would have been employed in the general management of the election; for, to give all credit to the local gentlemen as to the conduct of elections, not having so much observation and experience as (I would say it without egotism) myself, who have been engaged in contested elections for thirty years, we can always give information as to the legal conduct of an election beyond the knowledge of the parties in the local places.

7387. You should have gathered from Sir William Hayter's making that remark that he did want a person to conduct the election?—Yes, because I think something else would have passed.

7388. Had Webb any authority, in your absence,

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to send people down in answer to such a question as Sir William Hayter's?—He was to act, under the circumstances, as his judgment directed him best.

7389. Is it part of the duty of a gentleman sent down, like Mr. Thompson, with money, to pay himself?—I do not know; I have never done it myself; I have always waited till I have been paid.

7390. Do you think that Mr. Thompson, having 500*l.* to take to Gloucester, was justified in coming back to London with 40*l.* in his pocket?—I should not have done it if I had been instructed to leave 500*l.*; I do not know the circumstances under which Mr. Thompson was instructed; perhaps he is wiser than me. I have trusted to being paid afterwards, and frequently have never been paid at all. There is one thing in which I should like to put myself right through the gentlemen of the press. It has been sought to create an unfavourable impression against me in connexion with an official situation I hold under the Government, by stating that I have abstained from being served with the subpœna, and from coming to this Court. As to the first part of that statement, I have not in any shape or form put myself out of the way of the service; and as to the second, I had the honour of appearing before Mr. Fitzgerald on Saturday week at Frome, at the registration, and I then told him it would be out of my power to come here till yesterday or to-day; the first moment I could come I made my appearance.

7391. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were summoned to attend here on the first day?—Yes.

7392. And there was no excuse given why you should not attend?—I mentioned it to Mr. Fitzgerald on the Saturday; that was before the Monday. If I had come it would have been at a considerable sacrifice in a pecuniary point of view; I should have had to give up an engagement for a lengthened investigation of seven days, and as I was well aware that the Commission would last beyond the time for which I was summoned, and having communicated with Mr. Fitzgerald, I felt the Court would excuse my not attending before.

7393. We quite excuse it, after the intimation which was given to us by Mr. Fitzgerald?—But it has been represented that I, holding a Government situation, have acted quite different from what a Government officer should act, in avoiding the service of the process of a legal court.

7394. However, you have attended here now, and that will exonerate you from any consequences that might otherwise have arisen from your not having attended here the first day?—I know I have travelled rather beyond the record in mentioning the last circumstance, and hope you will forgive me for doing so.

W. S. Mallard.

WILLIAM SMITH MALLARD sworn and examined.

7395. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a clerk at the railway station?—I am.

7396. At Gloucester?—Yes.

7397. Do you remember the day of polling?—I do.

7398. At the last election?—Yes.

7399. Were you in the Westgate Street about the middle of the day on the polling day?—I was.

7400. Did you see a person there of the name of Davey?—Yes.

7401. What are his Christian names?—Walter.

7402. Walter what?—Walter Davey.

7403. And a person of the name of Coates?—Yes; James Coates.

7404. Do you remember receiving any money for their votes? Do you know Mr. Moss, the builder?—Yes.

7405. Did Mr. Moss give you any money to hold for either Davey or Coates?—He did.

7406. How much did he give you?—I believe it was 9*l.* or 9*l.* 10*s.*

7407. In gold?—Yes.

7408. What did he tell you to do with it?—He merely told me to hold it for those parties, if I thought they would be likely to vote, and I did so.

7409. He told you to hold it for those parties; that is, for Davey and Coates?—Yes.

7410. Until when? until they had voted?—No; he did not say either way.

7411. He told you to hold it for Davey and Coates?—Yes.

7412. What then?—I immediately went into Webb's bacon factory shop, and there I received the money, and afterwards I went to them, and they said they had not voted, and they were waiting for their expenses and their trouble.

7413. Was that after you had given them the money?—That was before.

7414. Well?—I says, "What do you require for "your expenses?"

7415. What did they say?—They said about 5*l.* each.

7416. Well?—I said, "I cannot give you that for "your expenses," but I said if they liked to accept 4*l.* 10*s.*, they could do so for their expenses.

7417. Four pounds ten shillings each?—Yes.

7418. Well?—I says, "Then you can go up and "vote and I will be answerable for the money.

7419. And did they?—They said no, they would have their expenses first; they would have the money first.

7420. Did you pay them the money?—I did.

7421. Four pounds ten shillings to each of them?—Yes.

7422. What did you mean by expenses? was that for their vote?—For their time and trouble in being away, that it might be more satisfactory to them.

7423. Did you not give 4*l.* 10*s.* to each of them for their votes?—Not under the intention of bribery; merely on purpose for their expenses.

7424. Do you mean to swear you did not mean to give them that money for their votes, to vote for Price and Monk?—Certainly not for their votes; I paid it them for their expenses.

7425. Do you mean to swear that no portion of that 4*l.* 10*s.* was intended by you for their vote?—Certainly not.

7426. Did not Mr. Moss tell you that you were to give that money to them if they voted?—I do not recollect him mentioning that; he said he did not like to lose their votes; if I thought I could be the means of getting them to do so.

7427. He said he should not like to lose their votes?—Yes.

7428. Did he tell you you were to pay them that money—9*l.*—if they gave their votes for Price and Monk?—No, he said, "If you choose to give them "that and you think that you can get them to give "their votes you may do so;" and I did so. I had no intention of bribery at all.

7429. What is Davey? was he a clerk at the railway station?—He was a check clerk at that time.

7430. What is Coates?—He was a policeman at the station.

7431. What were their expenses in coming from the station to the poll to vote?—I could not say what the expenses might be.

7432. Were there any expenses at all?—I could not say; they asked me in that way, and of course I thought that was proper.

7433. They incurred no expenses, did they, in walking from the station to the polling place?—I do not know; I did not see them go.

7434. Were you not a clerk at the railway station at the time of the election?—Yes.

7435. Was not Davey employed at the railway station at the same time?—Yes.

7436. And Coates?—And Coates.

7437. That being the case, do you mean to swear that they incurred any expense in coming from the

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station to the polling place?—I could not swear that.

7438. What is your belief about it?—I could not say what expense they might have incurred at all.

7439. Do you mean to represent to the Commissioners that that sum was not paid by you to those two men for the purchase of their votes?—Certainly not on my own part.

7440. But only for expenses?—Their expenses and time.

J. Moss.

JOSEPH MOSS sworn and examined.

7441. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a builder?—I am.

7442. Where do you live?—At Hampden Place.

7443. On the polling day you gave the last witness, Mallard, some money in the Westgate Street, did you not?—He followed me into Mr. Webb's shop.

7444. What did you give him in Mr. Webb's shop?—I think I gave him 9*l.* 10*s.*; I am not certain.

7445. What did you give him that money for?—I canvassed Walter Davey, being in the district called the east district; and when I canvassed him the first time he was not at home. The next time I called at the house he was at home; he said he had not made up his mind as to how he should vote. I asked him what were his reasons; he said he could give me no reasons, but that if I would call again (I think he said the next morning, but I am not quite certain whether he said the next morning, or the next morning after,) he should be at home, and then he would tell me. I called on that morning, and he then had another person with him whom I knew well to be on the opposite side.

7446. Who was that?—I do not know his name; I knew the man well by sight, but I do not know his name. He said, "Anything you have to say, Mr. "Moss, you can say on."

7447. Davey said that?—Davey said that. I said, "Thank you, I will say it at once." I was about to go out of the house, when he said, "Stop a minute; "perhaps you will speak to me out in the yard." He then went out in the back and I followed him; he then asked me what I could give. I said, "Well, "that is another question; what do you want or "what is your reason that you do not promise?" He said, "I can have money on the other side, and it "has been promised already; if you cannot give me "more than them, I shall not go with you."

7448. Well?—I said, "I do not expect we shall "be able to give you any money; if we do give any "it will be very little indeed; but I am not aware "that there will be any money at all in the field." I then said, "You are working for a liberal company "and Mr. Price is a director; I think you would be "very foolish to go against your own interest;" he said he did not care a damn about that, for that Mr. Smith, the late Mayor, had promised him a situation on the Great Western if he was discharged, and that he could have 5*l.* at any time from the other side if he chose to accept it? I left him and saw him no more till the morning of the election; as I was passing up the street I saw him standing at the corner of what we call the College Court. I believe it is called the Lower College Court, if I recollect right. I then made a jocular remark, I said, "What, Coates, have "you overstood the market? Are you worth "nothing?" "Not exactly, Mr. Moss," (he said) "I "am worth something now." "Not a bit of it," (I said) "the election is won." The man who was with him I understood was named Coates.

7449. I thought you said you addressed him and said, when he came up, "Well, Coates"?—No, Davey. I never spoke to the man Coates, to the best of my knowledge, during the whole of the election. He said, "We are worth something, surely; we are worth 5*l.* "apiece." I said, "If I see any man in the street "who is fool enough to give you that I will send him "to you." I then walked away from them. The man attempted to follow me. I said, "Do not follow "me, I have nothing to do with you, and nothing to "give you." I then walked into Webb's shop. This young man, Mallard, the last witness, then came in, either close to my heels or spoke to me at the door, and followed me and said, "You do not intend to let "those men pass, do you?" I said, "Well, I do not "like that Davey at all."

7450. Mallard said, "You do not intend to let those "two men pass, do you?"—Yes; he said, "I think "it is a pity to lose them. I think they are quite "safe." I said, "I have just 9*l.* 10*s.* in my pocket, "that is all I have; if you choose to have anything "to do with them, do as you like; I will not."

7451. Did you not tell Mallard what he was to do with the money?—No; that was all that passed to the by mest of recollection.

7452. Did you say nothing about 9*l.* 10*s.* being given for the votes of Coates and Davey?—No. I have given you, I believe, almost the precise words that passed between us, as nearly as I can recollect them.

7453. You gave Mallard 9*l.* 10*s.*, and said, "If you "like to have anything to do with them, do it. I will "not?"—That was it.

7454. Supposing Mallard had not chosen to have anything to do with them, what would have happened as to the money which you had given him?—He would have kept the money, I suppose.

7455. Did you mean that if Mallard did not give the 9*l.* 10*s.* to them for their votes, he should keep the money himself; do you swear that?—I gave Mallard the money and left him to do as he liked with it.

7456. And if he had not given that money to Coates and Davey, did you intend that he should keep it himself?—I do not suppose he would have returned it to me.

7457. What did you intend when you gave that money to him?—I fully expected that he would go and give them the money, no doubt.

7458. You intended that when you gave that money to him?—I fully expected that that was what he would do with it. I did not like the character of the man Davey, and would not have anything to do with him.

7459. And not liking the character of the man, you gave another man 9*l.* 10*s.* for his vote?—I had nothing to do with the other man; I gave Mallard the 9*l.* 10*s.*

7460. So far as you were concerned, the 9*l.* 10*s.* was money that passed from you through the hands of Mallard, for the purpose of bribing Coates and Davey?—That was it.

7461. Where did you get that 9*l.* 10*s.* from?—From Mr. Robinson.

7462. What other money did you get from Mr. Robinson?—He asked me how we were getting on in our district; I told him very well; that we had got full two-thirds of the non-promised votes all safe for us, but that there were a few in the district who would not vote at all unless they were bribed in some shape or form. Mr. Robinson said, "I think it will not do "to lose them for a trifle; I think there may be a "little money perhaps found by and by."

7463. How much money did you get altogether from Mr. Robinson?—I told Mr. Robinson that it would take about 40*l.*: he gave me a packet, which I suppose he considered contained 40*l.*; whether it did or not I cannot say, for I never counted it.

7464. What district was this?—The east.

7465. What did you do with the money?—I gave 9*l.* 10*s.* to Mallard; I gave 6*l.* to George Pickford, for a man of the name of Huggins; I gave a man of the name of King, in Bear Land (I do not know his Christian name) 5*l.*; I gave one William Wingate 5*l.*, for a man of the name of Smith; I think he lives in King Street, but I am not certain. A man of the name of Hooper in Prince Street, called on me, I think, the day before the election, and said he had given me offence by promising his vote to me for the Town Council, and

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afterwards disappointing me by not going the way he had promised, for which I advertised him and thirty others. He said he was now working for a Mr. Blizard, a corn merchant, and that he should not like to go against his employer; but he said that Mr. Clutterbuck had offered him *5l.* for his vote, and he should not like to lose the chance of getting *5l.*

7466. What is his name?—William Hooper, I think.

7467. Where does he live?—At Barton St. Mary.

7468. He said he had been offered by Mr. Clutterbuck *5l.*, and that he should not like to lose it?—That he should not like to lose it.

7469. Did you give him the *5l.*?—I told him I did not know whether there would be any money or not, but that if there was I would see what could be done for him.

7470. Did you give him *5l.*?—On the morning of the election he came to me at six o'clock, on purpose, as he said, to get out of the way of his landlord; I then gave him the *5l.*, and I believe he went afterwards and polled; I did not go with him.

7471. Who was the next person to whom you gave money?—I believe I gave *4l.* 10*s.* or *4l.* 5*s.* to one Mr. Clarke for a man named Brown, in King Street. I do not know whether it was to hold the money for him or not.

7472. What is his christian name?—I do not know his christian name; he is a baker.

7473. Where does he live?—in the Eastgate Street.

7474. You gave it to him for Brown?—Yes.

7475. What Brown was that?—William Brown, of King Street.

7476. Who is the next?—I gave *6l.* to one Owen Harris, in Hampden Place, after the election was over, or rather to his wife. He had been waited on by somebody else, and it was reported to me (but I cannot recollect who it was that reported it), that he had been with Mr. James Maysey, who had promised to cancel an account that was standing to a Cheltenham Loan Society for *11l.* that he was responsible for, as a bondsman for somebody. I do not know who it was; he did not give me the name.

7477. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does Harris live; does he live in Birmingham?—No; he is still in Gloucester, and still in Hampden Place.

7478. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said Maysey had promised to cancel a debt of *11l.* for which he was a security?—Yes, if he would give a vote on the opposite side.

7479. If he would give a vote, that is, for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; he said he would rather vote for the Liberals, as he was employed under the Liberals, and that if we would give him *10l.* he would do so. I told him we could do nothing of the kind; that I did not believe there would be any money in the field, and that if there was it would be only a little; he then said he should be obliged to go to the other side; I said, "You will not do what "you have told me surely;" he said, "Yes, I shall;" I said, "If you do I will advertise you immediately in "the Gloucester Journal,—a respectable young man "like you to take *10l.*;" he said, "You will never "do that, will you?" I said, "Yes, I will, positively." Upon that I left him. Afterwards he called on me and said, "Well, Mr. Moss, what will "be the highest possible amount you can give?" I said, "I cannot tell you." On the last day I found I had a little surplus money, and that I could give him *6l.*, and I told him if he would vote he should find *6l.* at his house sometime or another, but that I would not give it him first because I had no confidence in him. Mr. Maysey had tampered with him four times during that period, and therefore I had no confidence in him.

7480. And that respectable young man did vote accordingly for Price and Monk?—He did vote accordingly.

7481. Who was the next?—That is the lot; that is all I can recollect at present. Had I known I should be called upon I should have been careful to have kept an account.

7482. Have you told us all the money you received for the purpose of the election?—I think I had *8l.* from Mr. Wilton after the election.

7483. You gave *6l.* to George Pickford for Huggins, did you not?—Yes.

7484. Did you tell George Pickford what he was to do with the money?—George Pickford said he had canvassed a man, and that if he could get *6l.* he thought the man would be sure to vote, for he was in difficulties, and the money would do him good.

7485. Did you authorize George Pickford to pay Huggins the *6l.*?—Yes, I gave him the money.

7486. To pay for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

7487. You gave to that man, King, whose christian name you do not recollect at present, *5l.*; was that for his vote?—For his expenses and vote; he came from the country, I think; he said he would not vote unless he had *5l.* for his expenses. I think he came from Cardiff in Wales; I am not certain where he came from.

7488. Did you tell William Wingate that he was to give the *5l.* to Smith?—William Wingate reported to me that the man wanted that sum the same as Pickford did with regard to Huggins.

7489. Did he tell you that Smith wanted that money for his vote?—Yes, and I gave Wingate the money to give to Smith.

7490. Did you give William Hooper *5l.*?—Yes.

7491. Was that for his vote?—For his vote and his loss of time, I suppose; that is what he considered it.

7492. Does William Hooper live in Gloucester?—Yes, he lives in Prince's Street now, to the best of my knowledge.

7493. Where did he live at the time of the election?—In Prince's Street.

7494. You gave Clarke *5l.* for William Brown?—Yes.

7495. Did you tell Clarke that he was to give that money to Brown for his vote?—I am not quite certain. Clarke canvassed Mr. Brown and he told me that he should want *5l.*, and I gave him *5l.* which was the sum that I had told Mr. Robinson would be required.

7496. Did you give it him for Brown's vote?—I cannot say; I believe Brown received the whole or some of it; whether the whole or a portion I cannot say. I believe he received *3l.* for his vote for the municipal election, from Mr. Ward immediately afterwards, so that I suppose he generally makes a practice of getting what he can.

7497. To Owen Harris you gave *6l.* for his vote, did you not?—I did.

7498. Those are the names of the persons to whom you paid money?—Yes.

7499. Did you offer money to any other persons? Not that I recollect.

7500. Have you any explanation to give with regard to these different persons to whom you offered money?—I do not know that I have, besides what I have stated.

7501. Were there any other persons that you knew of yourself that received bribes at the election?—I canvassed one Jones, a shoemaker, who lives on the tramroad near Princes-street. I do not know what the cottages are called, I am sure. He said he should not vote unless he could get *10l.* He said he had been already offered nearly that on the opposite side—by Mr. Clutterbuck, I think he said. I called on him again afterwards, and he said he could not go a farthing less than *10l.*, and that he should vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden, and he did. I canvassed the same man in 1857, at the other election, when he wanted *8l.*, and he would not vote unless he had the *8l.* He then voted for Sir Robert Walter Carden, and I suppose had the *8l.*

7502. Do you know his Christian name?—His name is William Jones.

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7503. Where does he live?—On the tram-road; it is called Cambridge-street, I believe. I do not know whether those cottages are considered in that street or not.

7504. Did you canvass any other person?—A man named Lovett, who did live in Hampden Place, but who now lives at New Town.

7505. What is his Christian name?—Thomas, I think.

7505*a*. What is his surname?—Lovett. He told me he would not promise any one till I saw him again. When I did see him again I asked him if he had made up his mind; he said he wanted a horse and cart, or 10*l*., and that unless he could get that he should not vote. I told him we could do nothing of the kind. He said, "Then it is of no use for you to ask me any "more;" and the next morning he was put on to the Blue party for a runner, and I suppose he had his money. I cannot say anything to the contrary. I canvassed one John Holder, in Eastgate Street. He said he did not think he could vote for us, that he could not unless he got 10*l*., for he had already been offered 8*l*. His wife said, "I do not think it is well, John, for "you to say anything to Mr. Moss about 10*l*., for "you know you would be turned out of the club if "you were to vote the other way, and you had "better take what you have been offered."

7506. Did she say what club?—The Tory club; his wife said he would be turned out of the Tory club. I canvassed him in 1857 for the same purpose. He then stated that he wanted 9*l*. 10*s*., or a horse and cart. I told him there was no money at all in the field on that occasion, and therefore there was no chance of finding it for him. He had a horse and cart a very short time after the election. It was quite impossible for him to have earned it himself.

7506a. Who did he vote for, then?—Sir Walter Carden. I canvassed one Robert Binning, who I should like to see placed in the box. He said he should have liked to have voted for the Liberals, but that Mr. Lovegrove had given him a sovereign, and had promised to be very kind to his wife and family in future. That is all I recollect, unless it is the respectable class of individuals whom I have been in the habit of canvassing in the absence of the members. I have always taken an active part in the canvass ever since Mr. Price came forward as a member, and generally I have canvassed some of the most respectable individuals when Mr. Price has not been able to see them himself.

7507. You have stated all you recollect?—All that I recollect.

J. Orton.

JOHN ORTON sworn and examined.

7508. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Three Cocks Lane now.

7509. Are you clerk at the railway?—Yes.

7510. (*Mr. Welford.*) At Gloucester?—Yes.

7511. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know a man of the name of Thomas Evans?—Yes.

7512. Was he formerly a clerk at the station at Gloucester?—He was on the platform, a check clerk or checker.

7513. He was not so at the time of the election, was he?—No; he had left some time.

7514. Did you see Thomas Evans on the morning of the polling?—Yes.

7515. Did you go with him to the "Fountain"?—Yes, I did.

7516. Did you pay him any money for his vote?—Yes.

7517. How much did you pay him?—£7.

7518. For Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

7519. From whom did you get the money?—From Mr. Robinson.

7520. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Thomas Robinson?—Yes.

7521. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At Mr. Robinson's own house?—He gave me part of it at his own house.

7522. Mr. Thomas Robinson gave you that money that you should give it to Evans for his vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

7523. Thomas Evans, I believe, did not poll for Messrs. Price and Monk?—No.

7524. He polled for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

7525. Did he tell you at the time you paid him the money that he would go and vote for Price and Monk?—Yes, he said he would; he said, "So help me God I "will vote for Price and Monk, if you will give me "the money." As I knew nothing of the transactions between him and Mr. Robinson, I gave it him.

7526. Were you employed by Mr. Robinson to give money to any other persons?—No.

7527. Were you employed by any other persons?—One other man. I had that money of a person named Evans, a boot and shoe maker.

7528. What is his Christian name?—Thomas, I think.

7529. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Evans gave you the money?—Yes; that is another Evans, a boot-maker.

7530. He gave it you to give it to whom?—To a person named Jellyman.

7531. Is he a freeman?—Yes.

7532. Thomas Evans, the boot-maker, gave you how much?—5*l*.

7533. To give to Jellyman?—Yes; I did not tell him the man's name.

7534. Had you canvassed Jellyman yourself?—No, I met him in the street, and took him down to poll, and he told me what he required.

7535. Did you promise that man 5*l*. for his vote?—Yes, that was the understanding.

7536. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

7537. You went to Thomas Evans, the boot-maker?—Yes.

7538. Where does he live?—In Southgate Street.

7539. What other persons did you give money to?—No other.

7540. Are you quite sure about that?—Yes.

7541. Did you offer any money to any other person?—No.

7542. You did not make any offer?—No; I do not remember making any offer.

7543. Do you know any other cases of bribery at the last election, of your own knowledge?—No, not of my own knowledge.

J. Price.

JOHN PRICE sworn and examined.

7544. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—I live in New Inn Lane now.

7545. Where did you live at the time of the election?—In Princes Street.

7546. What are you?—A tailor.

7547. What money passed through your hands at the last election?—None whatever.

7548. None whatever?—Not for any illegal purposes; none but what I received as a messenger. I was a paid messenger.

7549. Are you a voter?—No.

7550. What money did you receive?—As a messenger?

7551. Yes.—£2 19*s*. 6*d*.

7552. How long were you employed?—I was employed about 18 or 19 days.

7553. How much did you get a day?—3*s*. 6*d*.

7554. What did you do for your money?—I had to deliver messages, and went along with people canvassing, and one thing and another of that sort.

7555. Were you employed on the polling day?—Not the whole of the day; I was there whenever I was wanted.

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J. Price.

4 Oct. 1859.

7556. Did you do more work than those messengers that were voters?—I was supposed to do so; there were many of the voters that were not present the whole time that were on the messengers' list no doubt. I do not think there was a day passed over my head that I was not at the committee room some portion of the day.

7557. Why were you supposed to do more work than those messengers that were voters?—I do not know any particular reason why, further than that I was no voter, and was not required to give my vote.

7558. Was it understood that those messengers that were voters were not required to do the same amount of work as those messengers who were not voters?—Not that I am aware of; I did not so understand it.

7559. What was understood among those who were employed as messengers?—I have heard some parties say so, but whether it was generally understood or not I do not know.

7560. Did you hear persons who were messengers say that because they were voters they would not do any work?—I have heard that.

7561. In the committee room?—No, not in the room.

7562. Where did you hear it?—In conversation with parties I was in company with.

7563. In conversation with persons who were messengers?—Yes.

7564. In conversations with persons who were messengers you heard that they would not do work because they were voters?—No, not they would not do work.

7565. What, then, did you hear?—That it was supposed that the non-voters should do the chief portion of running about on errands, and so on, and delivering messages, and going about with the canvassers, and so on.

7566. In conversations with persons who were messengers you say it was understood that persons who were non-voters should do the principal part of the work?—Yes; I have heard that expressed repeatedly.

7567. Altogether you received 2*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes.

7568. Are you foreman to a person named Parry?—No, I never was; it is a wrong statement by some misunderstanding; some person has given the information who did not know my proper position.

7569. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who appointed you messenger?—I was put on the committee by Thomas Brewer Monk.

7570. Did you apply to him to be appointed?—A friend of mine applied to him.

7571. Who was that?—I think the person that caused me to be put on was William Probert.

7572. Senior or junior?—Junior; it was understood between him and Mr. Monk.

7573. Did you ask Probert to get you put on?—Very likely I did; I understood persons would be wanted in that capacity, and I was very short of work and could employ my time in that way, and get some remuneration for it.

W. Field.

WILLIAM FIELD sworn and examined.

7574. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Gaolyard.

7575. What are you?—A tailor.

7576. Were you engaged on the polling-day in taking any persons to vote?—No, I cannot say I was engaged in taking persons to vote.

7577. What did you do?—All that I am connected with, that I can charge my memory with at present, is with one John Horatio Evans.

7578. What did you do with him?—I waited upon him I suppose about nine or ten days before the election to ask him to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk; I asked him how he thought of voting, and he said he did not exactly know; it all depended on circumstances. I said, "What is it?" He said, Well, if he voted for the Liberals, he should want 20*l.*; he had been offered 15*l.* to vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden, but he would much rather vote for Price and Monk if I would give him 20*l.* I said that was rather a heavy sum, could he not name some lower price? He said, no he could not, he had been offered 15*l.*, and he could not go from that; but if he could get 20*l.* he would much rather vote for Messrs. Price and Monk.

7579. Did he say by whom the 15*l.* had been offered to him?—Yes, he did.

7580. By whom?—By Mr. Maysey.

7581. Well?—I told him it was rather a heavy price, and I should be ashamed to name it to any person, for a man like him to want to charge 20*l.* for his vote. I said, "I do not think they will do it," and he calls me back, and he says, "I will tell you something else I "think I can do." I said, "What is it?" He says, "If Brewer Monk will give me 30*l.*" (I will not be sure whether he said two or three besides himself), but if he would give him 30*l.* into his hands, he could get two or three more votes.

7582. Besides himself?—Yes, besides himself, if he would give him 30*l.* I told him that that was a lot of money for three or four votes; he said he had had it before, and he must do the men this time the same as he had done them last. I cannot exactly challenge my memory with the whole of the names, but his brother Arthur Evans was one, and a man of the name of Wood was another, but who the other was I cannot challenge my memory with.

7583. His brother Arthur was one of those persons named by himself?—Yes.

7584. And another man?—Yes.

7585. What was his name?—Wood; I do not know his christian name; he said he had had the money from the parties to do them before, and he could do them the same this time if Brewer Monk would give him 80*l.*

7586. Who did he say he had the money from before?—He did not say; he only told me that Maysey had offered him 15*l.* to vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden at this last election.

7587. For whom did he vote?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

7588. You did not enter into a further treaty with him?—I did not; I said it was of no use, and I of course left him.

7589. Was Evans the only person whose vote you solicited?—Yes; to the best of my recollection he was.

7590. Did you make him any offer for his vote?—No, I did not; I told him what he asked was rather a strong price, but, if he had no objection, I told him I would go and see Thomas Brewer Monk, and I went and saw Thomas Brewer Monk, and he referred me to Harry Jacobs, and Harry Jacobs had all to do with him afterwards.

7591. The man was transferred from you to Jacobs?—Yes, he was.

7592. Is that all you know about the election?—That is all I know about it.

7593. Had you nothing to do with any money?—No; when I say that, Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk gave me several small sums, half-crowns, and three shillings, and shillings, and something like that, to go and give men a glass of beer or tobacco, or whatever they wanted, so far as the money lasted.

7594. To give it to voters?—Yes.

7595. How much altogether do you think you received from Mr. Brewer Monk for that purpose?—I cannot charge my memory; it was not much.

7596. One pound?—It is over a pound; it is something between 2*l.* and 3*l.*; I could not say to a shilling exactly, because it was dealt out in so many small sums.

7597. You received that money for treating voters?—Yes.

7598. And you treated them?—Yes.

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E. Pollard.

4 Oct. 1859.

EDWIN POLLARD sworn and examined.

7599. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A solicitor.

7600. Where do you live?—At Theresa Place, near Gloucester.

7601. What money went through your hands?—Not a shilling.

7602. Had you anything to do with any voter?—Not at all, except in canvassing with Messrs. Monk and Price; nothing in the money department.

7603. In what district did you canvass?—Generally when I saw them.

7604. You canvassed any electors you met with?—Yes; when the canvassing party was out.

7605. I believe you were not professionally engaged?—Not by them.

7606. Not by whom?—Not by either of the candidates; I canvassed as a friend with them, as an old electioneer.

7607. Did you in the course of your canvass offer any money to any elector?—None whatever.

7608. Did you offer any money to any person if he would procure the vote of any elector?—Certainly not.

7609. You made no offer of any sort?—No offer of any sort.

7610. Did you advance any money to any person?—No.

7611. Are there any persons with respect to whom you can afford the Commissioners any information?—No, I cannot. Do you mean as to bribery?

7612. Yes, with reference to bribery or corrupt practices?—No, I know nothing about them.

7613. Or with regard to any offer made by either one side or the other?—No.

7614. Are we to understand that so far as regards the last election you are entirely ignorant of any corrupt practices of any sort?—Perfectly so.

7615. Did you take any part in the election of 1857?—Yes, not in the canvassing; I was ill and confined to my house then, but I got up to vote on the election day.

7616. All you did was to vote?—Yes, that is all.

7617. You cannot afford us any information as to that election?—No, I was not engaged in it from illness.

F. Barnfield.

FRANCIS BARNFIELD sworn and examined.

7618. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A licensed shipping agent.

7619. Where do you live?—In the Grey Friars.

7620. Were you engaged at the last election?—I can scarcely say I was engaged. I had some out voters brought to my house for the purpose of refreshment and lodgings.

7621. When were they brought?—The night before the polling day a portion of them.

7622. How many were brought then?—There were six beds engaged, but three men were brought during the night—four I should say—one in the afternoon at five, a man by the name of Perks, and Ashmeade. I was sent for to the Berkeley Arms about ten o'clock, and I should say about half-past eleven I induced the men to come over.

7623. Which Ashmead was that, Joseph or John?—I think it is John,—not the man who gave his evidence in London before the Committee,—and two persons by the name of Vaile, about three o'clock in the morning.

7624. Do you know their christian names?—I do not; I made no inquiry as to their Christian names.

7625. You had four there, then, on that night?—Yes.

7626. Who were brought the next day?—The whole of the family of the Vailes with their wives and mothers and sisters; there were 29 altogether male and female; and there was Perks's family also.

7627. Who brought them?—They brought themselves, I believe, but Mr. Henley was the first person who introduced the subject to me.

7628. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many of the Perks's?—I think Perks and his wife were there.

7629. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive them at your house in consequence of being requested to do so by Mr. Henley?—I did.

7630. Were you afterwards paid for what they had by Mr. Henley?—No.

7631. By whom were you paid?—By Jefferson Bryon.

7632. What were you paid by him?—*£7 17s.*

7633. For their accomodation on the Friday night and for their entertainment on the polling day?—Yes.

7634. Are you a voter?—I am.

7635. Did you vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I did.

7636. Was there any understanding between yourself and Mr. Henley that you should have a party of that sort at your house?—A fortnight previous to the election I was in Mr. Henley's shop purchasing some stationery. I keep the "Sailors' Home" here, and being destitute of seamen, and wishing to turn the house to some account, I told him that if in the course of his connexion with parties coming in to the election he could recommend any one to me to board and lodge there I should feel it as a favour; and the evening before the nomination day I had occasion to pass by the shop and he called me. He said, "Mr. Barnfield "there is a little bit of jugglery going on on the oppo-"site side to us." I said, "I am very well aware of "that;" "and I shall have" (he says) "in the course "of a day or two occasion to bring some out-voters "into Gloucester; they have promised me, but," he says, "I fancy that the other party will buy these men up "like so many hogs if they can only get hold of them, "and if we can only get them in to secure them for the "night, we shall secure their votes." I said, "If you "will bring them to me, if there are not more than "forty, I will secure them by their being out of the "way of the street, there being no intercourse by "parties passing and repassing."

7637. Was anything said by yourself that if you could have a party of that sort at your house you would vote for Price and Monk?—No.

7638. Had you promised before to vote for Price and Monk?—Long ago; in fact I had made up my mind. Neither Mr. Price nor any of his party had ever spoken to me about my vote, and I did not see Mr. Monk till about four days prior to the election. I told him then, "Your spending your time on me is "useless; I made up my mind to vote for you long ago, "as soon as I knew you were coming forward."

7639. It is quite to be understood that there was no inducement at all to influence your vote held out by Mr. Henley?—None whatever.

7640. With respect to any part of the voters who went to be entertained at your house?—None whatever.

7641. (*Mr. Welford.*) You merely offered the accommodation of your house to secure these voters?—Yes; I should have voted most unquestionably for the Liberals, whoever came forward. I thought I was doing good to the cause.

7642. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who brought Perks to your house?—I fetched him from the Berkeley Arms at the request of Mr. Henley; altogether I was about an hour and a half inducing him to come over, for he was intoxicated.

7643. And the two Vailes?—Mr. Henley brought them down in a fly about two or three o'clock on the morning of the polling day.

7644. Had you anything further to do with the election besides what you have stated to us?—Nothing further than going up with them in the omnibus that came to the door; I registered my vote in one book and they in another, in a different district.

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F. Barnfield.
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7645. You went to the poll with them ?—I went on the omnibus with the party, but not in company, if I may so term it.

7646. Perks was there ?—Yes.

7647. Ashmeade ?—Yes.

7648. How many of the Vailes ; voters ?—I think there were ten altogether, voters,—not ten Vailes, but ten voters. There was one of the name of Skinner, if I mistake not an old man ; he walked in during the night to elude the vigilance of the Blue party, he told me.

7649. Were there four Vailes ?—Yes.

7650. Did you canvass any person during the election ?—I went round to Mr. Ricketts, the schoolmaster, for I was given to understand by one of the Committee that he was undecided as to his second vote, and we canvassed the thing over, as far as regarded the ballot and the Liberal principles of Mr. Monk, as I had been given to understand he was going to support the ballot. Mr. Ricketts in answer to my inquiry told me, he should hold off till he heard the different speeches of the members at the nomination, and then finally decide, which he did in favour of Price and Monk, they being in support of the ballot.

7651. There was no attempt on your part to influence his vote in any improper way ?—I think Mr. Ricketts would be above any such thing.

7652. Did you offer any money at all to any person ?—No ; I influenced, probably, a brother-in-law of mine to leave the port, by going up the river, and I will state, if you please, the reason why. He has a boat and conveys merchandise from this place to Birmingham and other places, and the chief of our merchants round about the basin are on the liberal side. He obtains his livelihood by the sale of coals and other commodities, and the carriage of corn and so forth, but he was under an impression, from owing some small account to a person on the other side, that if he did not vote for the Blues they would probably come on him for this debt so contracted.

7653. That was what he thought ?—He thought so ; there was nothing intimated, I believe, by the other party, but that caused him to leave the port and not to vote at all.

JAMES ORPIN sworn and examined.

J. Orpin.

7654. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What inn do you keep ?—The White Lion.

7655. How much money did you receive of Mr. John Wilton ?—33*l.*

7656. For what purpose ?—To buy some votes ; those that would not vote without.

7657. Did you tell him the names of the persons whose votes you were going to buy ?—I believe I did ; I would not be certain whether I told all or no, because there was so many that promised, only they was catched hold of by the other side. They got more money, I suppose.

7658. Besides receiving that 33*l.* from Mr. Wilton, did you receive any money from any other person ?—No.

7659. How did you dispose of that 33*l.* which you received from Mr. John Wilton ?—I gave Mr. Williams 2*l.*

7660. What Williams is that ?—A pipe-maker in Worcester Street. I did not consider that that was for any bribery at all, because the man was going out, and he said he should lose a day's work.

7661. Is he a journeyman ?—A master man.

7662. He said he should lose a day's work ?—Yes, he was going out with his cart.

7663. And you gave him 2*l.*—Yes.

7664. And that you do not consider was any bribery ?—No, I do not consider it was.

7665. Who was the next ?—I gave Thomas Kent 5*l.*

7666. Where does he live ?—He lived at the Lamb then in the New Market.

7667. What did you give him that 5*l.* for ?—To vote.

7668. To vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

7669. Who was the next ?—I gave Mr. Bowers 7*l.*

7670. What is his Christian name ?—Frederick.

7671. Where does he live ?—In Sherborne Street.

7672. How much did you give him ?—7*l.*

7673. For his vote ?—For his vote and his labour ; he was running about.

7674. What was his labour ?—He was going backwards and forwards getting votes, and one thing and another.

7675. Who was the next ?—Henry Curtis ; I gave him 5*l.* for coming from Birmingham.

7676. He lives at Birmingham, does he ?—Yes.

7677. Did you give him that for his expenses and his vote ?—For his expenses.

7678. For his expenses and his vote ?—Yes ; his expenses, he said.

7679. Do you know what his expenses would be from Birmingham here and back again ?—No. He brought his wife with him and stopped here during the week.

7680. Do you know that the expense of coming from Birmingham and going back would be 18*s.* ?—I never paid the fare by second class, I have paid third class fare.

7681. However, you paid him that sum ?—Yes.

7682. For his vote and his travelling expenses ?—Yes.

7683. Who was the next ?—I gave Charles Winfield 14*l.* ; that was for three votes I think.

7684. Where does he live ?—In Sherborne Street ; he is a voter.

7685. Was that for himself and two other votes ?—No ; it was to fetch three votes.

7686. It was not to buy his own vote ?—No ; he did not want it.

7687. Who were the three other persons whose votes he was to buy ?—Alfred Haynes, George Morgan, and Whittington.

7688. Where did they live ?—One in Alvin Street, one in Columbia Street, and the other in Alvin Street.

7689. You knew it was to buy votes at the time you gave the money to him ?—Yes.

7690. Who is the next person ?—That is all.

7691. Did you give the money to Winfield in order that the votes of those three persons might be obtained for Messrs. Price and Monk ?—Yes.

7692. Did you offer any money to any persons ?—There were several that came to me who wanted money, but I could not spring high enough for them.

7693. To whom did you offer money ?—George Bowers of Sherborne Street, he was one.

7694. What did you offer to him ?—5*l.* ; he promised to vote for Price and Monk for it, and when it came to the last day he says, "Can I have 10*l.*, I am not going to take 5*l.*" I says, "Then it is of no use you stopping and talking to me, I have not got any more money."

7695. Was that on the polling day ?—The night previous to the polling day.

7696. Did he say from whom he could have 10*l.* ?—From the Blue party.

7697. To what other persons did you offer money ?—To a man named Fletcher; he is a freeman ; I do not know his Christian name.

7698. Do you know where he lives ?—In Columbia Street ; Thomas Fletcher I understand his name is.

7699. How much did you offer Fletcher ?—He agreed to come for 5*l.* to vote.

7700. For Price and Monk ?—Yes, for 5*l.* ; and then afterwards he came to me a second time and says, "Cannot you give no more than that ?" "No," says I ; "I have not got that to give you, not yet." "Oh !" says he, "then I shall go and have 10*l.* on the other side." Previous to that he asked me to lend

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J. Orpin.
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him 1*l.*, and I lent him 1*l.*; that was the week before the election; and he said when he got his money for voting he would let me have it back again, but I have never seen the colour of it yet, but I intend to sue him for it. I asked, after, what was the reason, and he said, "Why I must be a fool to go and take 5*l.* when I could have 10*l.*"

7701. To what other person did you offer any money?—No one else, not to my knowledge.

7702. Did you expend any money in treating?—Yes.

7703. Where?—That was out of my own pocket.

7704. Was it treating at your own house?—Yes; I treated at my own house, but I was paid for that.

7705. Who paid you?—Mr. Wilton.

7706. How much?—He paid me 25*l.*, that was about a week or nine days or something like that after the election.

7707. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Treating voters?—Yes; probably on one side as well as the other.

7708. Were you paid on the other side?—No; but some of the party would come and drink there, and then go and vote the other side because they could get more money for their votes.

7709. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that 25*l.* for providing any supper or dinner, or was it generally for providing beer?—Beer, and liquors, meat, tobacco, and other articles.

7710. To any of the voters that liked to come there?—Yes.

7711. Mention the names of some of the persons that you so treated?—There are ever so many,—George Bowers was one, he polled against us, he did.

7712. What others?—I cannot mention one quarter of their names.

7713. Mention some?—The two Bests, they were going to poll, only we could not raise it strong enough for them.

7714. Best and his son?—No; they are some relations.

7715. Where do they live?—In Sherborne Street, I think, or round about there somewhere.

7716. Go on?—Winfield and Fletcher; I cannot tell how many—all those persons who came.

7717. Did you treat all the persons to whom you gave money?—Yes.

7718. And all those persons to whom you offered money?—Yes.

7719. And other persons besides whose names you cannot recollect?—Yes; and their wives. I did not make fish of one and fowl of the other.

7720. Besides those that you treated at your own house, were there any that you treated at other public houses?—Yes.

7721. You treated voters at other public houses?—Yes.

7722. What other public houses did you go to for the purpose of treating?—One house where I went was the Swansea House, kept by David Davies. I was there two or three times.

7723. And I suppose a good many others besides?—I went into a good many houses, not only for the purpose of that, but to have a drop myself sometimes.

7724. You did not like to confine yourself to your own house?—No; I be not one of them sort that likes to stop at home and soak; I like to get out a bit.

7725. Do you know any other cases of bribery besides those you have mentioned?—There is one case I have got to bring before you, that is Mr. Wathen up at the Alms Houses, up the London Road; he was in my house.

7726. What is his Christian name?—Charles Wathen.

7727. Is that at St. Margaret's hospital?—Yes. He was in my house on the day of the nomination.

7728. What occurred then?—He was fetched out by a lot of the Blue clique, as I call them—a lot of roughs, and they ill used the man very much.

7729. What did they do to him?—They lugged him out of the house by main force, pushed my wife down and several other women as was there, and took him away, and took him to the King William, and then swallowed him into a fly, and then drove him to Joe Lane's on the Cheltenham road, and the old gentleman kept crying out he would not vote for Sir Robert Carden all the way; he says, "I shall not vote for "him," nor more he did not vote for him.

7730. Is Joe Lane's a public house?—No; there were several of them; I have a list of the names of those as was there, some of them.

7731. Some of those who came to your house?—Yes, and fetched him; they were not satisfied with taking the man, but they must rob him of half-a-crown.

7732. Are the names you have the names of persons who were active in support of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

7733. Who were they?—There is James Maysey. I have a list here (*Producing it*); there was a lot more there; there was a party of fifty of them for one man.

7734. Are these the names (*referring to the list*)?—Yes, those are the principal ones.

7735. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

7736. James Maysey?—Yes.

7737. George Leach?—Yes.

7738. Who is he?—What they call a rough.

7739. George Clements?—Yes.

7740. Who is he?—A sweep down in the Westgate street.

7741. William Brown?—Yes.

7742. Who is he?—He is a labourer.

7743. Mr. Collins?—That is *this* young man (*pointing him out*) that is under here; he was one.

7744. What is Collins?—He is a butcher's son.

7745. Robert Blick?—He is a plasterer.

7746. Is that what you wish to state upon that point?—Yes, if there is anything else I can recollect, I hope you will give me the liberty to come forward and speak it.

7747. Will you give in a list of all these different persons to whom you offered bribes and gave bribes with their addresses, and the addresses of the persons through whose hands the money passed?—Yes.

7748. (*Mr. Welford*). You gave Williams, the pipemaker, 2*l.*?—Yes; I considered that was for the day's work.

7749. He would not have voted if you had not given him the 2*l.*?—Yes, I believe he would.

7750. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean his work was worth 2*l.*?—He had a load of pipes to be off with.

7751. (*Mr Welford.*) Tobacco pipes?—Yes; he is a pipe manufacturer. I told him I would make it out if he would stop and vote, and so I gave him the 2*l.*

T. Robinson.

THOMAS ROBINSON sworn and examined.

7752. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a corn-merchant?—Yes.

7753. You were actively engaged in supporting the Liberal candidates at the last election?—I was to a considerable extent engaged. I do not know that I should call myself very actively engaged until the last two days.

7754. How much money altogether did you receive from different parties for the purpose of the election?—I have a rough memorandum here which I have written from recollection. I received 50*l.* from Mr. Abell, a solicitor, and of Mr. Payne I received 95*l.*

7755. Mr. Payne the stonemason?—Yes, and I have made several other payments beyond that amount.

7756. Tell us what you received?—I received no other money from any party during the election with the exception of that.

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7757. Had you no money from Brewer Monk?—No.

7758. (*Mr. Welford.*) From Mr. Wilton?—No.

7759. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you sure you had no money from Brewer Monk?—Yes, quite sure; rather the reverse.

7760. I do not ask you what the balance would be, but whether in any way you did not receive any money from Brewer Monk?—I did not.

7761. Did you receive any money from a person named Roberts?—I did not.

7762. You say all you received was 50*l.* and 95*l.*?—That was all the money I received from any party during the election.

7763. How did you dispose of that money?—I think it would be as well to add that I have spent more money than that; I wish to disclose everything to you; I have spent altogether money out of my own pocket to the amount of 140*l.*

7764. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Over and above those two sums?—Over and above those two sums; and I will now give you the way in which I have expended the money. I gave Payne who advanced the 95*l.* to me 25*l.* of it back, or rather I may say returned it; it came to the same thing. I gave a person named Ayers 15*l.*

7765. What is his Christian name?—I think it is John; he is a young man.

7766. What is he?—A haulier. I gave a Mr. James Jeffs, a gilder in Southgate-street, 15*l.* I gave a person named Ball, 15*l.*; George Ball I think; I am not quite sure of the Christian name.

7767. How much did you give him?—15*l.*, and I gave William Henley 25*l.* I gave Mr. Joseph Moss the builder, 40*l.*; and I gave Mr. Roberts the solicitor, 43*l.*, and I gave to young Mr. Payne, junior (I do not know his Christian name), 10*l.*

7768. Is that a son of Payne the stonemason?—Yes, William Payne, I think it is. I gave Brewer Monk, as near as I can possibly calculate, 25*l.* I kept no account from the excitement of the moment; I could not say to a few pounds, but as near as I can say, 25*l.* I gave Mr. Thomas Biggs (I think his Christian name is Thomas), 40*l.*

7769. What is Biggs?—A tobacconist; and I gave a person named Orton, 7*l.* I do not know his Christian name. Those are all the sums I spent, to the best of my knowledge.

7770. Did you give to Mr. Payne, the stonemason, 25*l.* to purchase votes?—You may call it that if you please, but I found in the course of our canvass that the Conservatives were offering our own party considerable sums, and I looked upon it rather that I gave the money to secure our own voters from going over to the other side; I heard it from all quarters, and I think there is no doubt about it, and in the course of this investigation I dare say that will be pretty well proved.

7771. Were not representations made to you by persons who went out canvassing, and did you not find in your own canvass, that a certain number of persons held back from promising on either side?—I was engaged a good deal out of town; I think I was out every day during the canvass, except on the nomination day and the election day, with some people.

7772. Did you not understand from canvassers and persons who came to you for money that there were a number of voters that could not be considered as belonging to either party, who were holding back for the purpose of getting the most they could?—There were a few, not a considerable number.

7773. As regards those persons who held back you could not say that the money was given to them for the purpose of securing their votes as votes belonging to your party?—Representations were made to me that certain parties were offering considerable sums to our voters; they did not go into names and details, but that was what was represented to me; and I advanced this money to secure our own men; I knew the temptation was great when a 5*l.* or 10*l.* note was offered to them to go over to the other party.

7774. You did not make any inquiry as to the accuracy of the statements made to you?—No, it was general report, from most of the people engaged on the canvass; I did not know it of my own knowledge.

7775. I ask you again whether you let Mr. Payne have that money for the purchase of votes?—I considered it was for securing our own voters and nothing more.

7776. It was to be paid to the voters as an inducement to them to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes; it was to induce them to vote for Price and Monk and to keep them from voting on the other side. I knew them to be true Liberals.

7777. Was it for the purpose of influencing their minds?—I knew they were offered a sum of money by the other party, and that if we did not give it we should lose them.

7778. Would you have given them that sum if you had not thought it was necessary to influence their minds and to influence their votes?—I knew the Conservatives were offering parties 5*l.* and 10*l.*, and I gave this money to be distributed among those voters to keep them on our side. I certainly should not have given the money, or advanced it, if I had not been told that the other side were making very considerable promises. That was the only thing that made me do it; I knew we had been completely sold in 1857, and I did not consider we ought to be this time.

7779. Did you expect that the payment of that money would obtain the votes of the persons to whom the money was paid?—I expected it would secure their votes.

7780. Is there any doubt that you intended that their votes should be purchased? Was it to be a bribe or was it not to be a bribe?—It was to secure the votes; you may call it a bribe; I dare say it is one and the same thing. I tell you what occurred to my mind at the moment, and the inducement that made me do as I did.

7781. Did you know who the persons were for whom you paid that 25*l.* to Mr. Payne?—I did not. I paid it to the parties. I gave it them and did not trouble further about it.

7782. Does the same observation apply to the 15*l.* you paid to Mr. Ayers? Did you know for whom that money was intended?—No; no names were mentioned to me in any case.

7783. As to Jeffs's case do you say the same?—Yes; the same thing applies to every case; you may take one answer for all.

7784. You gave these various sums to the parties you have mentioned without inquiring among whom they were to be distributed?—I heard from several persons and knew that offers were being made to a considerable extent by the other side, and that there would be great difficulty in keeping the voters together for Price and Monk unless money was forthcoming, and under those considerations I advanced these sums.

7785. Do you know a person named David Lane?—I do.

7786. A bootmaker?—Yes.

7787. He came to you did he not?—He came hurriedly into the committee room in the excitement of the election, and said something to me about certain voters he was anxious to secure. I did not know the parties or anything at all about them, and had no communication with Mr. Lane previously. All I said was, "Do the best you can." In the excitement of the moment I said that.

7788. Did he mention to you the name of John Dix and three others?—He said there were three or four, I would not say he did or did not mention any name, but I do not recollect the name. He represented there were certain voters he was anxious to secure, and I said, "Do the best you can." He quite accidentally met me. I do not know why he should have come to me more than anybody else.

7789. He did not come to you as being a more active person than others?—Certainly not.

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T. Robinson.

4 Oct. 1859.

7790. Did you offer any money to any person for a vote?—The only person I was at all concerned with during this election or any other was a man named Thomas Evans. I never directly gave a man money for his vote in all my life; and this is the first election that ever I had anything to do with in any way.

7791. You authorized Orton to pay him 7*l.* did you not?—In reference to that case I think it will be well for me to say——

7792. First answer my question—did you authorise Orton, the railway clerk, to pay Thomas Evans 7*l.*?—I did.

7793. Did you give the money for that purpose?—Yes.

7794. Then as regards Orton your observation is not accurate that you did not know the name of the voter?—In that case it is somewhat different; that is the only case, and I should like before the inquiry is over to give you my reasons and a little further explanation in reference to that.

7795. You shall do so presently. You went to see Evans at Tewkesbury did you not?—No.

7796. At Evesham?—It is my usual habit to attend the Evesham corn-market every Monday, and by accident I met, or rather saw, Evans at the railway station; when I gave my ticket he was leaning against the gate. That was the first I saw of him, and that was how I came to see him. I did not go there on purpose.

7797. Did you tell him you had been running all over the country after him?—Certainly not.

7798. You saw him accidentally?—I saw him accidentally.

7799. Did you hold out any inducement to him to vote by saying you would procure him a situation?—I did not.

7800. I mean a situation on any railway?—I did not. I understand you are alluding to this particular meeting?

7801. I am alluding to any meeting?—I promised; however I held out some inducement to him. He represented to me that he was very badly off, that he had been out of a situation for a very long time, that he had a wife and family, that he had known me for a long time and how exceedingly obliged he would be to me if I could do anything for him.

7802. Was that before or after you had spoken to him about his vote?—It was after I had asked him for his vote. I think that was the first thing I said to him, "I understand you are a voter," and asked him for his vote.

7803. What did you say upon that?—I told him there were a great many clerks and messengers and one thing and another wanting at the committee room, and that if he was so badly off and wanted a situation if nothing particular turned up I would ask the parties engaged, and if I could get him employed in that way I would do it. I thought perhaps the election seemed likely to be some time about, and that he might pick up 3*l.* or 4*l.* in that way.

7804. Was that the only employment you offered him?—That was the only employment I offered him, I did not offer him that. I merely said that if I could I would; and that I would make a representation.

7805. But there was nothing said about your procuring for him any permanent employment?—No; he represented to me that he had been discharged from the railway, and said something about its having been represented that he had been implicated in some theft of some hampers, that he was entirely innocent and had nothing to do with it, and that he did not consider he had been used well. That was the representation he made to me.

7806. Did you ever authorize any other person to make him any offer of employment or promise of a situation?—Certainly not.

7807. Do you know a person named Fluck, a corn-merchant in Tewkesbury?—Yes.

7808. Did you ever request him to make any communication to Thomas Evans about any employment or situation?—No; when I was in Evesham I asked certain parties, having seen Evans there on the previous Monday, whether Evans was there, and they said he was gone back to Tewkesbury, and I merely asked Mr. Fluck if he was in Tewkesbury, and if he knew him.

7809. Was that all?—And to say I had inquired for him; nothing more than that; it was quite by accident I asked the question. I knew he was from Tewkesbury, and I asked him if he knew him.

7810. How came you to give Orton 7*l.* for Thomas Evans's vote?—The man Evans represented to me that he was very badly off, and said that if I could do anything for him he should be very much obliged; and how this money first came up was, that I said that if he went on the committee I thought he might get something like 3*l.* or 4*l.*, or I might have said 5*l.*, during the election, which I thought might last a month; and when that sum was once started, it seemed to be floating on his mind that if he could get it in any way without being on the committee, he should be satisfied, and he would rather not be on the committee; and he positively promised (though I understand he has denied it) most faithfully, without any reservation, that he would vote for Price and Monk.

7811. Did you ever tell him you would put him down in your book for 5*l.*?—No.

7812. Did he ever say to you that 5*l.* would be of no use to him?—I am not quite sure; I never recollect mentioning any further sum than 5*l.* to him, and I quite understood him to be satisfied with that amount; and how that 5*l.* first originated was, that I thought we might secure him 4*l.* or 5*l.* if he went on the committee. The election was likely to last some time, and I thought it would perhaps come up to that.

7813. Did you say to him at any time, "If you "will vote for Price and Monk, Mr. Monk will get "you on the line again: I will guarantee you that?"—Most certainly not.

7814. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

7815. Did you ask him to write to you?—On our first interview he told me that I was the first party that had applied to him for his vote, and I said to him, "I do not know what your principles are, Evans; "if you are a Liberal I want you, if you possibly can, "to give a vote for Messrs. Price and Monk." He said to me then that I was the first party that had canvassed him, and that he would consider it over; he could not make up his mind then; and I think we walked up the station yard together. We had about five or six minutes conversation, and he said he was engaged with an omnibus, and could not stop any longer. I said, "You will think the thing over, and "write to me during the week."

7816. Did you tell him you had requested Mr. Fluck, a corn-dealer at Tewkesbury, to go to his house, and tell him that if he would come to Gloucester and vote for Price and Monk you had got a situation for him in view?—No, certainly not.

7817. Not at any time?—No, I did not.

7818. Did you ask him to come to the "Fountain," and meet you on the day of the nomination?—I did; I accidentally met him at the Cross. I was coming down by the Cross, and he came across the street to me. In fact, I could have no rest for the man after. Instead of my looking after him, as he represented, he was hunting me, so that I could have no rest for the man. He came to my office, and to my house, and everywhere. I did not want to look after the man. I merely wished to canvass him and have nothing more to do with him; but I have since heard, from pretty good authority, that he was a plant put upon me by Mr. Whithorn (and I suppose Mr. Lovegrove) to endeavour to tempt me to do that which was wrong.

7819. Did he say anything to you about Mr. Whithorn?—He never said a word to me about Mr. Whithorn. He told me when I saw him first that I was the first who had canvassed him, and he was

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T. Robinson.
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to give me the preference. I asked him if his principles were Liberal, and he said they were, and I told him mine were Liberal.

7820. And he gave you the preference did he not?—I did not consider that he did. There is very much in that evidence that I am prepared to contradict. There is no getting over the fact that he had the money, but there is a very different face put upon it. I was drawn into the thing quite unaware. I never intended it; it was a regular plant on me, which I hope will come out in the course of this inquiry.

7821. You had no further communication with him after the polling?—No, I never meant to have anything to do with him after the canvassing, but he was pressed upon me. I can assure you I did not look after the man after the first time I canvassed him. I found on the following Monday when I went there that he had left, and I never expected to see anything more of him. I just asked Mr. Fluck if he was going to Tewkesbury; on the next morning he came to my office and wanted to see me. I had no idea of his coming, and he kept pestering me in the way I described till the election was over. I never looked after him, he kept looking after me, and I could have no rest for him.

7822. Is there anything else you can mention to the Commissioners with reference to this last election?—No, there is nothing further that I am aware of at all. I think you will observe that the two amounts I have handed in to you do not exactly correspond.

7823. What is the difference?—I think there is 25*l.* difference. I cannot account for all the money by 25*l.*; and I have no doubt you will not wonder much at that; in the excitement of the election we were giving pounds here and shillings there, that one did not keep an account of or expect to be called on to account for. I have simply to add that this is the only election that I have had anything to do with.

7824. You did not take part in the election of 1857?—No, I merely gave my vote: and the only reason that induced me to do it this time was the manner in which the Liberal party were treated in this city in 1857. Sir Robert Carden came down with professions of purity in his mouth, saying, he would not spend a shilling to get in, when it is a positive fact that his friends were bribing to an enormous extent; they resorted to those means, and turned out an old and tried representative of ours, who had worn his hair grey in our service, and I was much annoyed at the manner in which we were treated, and resolved that at the next election I would do what I legitimately could to turn him out.

7825. (*Mr. Welford.*) You paid these sums that you have mentioned to us to the different people whose names you have given, in order that they should be paid to voters?—I cannot describe it in any other way whatever. Whatever construction you put upon it, I give you the honest truth of what was on my mind at the time I did it. I was informed by people I thought I could depend on, that offers to a considerable extent were being made, and that our men were being tempted in every possible way, and I advanced that money simply to secure our own voters, because I knew that if we could do that we had a large majority in this city, and could return two Liberal representatives.

7826. You considered that voters you thought yours were offered bribes, and that if you did not bribe them on your side the other side would take them from you?—Yes.

7827. And therefore you advanced this money for the purpose of bribery?—It is the same thing; it was to secure our men. I am satisfied there is a considerable majority of Liberal voters in this city, and if the electors were polled to-morrow morning by the ballot, I am sure that two Liberal representatives would be elected by a large majority; and I resolved that I would allow no longer, so far as my humble efforts could help it, that the minority should tyrannise over the majority.

7828. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You did not consider that bribery?—You may put what construction you like upon it.

7829. The Commissioners ask you what construction *you* put on it?—Of course it is bribery.

7830. Have you ever been repaid any of this money?—Not a farthing. I have never asked for it.

JOHN AYERS sworn and examined.

J. Ayers.

7831. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A hallier.

7832. Where do you live?—At High Orchard.

7833. Did you receive any money at the last election?—I did.

7834. From whom?—I received 15*l.* from Mr. Robinson and 15*l.* from Mr. Bryon.

7835. Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—Yes.

7836. Did you receive any more?—I did not.

7837. How did you apply it?—In treating and bribing.

7838. Who did you bribe?—Henry Rees with 2*l.*

7839. Where does he live?—He lives, I think, in Northgate Street.

7840. What did you pay him the 2*l.* for?—For his vote.

7841. To vote for whom?—For Price and Monk.

7842. Who else did you pay?—His father, Henry Rees, 2*l.*

7843. Where does he live?—At Littleworth.

7844. Was that to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

7845. Whose?—Benjamin Schollard, 4*l.*

7846. To vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

7847. Who else did you pay?—Charles Ford, junior, 2*l.*

7848. Where does he live?—At High Orchard.

7849. To vote for Price and Monk?—Yes, for Price and Monk.

7850. Who else?—William Davis, I think it is.

7851. How much did you pay him?—5*l.*

7852. To purchase his vote?—Yes.

7853. For Price and Monk?—For Price and Monk.

7854. Who else?—William Griffiths.

7855. Where does he live?—At High Orchard.

7856. How much did you pay him?—2*l.* 10*s.*

7857. For his vote?—Yes.

7858. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

7859. Did you pay any one else?—No money; I treated them.

7860. Who did you treat?—I treated all those and many others and their friends when I met them together.

7861. Can you mention any others?—Many; I could not tell exactly who. I spent 5 guineas one night at one house.

7862. What house was that?—The Goat Inn.

7863. Was that in treating voters?—Voters and non-voters and their wives and so on; there was a whole house full.

7864. Did you pay for that at the time?—Yes, I did; that is, the next morning I paid for it.

7865. Did you pay any more money in treating?—Oh yes, I spent the remainder of the money in treating myself and others.

7866. Do the sums you have mentioned make up the two sums of 15*l.*?—I think so; it would be 27*l.* 15*s.*

7867. That is including the 5 guineas?—Yes.

7868. And the rest you spent in drinking?—Yes.

7869. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How much of the money did you spend in bribery?—22*l.* 10*s.* I beg pardon, I lent J. P. Jeffs 5*l.*

7870. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he?—A carver and gilder. I lent it to him.

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J. Ayers.
4 Oct. 1859.

7871. Did he ask you for it?—He did.

7872. For what purpose?—I believe it was to purchase a vote.

7873. Did he mention the name of the voter whose vote he was about to purchase?—He did.

7874. Who was it?—James Ireland, I think, was the name; it was Ireland at all events.

7875. By whose directions did you make these purchases of votes?—I had no particular direction in the matter.

7876. You were a volunteer?—I made myself as busy as I could; I did all I could.

7877. Were you a member of any committee?—No; I met like others on purpose to see what we could do for the best.

7878. Had you any particular district?—No; of course I did what I could among those I knew.

7879. Most of these people you knew?—I knew them all.

7880. Were they out-voters, or in the town?—In the city.

7881. Freemen or householders?—I do not think they were freemen. I do not think any of them were freemen.

7882. When did you pay them?—At the time.

7883. On the day of the election?—Yes.

7884. Or before?—I paid two after they had polled, and the rest, I think I paid before they polled.

7885. Did you get promises of their votes before you paid them?—Yes, I did.

7886. When you had the two sums of 15*l.* you had received their promises?—Yes, I had.

7887. And you knew their prices?—Of course I did; the reason I had this money was, because Stamper, and a man named Cooper, were continually going about, tempting them with money to vote for Sir Robert Carden; and every time I saw them, they told me they were bound to have some little, if it were not much; they did not want so much off us as if they voted for the Tory party, but they tempted them with 5*l.* and 10*l.*, and I had them for these small sums; I considered them small in comparison with what the others offered to give them; I left 5*l.* on the table for one man, and he would not accept it, it was not high enough.

7888. Who was that?—That was a man named Thomas Gardner.

7889. Where did you leave it?—At his house; that was on the morning of the polling; I went the first thing; he said he could not come then; I said I would call again, I called again in about an hour, and put the note on the table, and told him I should be pleased if he would come and poll, and he called me into his kitchen, and he said he really could not as he knew he could get 10*l.* from the other party, for he said Stamper had been after him many times; however, I knew I had no more money to give him.

7890. What did you tell him?—I told him I could not give him any more, simply because I had no more, if I had the wish.

7891. You had exhausted what you had?—Yes, within a few shillings.

7892. Did you take up the money again?—I was about to pick up the money, and the wife asked me if the note was a good one, and said she should prefer having the cash if he voted.

7893. What Gardner is that?—Thomas Gardner, of High Orchard.

7894. What is he?—A shipwright.

7895. And his wife gave you the money back again?—I said, "I am very much obliged to you, it is some-"thing I have just put down;" so I took it up again and put it in my pocket and walked away; he sent after me many times after that to come and poll him, but I would not have anything to do with him.

7896. How did he poll?—He did not poll at all, because it had gone too far then.

7897. How did you apply that 5*l.* afterwards?—That 5*l.* I had to bribe Davis with.

7898. He was bought on the polling day?—I had agreed with him before that.

Sarah Vaile.

SARAH VAILE sworn and examined.

7899. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live at Westbury on Severn?—Yes.

7900. You have a husband, have you not?—Yes.

7901. What is his name?—Samuel Vaile.

7902. And you have two or three sons; how many have you?—I have four sons.

7903. How many of these sons are voters for Gloucester?—All of them.

7904. Do you remember receiving 16*l.* from Mr. Henley for their votes?—Yes; for my husband and one son I received 16*l.*

7905. From Mr. Henley?—Yes.

7906. For the votes of your husband and one of your sons?—Yes; and 5*l.* made a present to the one that had an accident happen to him after Mr. Henley saw him.

7907. Which of your sons was it that you received a portion of that money for?—The 5*l.*?

7908. No, the 16*l.*?—George Harris; and they made a present of 5*l.*

7909. As a present for the family of another son?—Yes; he had an accident happen to him after Mr. Henley saw him.

7910. What was the name of that son who had met with an accident?—Thomas George.

7911. Had you anything to do with the money for the votes of your other sons?—No; one of my sons did not receive anything at all; the one that is living in Gloucester.

7912. You received 16*l.* from Mr. Henley, and 5*l.* for your son who had met with the accident?—Yes.

7913. It was quite understood between you and Mr. Henley that that 16*l.* was paid to you for the vote of your husband and the vote of your son George Harris Vaile?—When Mr. Henley came to fetch them he did not pay the money to my husband, it was to me; he said there was 8*l.* for my husband, and 8*l.* for George Harris, and 5*l.* for my son that had had the accident.

7914. Before Samuel Vaile went to the poll did you tell him that you had received 8*l.* for his vote?—No; I did not name it to him, because he was upstairs getting ready to come, and he went out and I did not see him or give him the money at all.

7915. You did not tell your husband or your son George Harris Vaile that you had received 8*l.* for each of their votes?—No; I did not tell him till a long time afterwards that I had received it.

7916. Did they know that you had made an agreement with Mr. Henley that they should receive 8*l.* a piece for their votes?—I dare say they was aware of it.

7917. Did they know it from you?—No, I did not tell them.

7918. Before the money was received?—No, I did not tell them.

7919. Did you not tell them that you had had any conversation with Mr. Henley about it?—Mr. Henley saw them; if he did not see George Harris, he saw my husband, to the best of my knowledge, when he came after them.

7920. When Mr. Henley was there did he see your husband and yourself?—Yes.

7921. You were together when he saw you?—Yes.

7922. Did Mr. Henley say what he would give for the votes?—No, he did not: he had left the room where we was when he gave the money to me.

7923. I mean before that—Mr. Henley was at your place more than once, was he not?—Yes.

7924. How many times did he come altogether?—Once after he saw my son and asked him for their votes, and he came once more, to the best of my remembrance; my husband is not at home from one

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Sarah Vaile.

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week's end to the other, from Monday morning to Saturday night, and they came so many times that I cannot say.

7925. Do you remember before that your husband and your sons being canvassed by Mr. Ward?—Yes.

7926. And by Mr. Clutterbuck?—Yes.

7927. What is Mr. Ward's Christian name, is it Mr. John Ward?—I know no more than that he is Mr. Ward.

7928. And Mr. Clutterbuck?—Yes.

7929. Is that Mr. Clutterbuck a solicitor?—He is what we call a lawyer.

7930. How many times did Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck come to your house?—I could not say; they came several times, but I did not keep an account how often they came, for I had a great deal of illness, and it quite slipped my memory the times they called on us.

7931. Did they see your husband when they came?—Not when they came first; I do not think they did; I do not think he was at home.

7932. Did they see your husband and your sons at any time when they came?—Yes; they saw him when they came, but not to the best of my knowledge the first time that they came.

7933. But they did afterwards?—Yes, they saw him afterwards.

7934. Did Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck offer any money for the vote of your husband?—Yes; I believe the first time he said he would give 2*l.*, and then I think (I do not know whether it was the same time, but to the best of my konwledge it was), he said he would give 3*l.*

7935. Was that Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck?—Mr. Ward.

7936. Was Mr. Clutterbuck with him at the same time?—Yes; I think he was on one side of the house.

7937. In the same room?—No, we was out of doors.

7938. Mr. Ward told you at one time he would give 2*l.* for your husband's vote?—I do not know whether he said it was for his vote or not.

7939. What did he say he would give it for?—That he would give that much, but I could not say whether he said it was for his vote or not.

7940. He was to give it what for?—That was the meaning of it, I suppose, but I cannot call to remembrance exactly what he said.

7941. Was he talking to you about your husband's vote?—Yes, that was what he came for; I said, when he came home I would tell him they had called.

7942. Did he say that he had come about your husband's vote?—Yes, he came to know whether he was at home.

7943. He told you at first that he would give 2*l.*, and afterwards he said he would give 3*l.*?—Yes.

7944. Did he mention any other sum at any other time?—I told him that Henley had been up to my son who had met with this accident, and that we had altered our minds, and should go to the other party to oblige Mr. Henley; we thought it would be much better perhaps to do so, as my son had had such a bad accident; and then I thought I would tell Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward not to trouble themselves to come any more to fetch my husband, as he was not going to vote for that party, and I met him on the road and told Mr. Ward. I told him I was going to Gloucester; he asked me to get up and ride; I said I did not wish to do so, as we were not going to oblige him; he told me to get up, and I got up; he then told me he would behave as handsome as the other party, let it be as handsome as it would, and that if it was 10*l.* or 20*l.* he would give it, if we would come for that party.

7945. If your husband would come?—Yes, he asked me if I would meet Mr. Clutterbuck at some inn at Gloucester, I forget whether it was the New Inn or not; I told him I did not like to meet Mr. Clutterbuck, I would much rather not; he said, "Would you not "like to meet him?" I said, "No, I would not very "well, if I was obliged to meet anyone, I would "rather meet you." He told me to go to an inn at Gloucester, I should not like to say what inn it was; I have a bad memory. I am not certain whether it was the New Inn or not; and I was to go down from there to my husband, but I was so poorly and ill that I did not think of doing so. I did not acknowledge to him I should not go, but however I did not go there.

7946. You say that first 2*l.* and then 3*l.* was offered; was any other sum mentioned by either Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck with respect to the vote of your husband?—No more than that he said he would behave as handsome as the other party, and give as much as the other party, and that he would give it if it was 10*l.* or 20*l.*

7947. What was he to give that money for?—If my husband and my son would vote for that party.

7948. If they would vote for Sir Robert Carden, is that it?—Yes.

7949. Did you say anything either to Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck about the Coopeys getting more money, or having a larger offer made to them than had been made to you?—Yes, I think I did; I do not think I said it to Mr. Ward. I have named since that I heard my husband say he had been up to his friends, the Coopeys, and that he thought they would have 7*l.* or 8*l.* given to them; I named that.

7950. Did you or your husband say that to either Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck?—I have said that I had heard that they did give them more; I have named that, I believe, to the best of my knowledge.

7951. What was it that you said to either Mr. Ward or Mr. Clutterbuck; did you say anything to them about the Coopeys, about what they were to get for their votes?—No, I do not recollect that I did, without I might say, "I believe you have given them "more;" I might say that.

7952. Did you say it?—I cannot call to mind whether I did or did not; I should not like to say.

7953. You came into Gloucester on the night before the polling, did you not; the night of the nomination?—It was late when they came for my husband. I did not come with him.

7954. You came the next day?—I came on the morrow.

7955. Did you go to a place called the Sailors' Home?—Yes.

7956. And there you stopped during the day?—Yes.

7957. All of you?—Yes, some part of the day; we did not stop all day.

7958. Did you receive anything at all for the votes of your husband or of your sons at the election of 1857?—Was that the election before the last?

7959. Yes, the election before this last one?—Yes.

7960. How much did you receive?—£3.

7961. Three pounds altogether?—£3 each of them, all but George; I did not receive it for my son George.

7962. You received 3*l.* for each of the votes of your husband, and how many sons?—My two sons.

7963. From whom did you receive it?—I could not say who; I did not know the person.

7964. Did you not know who gave you that money?—No one gave it to me; it was put down.

7965. Put down where?—At the Upper George upstairs. It was placed on some place upstairs, and a man that I did not know came and showed me where to go, and I was to have it, to pick it up.

7966. It was shown to you by a man you did not know?—Yes, a man I did not know.

7967. He told you where you were to go and pick it up?—Yes, Mr. Clutterbuck told me I was to go upstairs, and then this person was up in the room, and showed me where this money was; there was more to be taken up besides my sons' and my husband's.

7968. Was that Mr. Walter Clutterbuck?—I did not see Mr. Ward that day, to my knowledge.

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Sarah Vaile.
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7969. Was it Mr. Walter Clutterbuck?—Yes, it was Mr. Walter Cutterbuck, that was downstairs; I was to go upstairs to hold this money. He did not tell me that I was to hold the money; he told me to go upstairs, and this other man told me to hold the money.

7970. How much did you take up?—I took up my husband's and two sons', and William Coopey's, and James Ashmeade's.

7971. Had you seen at that time (I am speaking of the election before this last one) any person, and made an agreement as to the price of your husband's vote, and the votes of your sons?—It is so long back that I cannot remember much about it. I have had a good deal of illness and cannot call to mind.

7972. What did you take that money for?—It was not arranged with me, only they called upon me for me to hold this money in my hand until after they had voted. They did not have it before they gave their vote.

7973. Who called upon you?—Mr. Clutterbuck called me to go upstairs, but he did not agree with me there was the party I spoke of all together downstairs at the Upper George.

7974. Do you remember whether in 1857 Mr. Clutterbuck or Mr. Ward called upon you about the votes of your husband and sons?—He might, but I could not call to mind what was named about it.

7975. What did you understand that that money which you took up was for?—Well, sir, I understood I was to hold it for them persons until after they had given their votes.

7976. For whom were you to hold it?—For them to have it after they had given their votes; for each person to have it.

7977. You were to hold it till they had given their votes to whom?—I have a bad memory; it was for them that was putting up for the election of the Blue party.

7978. Did you agree that your husband and your son George should vote for Sir Robert Carden, if Mr. Ward would give 5*l.* for each vote?—No, I did not.

7979. I am speaking of the last election, the election that took place three or four months ago?—No, not to my remembrance, I did not do so.

7980. There was no agreement as to Mr. Ward giving 5*l.* for their votes?—This was not agreed with me, it was agreed by the parties together at the Upper George; they only called upon me to hold this money.

7981. You are speaking now of the election before this last election?—Yes.

7982. At the time when you were at the Upper George?—That was the time before this last election.

7983. Do I understand you to say, that your husband and your sons, and Ashmeade and Coopey, had not voted?—They had not voted, and before I came downstairs they were gone.

7984. (*Mr. Welford.*) At how many elections have you received money for your husband's and sons' votes?—Only three, to the best of my remembrance.

7985. At the last election?—Yes.

7986. And the election before, and the election before that?—To the best of my remembrance, but I should not like to say.

7987. You think, to the best of your recollection, you received money for three elections?—I might.

7988. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you get the money from the first time you received it?—It was Mr. Clutterbuck that came for the votes.

7989. Who paid you on the occasion of the first election you speak of?—I cannot say; I cannot call to mind.

7990. Do you recollect Mr. Hope being a candidate here, or being one of the members for this borough?—No, I do not, at the present time; I have had a great deal of illness.

7991. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did the Blue party buy the votes the first time, or the Yellow party?—No; not the Yellow party.

7992. You sold them first to the Blue party?—Yes.

7993. And you sold them to the Blue party the second time, did you not?—I cannot recollect so long back.

7994. Was the last time the first time you sold them to the Yellow party?—Yes, if they were sold; if you call it selling.

7995. Before you received money for your family on the first occasion, how did they vote then?—I shall remember it, perhaps.

7996. Did they vote blue or yellow?—Blue.

7997. But before they got any money at all, which way did they vote?—Always yellow.

7998. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At the election before the last how did you come into Gloucester?—Mr. Clutterbuck met us on the road with a bus—an omnibus they call it.

7999. How many of you came into Gloucester at that election in the omnibus?—Of my family?

8000. How many voters altogether?—I could not say; many of them walked. I do not know exactly how many there were; I did not go with them.

8001. There was your husband?—Yes.

8002. And two of your sons?—Whether they came or not I could not say; I could not say whether they rode in or not.

8003. Then James Ashmeade?—He was along with them.

8004. And William Coopey?—Yes, I believe so; I could not say. He came in, I think, with the party.

8005. Did you drive with Mr. Clutterbuck, on that occasion, to an inn at Gloucester?—To the Upper George. He was in the bus with us, but I could not say how many there were that rode.

8006. Did you expect to have upon that occasion 5*l.* for each vote; you say you received 3*l.*?—To the best of my remembrance, 3*l.*

8007. Was there any agreement as to your receiving 5*l.*?—No; the voters were all downstairs together, and what the agreement was, it was theirs. It was not with me; I was only called on to hold the money.

8008. Had you any conversation with Mr. Clutterbuck about it?—Yes; he came and told me that he should give 3*l.* I said, "I believe you are giving "the Coopeys more that that." He said, "No, I am "not." I said, "I have every reason to suppose you "are."

8009. Was that at the Upper George?—Yes. He said, "You had better tell me it is a lie at once." I said, "Oh dear no, sir; I know myself better than "to do that." One of the Coopey's wives told me that one of the Coopey's had a sovereign more given to them, and that was the reason why I spoke as I did.

Samuel Vaile.

SAMUEL VAILE sworn and examined.

8010. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Westbury?—In the parish of Westbury.

8011. On Severn?—Yes.

8012. What are you?—I am employed in loading boats with charcoal to go up in the country.

8013. What would you call yourself, a labourer?—No, a waterman.

8014. You are a freeman, are you not, of the city of Gloucester?—Yes.

8015. Do you remember being canvassed for your vote at the last election?—Yes; but I was not at home when the canvassers came first for me.

8016. You were not canvassed yourself, were you?—They came again.

8017. Who came again?—Mr. Clutterbuck.

8018. How long was that before the election?—Well, I cannot say exactly.

8019. What did Mr. Clutterbuck say to you about your vote?—He came and asked me for my vote.

8020. When he asked you for your vote, did he say anything to you with reference to it?—Yes.

8021. What did he say?—He made me an offer.

8022. What offer did he make?—He made me an offer of 5*l.*

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8023. He made you an offer of 5*l.* for what ?—For my vote.

8024. For whom ?—For Carden.

8025. Did you accept the offer ?—No, I did not ; I partly promised him.

8026. Do you mean to say you did not altogether promise him ?—Yes.

8027. Did he say anything to you at the same time about your sons' votes ?—Yes.

8028. What did he say about your son's votes ?—He asked me for them, and I told him I would speak to them about it.

8029. Did he make you any offer for your sons' votes ?—I cannot say ; he did not then, because I could not give him any answer about it till I had seen them.

8030. Did you see Mr. Clutterbuck again after that? —Yes, I saw him again.

8031. What then took place between you ?—He asked me if I had spoken to my sons.

8032. To your son or to your sons ?—To my sons.

8033. What did you say?—I told him that they would not give him a regular promise, not at that time.

8034. Why would they not ?—I cannot say what were their reasons ; not at that present time.

8035. Upon that did he make you any further offer at all ?—No; he did not make any further offer, only he said he would serve us all alike.

8036. What did you understand by "all being "served alike"?—That he would give all the same.

8037. How much ?—5*l.* apiece.

8038. Was Mr. John Ward present with Mr. Clutterbuck at any of those interviews ?—There was nobody present with Mr. Clutterbuck but him and myself when we were talking.

8039. Did you say anything to him about the Coopeys ?—Well, sir, I believe there was something mentioned about the Coopeys.

8040. Can you say what it was ?—He said he had been seeing them.

8041. Mr. Clutterbuck said so ?—Yes.

8042. Did he say where he had seen them ?—Up at Huntley.

8043. Did he say for what purpose he had been seeing the Coopeys ?—About canvassing them for the election.

8044. Did Mr. Clutterbuck say to you, or did you say to him, anything about the price of their votes?—No.

8045. Nothing at all ?—No.

8046. Did you go with Mr. Ward and Mr Clutterbuck to your son, James Vaile ?—No; James Vaile ?

8047. Yes.—That is not my son.

8048. Did you go to James Vaile ?—Yes ; I went along with him to James Vaile.

8049. With Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Yes.

8050. And Mr. Ward ?—I would not be certain whether Mr. Ward was in the fly along with us or not, for it was night.

8051. When you went was any offer made to James Vaile for his vote ?—Yes.

8052. What was offered ?—£5.

8053. By whom ?—By Mr. Clutterbuck.

8054. Did he agree to take it ?—Well, he did not say much for a certainty, and he did not object much, but he did not give him a perfect answer at that time.

8055. He did not accept it, and did not refuse to accept it ?—No.

8056. Do you know how long that was before the election ?—Not above a week or so ; I would not say to a day or two, because I did not keep it in my mind ; I have no memory about it.

8057. After that I believe you saw Mr. Henley ?—Yes.

8058. And did you agree with Mr. Henley ?—I did not agree with him when he came first, because I was not at home when he came first.

8059. Did you agree with him afterwards ?—Yes.

8060. That you would vote for 8*l.* ?—Yes.

8061. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

8062. And had your sons agreed ?—Yes, one of them as was home.

8063. Which was that ?—George.

8064. That you would vote for 8*l.* each for Messrs. Price and Monk ?—Yes.

8065. I believe you voted, and your son George, and another son ?—Yes, there is another son, William.

8066. And James Vaile ?—James Vaile is not a son of mine.

8067. But he did vote, did he not ? Did he not come in to vote with you ?—Yes, he came in, not along with me, but I believe he came in along with Mr. Henley.

8068. What is the name of the other son that voted ?—George Harris Vaile.

8069. What is the name of the other son ?—William.

8070. Did you vote in 1857 for Sir Robert Carden ? —Yes.

8071. And did your sons vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

8072. Did all your sons then vote for him ?—No, two, Thomas and William.

8073. Had you arranged beforehand what you were to receive for your votes in 1857 ?—No, not till we came into Gloucester we did not.

8074. When you came into Gloucester, what did you arrange for ?—3*l.* apiece.

8075. Was that at the Upper George ?—At the Upper George.

8076. Whom did you arrange with ?—Mr. Clutterbuck arranged with the company all ; not with me only.

8077. Mr. Clutterbuck arranged with all the company ?—Yes.

8078. Is that the same Mr. Clutterbuck that canvassed you the other day ?—Yes.

8079. Is that Mr. Clutterbuck the lawyer ?—I do not know what he is, but he is the same gentleman.

8080. Do you know his Christian name ?—Walter, I think it is, but I will not be certain.

8081. Who were the company in 1857 that he arranged with ?—The Coopeys, from Huntley.

8082. How many were there ?—I will not be certain, but I think there are as many as 12 or 13 of them ; I do not know how many there be exactly but there be a good many.

8083. Were they in the same room with yourself when the arrangement was made ?—Yes, in the Upper George.

8084. Who were there besides the Coopeys ?—Me and my sons.

8085. Which sons ?—Thomas and William.

8086. Who else ?—The Ashmeades.

8087. How many of them ?—Two of them.

8088. James and John ?—I do not know their Christian names, but I believe those be their names.

8089. Who else ?—No one else that I know of.

8090. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was James Vaile there ? —No, James Vaile was not along with us.

8091. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) They were not in the room at the time that arrangement was made ?—No.

8092. What was the arrangement ; were you to receive 3*l.* for your votes ?—3*l.* each.

8093. To vote for whom ?—For Carden.

8094. And did you vote for Carden ?—Yes.

8095. Was your wife there at the time ?—Yes.

8096. Was she told by Mr. Clutterbuck to go upstairs and get the money ?—She was told to go upstairs, but I did not hear where she went to, or see where she went, but she went upstairs.

8097. Who told her to go upstairs, did you hear that ?—I heard Mr. Clutterbuck tell her to go upstairs.

8098. And did you see her go ?—Yes.

8099. Had you voted in previous elections before 1857 ?—Yes.

8100. Before the election of 1857 you had voted at elections ?—Yes.

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Samuel Vaile.
4 Oct. 1859.

8101. At many elections?—I cannot say how many. I have voted at ever so many in my time.

8102. Have you always been paid for your vote? —No, not always; no more than what I had to eat and drink.

8103. Do you know what was the first election at which you were paid for your vote?—Yes, I believe I do; that was the election before 1857, but I cannot say in what year it was now. That was the first time that ever I had anything, except what I had to eat and drink.

8104. Do you know who were the candidates at the election when you were first paid for your vote? —No, I do not; it does not come to my recollection now.

8105. On which side did you vote at the election before 1857?—For the Yellow party.

8106. Is that the election when you were first paid for your vote?—Yes.

8107. Do you know who it was you voted for?— No, I cannot correctly say that I do know; not now.

8108. You cannot remember the names of the persons for whom you voted?—I do not remember whether it was Mr. Price or not, or I do not know whether it was Price and Berkeley; I will not be certain.

8109. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the last election were you paid, as the price of your vote, 8*l.*?—No, I was not paid but 2*l.* at the first election.

8110. I am speaking of the last election; you told us you agreed for 8*l.*?—Yes.

8111. Were you paid that?—Yes.

8112. Who paid you?—I did not have the money myself, my wife received it.

8113. Did you know she had received it before you voted?—Yes.

8114. Did your son receive it?—My wife received it for my son.

8115. How many sons voted at the last election?— Two.

8116. Did they receive 8*l.* apiece?—Yes, I believe they did; but my son William will say for himself. My wife did not receive his'n, only my son George.

W. Vaile.

WILLIAM VAILE sworn and examined.

8117. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At the Flat.

8118. What are you?—A labourer.

8119. You are a son of Samuel Vaile, are you not? —Yes.

8120. Did you receive 8*l.* from Mr. Henley for your vote at the last election?—No.

8121. Did you receive any money at all?—No.

8122. No money?—No, not I myself did not.

8123. Did any person receive any money for you? —Yes.

8124. Who did?—My wife.

8125. Do you know that your wife did receive the money?—I did not see her receive it, but she told me she did.

8126. What is her name?—Emma Vaile.

8127. How much did she tell you she had received? —8*l.*, eight sovereigns.

8128. From Mr. Henley?—Yes.

8129. For your vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

8130. Were you offered money on the other side? —Yes.

8131. By whom?—Mr. Ward.

8132. How much were you offered?—7*l.*

8133. When was that?—On the night before the polling day.

8134. Were you offered money by any other person? —Yes.

8135. By whom?—By Mr. Clutterbuck.

8136. How much were you offered by him?—10*l.*

8137. For your vote?—For my vote.

8138. For whom?—For Carden.

8139. When was that?—On the morning of the polling day, when all the rest had gone away. He said he would give me 10*l.* if I would give Carden my vote.

8140. Was the 7*l.* offered by Mr. Ward to you for your vote for Carden?—By Mr. Ward.

8141. You voted for Price and Monk?—Yes.

8142. For whom did you vote in 1857?—Carden.

8143. What did you receive for your vote then? —3*l.*

8144. Who paid it you?—My mother paid me.

8145. Was that arranged for by Mr. Cutterbuck at the Upper George?—Yes, by Mr. Clutterbuck.

8146. Had you ever voted before that?—No.

8147. That was the first election at which you had voted?—That was my first.

J. Vaile.

JAMES VAILE sworn and examined.

8148. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In the parish of Westbury-on-Severn.

8149. What relation are you to Samuel Vaile?— First cousin, I think.

8150. What did you get for your vote at the last election?—8*l.*

8151. From whom?—Mr. Henley.

8152. To vote for whom?—For Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

8153. Did you vote for them?—Yes.

8154. Were you offered any money on the other side?—Yes.

8155. By whom?—Mr. Clutterbuck; Mr. Walter Clutterbuck.

8156. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much?—5*l.*

8157. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To vote for whom?—Sir Robert Carden.

8158. When was that?—A few days before the election took place, I could not say which day; I did not take any account of the day; about a week previous to the election.

8159. Did you vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

8160. Was any offer made to you by any other person?—No, not by anybody but by Mr. Henley and Mr. Clutterbuck.

8161. Did you go to the house called the Sailors' Home?—Yes.

8162. With the other members of your family?— Yes.

8163. On the polling day?—On the polling morning I was there.

8164. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—Yes.

8165. For whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden.

8166. What did you get for your vote?—3*l.*

8167. By whom was that paid to you?—Mr. John Ward.

8168. In 1857?—Yes.

8169. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much?—£3.

8170. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. John Ward paid you? —Yes.

8171. For whom to vote?—Sir Robert Carden.

8172. Were you offered any money at that election by any other person than Mr. Ward?—No.

8173. And did you vote for Carden?—Yes.

8174. Had you voted at previous elections before 1857?—Yes, I voted ever since 1832; I think that was the first election I ever voted at. I do not know how many times I have voted since.

8175. For whom did you vote at the previous election; the election before 1857?—I think it was for Mr. Price and Mr. Berkeley.

8176. Are you sure about that?—I think they were the candidates, were they not?

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J. Vaile.
4 Oct. 1859.

8177. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Which did you vote, blue or yellow?—Yellow.

8178. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you paid for your vote?—No, nothing at all.

8179. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was the last election the first time you were paid?—The last two; except that in 1852 there was plenty to eat and drink to be had; there was open house-keeping at that time.

J. Wadley.

JOHN WADLEY sworn and examined.

8180. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A shoemaker.

8181. How much money did you receive for your vote at the last election?—*5l.*

8182. From whom did you receive it?—William Probert.

8183. From William Probert, of the Queen's Head —Yes.

8184. Was it the father or the son?—It was the father that I had it of.

8185. Did you receive any money from more persons than one at that election?—No.

8186. You did not?—No.

8187. Do you know the person who keeps the Nelson at Rudford?—Yes.

8188. What is his name?—William Roberts.

8189. Do you swear that you did not receive any money from him?—Not a penny; none at all.

8190. When you received the *5l.*, in what coin did you receive it?—All in silver.

8191. Was it wrapped up in paper?—Yes.

8192. Were you very drunk at the time of the election?—I was drunk on the nomination day.

8193. And the polling day?—Yes, after the polling, not before.

8194. Do you undertake to swear that you did not receive the money from Probert in a paper?—Yes, I received the money first of Probert, and then I went from the Berkeley Arms, in a fly, down to Brewer Monk's, and William Probert asked me to give him the money to take care of, for fear I should spend it; I said, "Give me the money, it is my money." He said, "I will give you the money soon;" and he says, "Cannot you trust such a respectable man as me?"

8195. What you undertake to swear is, that it was Probert who gave you the *5l.* and nobody else?—Yes.

8196. Can there be any doubt about that?—Not the least.

8197. You went down to the Nelson, did you not, and stopped there?—Yes, I went the day before the nomination.

8198. Did you go there and ask Roberts to protect you?—I went over in a fly along with William Probert to the Nelson.

8199. When you went to the Nelson, did you tell Mr. Probert that you wished him to protect you from the Blues?—Not to my knowledge.

8200. Could you have said so without knowing it?—I do not recollect saying so.

8201. If Mr. Probert has said so here to-day, is that untrue?—I cannot tell; I should think it is untrue.

8202. Did you wish to be protected from the Blues?—Not that I know of; I did not say anything to any one respecting protection.

8203. You said nothing about protection?—Not in the least.

8204. Were you afraid of any person?—No, not particular.

8205. Did you know a person named Lane?—Yes, I did.

8206. Was there a man named Lane that was taking from you the money that you got from the Blues?—I borrowed 10*s.* of him, and then paid him that 10*s.* out of the money that I had of Probert.

8207. Before you went down to the Nelson, were you employed upon the Blue committee, or were you employed as a messenger?—Not at all.

8208. Had you received any money at all from any person connected with the Blue party?—Not at all.

8209. No money at all?—No money at all.

8210. Neither before, nor during, nor after the election?—Not at all; not a penny.

8211. Then it would not be true that you had been giving any money at all to Lane before the polling?—I had borrowed 10*s.* of him before the election.

8212. Before you went down to the Nelson, at Rudford, had Lane been drawing any money from you?—No; I had then none for him to draw of me.

8213. What did you receive that money from Probert for?—For different purposes.

8214. Did you receive it for your vote?—Yes.

8215. For Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

8216. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

8217. Do you remember when you were at the Nelson a body of persons coming out there?—There was a Blue man or two came from Gloucester.

8218. Who were they?—I do not know; one's name was Clements.

8219. Was that Clements, the sweep?—Yes.

8220. What did they come there for?—They understood that I was gone to the Nelson, and they came to try to get me away.

8221. They came to try to fetch you back?—Yes.

8222. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—Yes.

8223. For whom did you vote? for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

8224. What did you get for your vote?—I had 2*l.*

8225. For voting for Carden?—Yes.

8226. Who gave it you?—Mr. Whithorn.

8227. Had you previously agreed with Mr. Whithorn?—Not in the least.

8228. On what day was it paid you?—He asked me if I had voted, and I said I had, and he put his hand into his pocket and gave me one sovereign, and then I said, "I am a ruined man;" and he put his hand in his pocket, and gave me another sovereign.

8229. How came you to be a ruined man?—Because I wanted 2*l.* to pay my rent.

8230. Had no person had any conversation with you about your vote before that?—No.

8231. In 1857, I mean?—Yes, I understand.

8232. No person had?—No.

8233. Had no previous bargain been made with you for your vote?—No, not at all.

8234. Had you been offered any money on the other side?—No.

8235. Have you voted at a great many elections at Gloucester?—Yes, a smart few.

8236. Have you always been paid for your vote?—No.

8237. When were you first paid?—I cannot tell what election it was.

8238. A long time ago?—Yes, it is a long time.

8239. And have you always been paid from that time downwards?—There were three or four elections as I had nothing.

[The following paper is handed in by Mr. Smith, in obedience to a previous direction of the Commissioners:]

NAMES of ELECTORS and others who were more or less active in the election of Messrs. Price and Monk, or more or less canvassed for them, or frequented their committee rooms in Westgate Street:—

Mr. Ellis.	Mr. Robinson.
„ A. G. Jones.	„ Abell.
„ Bretherton.	„ Herbert.
„ Smith.	„ Woodcock, senior.
„ Jordan.	„ Woodcock, junior.
„ Innell.	Captain Mason.
„ D. M. Walker.	Mr. F. Brown.
„ J. P. Wilton.	„ T. B. Monk.
„ Elliott.	„ Ping.
„ Swann.	„ Higgs.
„ E. L. Kendall.	„ Probert.

The Liberal electors, generally, were continually calling at the rooms, and were canvassing and using every exertion to turn out Carden, the most unpopular candidate ever brought forward by the Conservatives.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

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Ninth Day.—5th October 1859.

E. Boughton.

EDMUND BOUGHTON sworn and examined.

5 Oct. 1859.

8240. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—I reside at Longford, near here, but I have a place of business in Gloucester, near the station, at the new market.

8241. What are you?—An iron merchant.

8242. We understand that you have some explanation that you wish to offer to the Commissioners?—Yes. On Monday, at 5 o'clock, I was informed in this court, that a witness named Parkes had stated I had sent one of my clerks (I believe he said my chief clerk) to a man of the name of Jeffs, to offer him 50*l.* if he would prove a case against the Liberals.

8243. Is that a statement which you wish to contradict?—Yes.

8244. Because that is not the statement that was made by Mr. Parkes. It was that Jeffs came to him and told him that Mr. Boughton had sent a person down to him to offer him 50*l.* if he could get up a case against the Liberals?—I wish to say that that statement is totally devoid of truth. In no way or shape or form have I had anything to do, directly or indirectly, with a single case that has been laid before the Committee of the House of Commons in the spring, or rather in the summer of this year.

8245. It will, perhaps, be sufficient for you to state that it is untrue that you did send any person to Jeffs to offer him a sum of money to get up a case?—It is perfectly untrue; there is not a particle of truth in it. In fact, I knew nothing of the statement that had been made till 5 o'clock on Monday, when my brother came and told me of it. I had no knowledge of any of the details of the circumstances, until I heard them in the committee-room of the House of Commons itself. I do not know the man Jeffs, and I can answer the same thing, positively, for my clerks as well, every one of them. With regard to my chief clerk, who I believe is the party referred to, he is totally opposed to me in politics. I am quite conscious of having had nothing in any shape or form to do with that or with any other cases.

G. Welch.

GEORGE WELCH sworn and examined.

8246. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Brockworth.

8247. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

8248. And a voter for this city?—Yes.

8249. Were you offered 5*l.* by Harry Jacobs to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

8250. I believe your wife received the money?—Yes.

8251. Did she show it you after she had received it?—She gave it me as soon as I had voted.

8252. Were you offered any money by the other side at the last election?—No; none at all.

8253. How did you vote in 1857?—At the election before the last I voted for Sir Robert Carden.

8254. What did you get for your vote?—Nothing at all. I was obliged to bear my own expenses.

8255. Were you offered any money in 1857 for your vote?—Nothing at all; not a farthing.

8256. By no one?—No.

8257. Were you at the Spread Eagle Hotel in Gloucester at the election of 1857?—I think I was; I will not be positive. I was in and out there that morning.

8258. Were you at the Spread Eagle Hotel at the election in 1857?—I was in there with the company, walking in and out, but nothing more.

8259. Did you have breakfast and dinner there?—I had some breakfast, to the best of my knowledge; a cup of tea, and so on; I think I had that.

8260. Did you pay for it?—No, I did not.

8261. Had you dinner there?—No; not to the best of my knowledge; I had no dinner. I was in and out of the house several times during the day, but I had no dinner, to the best of my knowledge.

8262. Do you mean to swear you were not bribed or offered money by any person at that election?—No, I was not; not to the best of my knowledge. I was not asked anything about money whatever.

8263. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it 5*l.* or 6*l.* you got from Mr. Jacobs?—5*l.* Five sovereigns.

8264. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was any money paid to your wife at the election in 1857?—No, not a farthing.

8265. Do you know that?—Yes.

8266. Were you offered any money at the last election by Mr. Knowles, the auctioneer?—No; none whatever. My wife is not here; she is not able to come; she is not up. She could come if there was a conveyance for her to come down in.

8267. Your wife cannot walk?—No; she has got a bad leg.

8268. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In 1857 were you promised any money?—No, none at all.

8269. Do you know Mr. Walter Clutterbuck?—Yes, very well.

8270. Did you see him after the election?—To the best of my knowledge I did. I met him in the street after the election. I did not see him afterwards, to have any money pass.

8271. Did he promise you anything?—No; nothing at all.

8272. Did you tell Harry Jacobs that you had been canvassed by the other side?—Yes.

8273. You told him so?—Yes.

8274. It was not true, was it?—I was canvassed by each party.

8275. You were canvassed by the other side?—Yes, by each party.

8276. Were you offered anything by them?—No. There is one thing I should wish to mention. I rent under Mr. Jones, and on the night before the polling at this last election I made up my mind I would not vote. I was considering where my bread was. My wife had business down at Mr. Jones's, and Mrs. Jones comes out of the parlour, and says, "I hope your husband will go down and vote to-morrow morning;" and my wife says, "I do not know; we must consider about who my husband votes for; we must mind where our bread lays." She went back into the parlour, and came out, and sees Mr. Jones, and he says, "If you do not vote for Price and Monk you shall leave your house." And this day week (because I went to London on this job) I got notice to leave the house, all through this election, and now I am turned out of doors.

8277. Who did you vote for?—For Price and Monk, and now I am got turned out of doors after all.

8278. (*Mr. Vaughan*) You say you went to London before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Yes, I did, and offended Mr. Jones by so doing.

8279. You gave evidence there?—I did give evidence there.

8280. Where does Mr. Jones, your landlord, live?—At Brockworth.

8281. What is he?—A great farmer, and owns nearly all the parish.

8282. What is his Christian name?—Henry. I have got the notice in my pocket, if you would like to see it.

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JOHN ASHMEADE sworn and examined. *J. Ashmeade.*

5 Oct. 1859.

8283. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Elmore.

8284. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

8285. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

8286. For whom?—For Price and Monk.

8287. What did you receive for your vote?—9*l.*, my wife did.

8288. Did your wife hand the money to you?—No; she did not give it to me.

8289. How did you know she got 9*l.*?—She showed me the money.

8290. Had you been canvassed for your vote by Mr. Henley?—Yes.

8291. And had he promised you 9*l.*?—Yes.

8292. Were you offered money on the other side?—Yes.

8293. By whom?—John Ward.

8294. How much did he offer you?—He said he would give me 5*l.*; and then he said afterwards he would put me and my brother on the committee, and that would be five shillings a day, which would make it 5*l.* 10*s.*

8295. He said that you should be put on the committee?—Yes; he would put me and my brother for two days on the committee, and that would make 5*l.* 10*s.* apiece.

8296. On what committee?—On the Blue committee.

8297. As what? As messengers?—He said he would put us on the committee for two days.

8298. That was all?—Yes, that was all.

8299. Were you offered any money by Mr. Clutterbuck?—No.

8300. Were you offered any money by any other person at the last election?—No; Mr. Ward and Mr. Henley was all that offered me money.

8301. Was anything said to you about going across the Severn?—Yes.

8302. What was said?—My brother was to send over for me to come and meet Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck at his house.

8303. Who said that to you?—My brother, and I went and met them; it was on a Sunday evening.

8304. You went and met Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck; where did you meet them?—At my brother's at Minsterworth; James Ashmeade.

8305. Was that the Sunday evening before the election?—Pretty near a fortnight before the election; the Sunday before Good Friday.

8306. When you went there did you see them?—Yes.

8307. What did they want you to do?—They came to canvass my vote. They said they had heard that the Yellow party had come down, and had got my vote, to be sure of me. I told them, I had not promised either party.

8308. What then was said to you?—They said they did not believe that I had promised it. I did not promise to vote for them then, and they then went away after.

8309. Was that the time when you were offered 5*l.*?—No.

8310. Were you offered 5*l.* afterwards?—Yes.

8311. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

8312. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

8313. What did you get for your vote?—3*l.*

8314. Who gave you the money?—Mr. Castree was the man who gave me a sovereign.

8315. Where does he live?—I do not know.

8316. Does he live in Gloucester?—I do not know.

8317. What is he?—An auctioneer, I believe.

8318. He gave you one sovereign for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

8319. Who gave you the remainder of the money?—John Ward.

8320. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did he give you?—Two sovereigns.

8321. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had that money been promised you before the election?—Yes.

8322. Where were you paid the two sovereigns by John Ward?—Up in the Upper George Passage.

8323. Were you promised money by any other person, or given any money by any other person, besides John Ward and Mr. Castree?—Yes. Mr. Whithorn promised me I should have it; that it was all right. I was taken to the Blue committee-room on the Friday evening before the election, and there I saw Mr. Whithorn, who sent me down to the Three Cocks, and there they locked me up all night like a prisoner.

8324. Was that the election of 1857?—Yes.

8325. Just repeat what you said. What did Mr. Whithorn do?—I was taken to the Blue committee the night before the polling, and Mr. Whithorn sent me down to the Three Cocks, and somebody with me, but I do not know who it was.

8326. And you were kept there all night, were you?—Yes.

8327. Had you plenty to eat and drink there?—Yes.

8328. Were there a good many others there besides yourself?—Yes; there were more there besides myself, but who they were I do not know.

8329. Were you offered any money upon the other side at that election?—No.

8330. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you hear the bargain going on with the Coopeys?—I heard it for the Vailes. I heard Mr. Clutterbuck agree with five of them at the Upper George for 3*l.* apiece. Three Vailes, and James Ashmeade and Coopey.

8331. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did you vote before the election of 1857?—I voted for Mr. Price and Mr. Berkeley ever since I voted.

8332. Did you get paid for that?—No, never.

SAMUEL JEFFS sworn and examined. *S. Jeffs.*

8333. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A cordwainer.

8334. Where do you live?—In Hare-lane.

8335. Did you vote at the last election for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

8336. How much did you receive from Hutton?—5*l.*

8337. Is that Charles Hutton, the hairdresser?—Yes.

8338. Were you promised any money by any other person?—No, not any.

8339. You received that from Charles Hutton for your vote?—Yes.

8340. Were you canvassed by the parties on the other side?—Yes.

8341.—Were you promised any money by any one of those who canvassed you on the other side?—Not the least.

8342. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Carden and Mr. Lovegrove.

8343. Did you vote at the election of 1857?—I have voted at every election for these many years.

8344. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—Mr. Carden.

8345. Were you paid for your vote?—No.

8346. Were you promised anything for you vote? No.

8347. Were you put upon the Blue committee?—No; I never was upon the committee in my life.

8348. Have you ever complained that the Tories promised you money, and never gave you any?—No.

8349. You never have?—No.

8350. Did you ever say that James Maysey had promised you money?—No, never; not any one. I deny it.

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S. Jeffs.
5 Oct. 1859.

8351. Did you ever say so to Mr. Parkes ?—No ; nor he never did promise me any money.

8352. Did you ever say to Mr. Parkes, or to any one else, that James Maysey had promised you pounds and gave you only shillings ?—No, I did not. I deny it.

8353. You never said anything of the sort ?—No.

8354. Not before nor after the last election ?—No ; because I was promised nothing, and then I could not say it.

8355. Did you ever say so to Mr. Parkes ?—No, I did not.

8356. Did you ever say so to Mr. Barham ?—No, I did not.

8357. You never said, either to Mr. Barham or to Mr. Parkes, that you had been promised money by Mr. Maysey ?—Mr. Barham once said to me, "The Blues have promised a great deal of money that they have never paid ;" that was the whole. There was a little conversation, but I never said any such thing. The conversation was chiefly from himself ; it was he who had the most of the say upon the subject.

J. Phelps.

JOHN PHELPS sworn and examined.

8358. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live at Rudford ?—Barbers Bridge.

8359. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

8360. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

8361. What did you get for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

8362.—Were you promised anything ?—No.

8363. Not by any party ?—No.

8364. Were some voters brought to your house before the election ?—Yes, they was ; the night before the election.

8365. Was John Wadley one of them ?—Yes.

8366. A man of the name of Ashmeade, was he brought ?—William something.

8367. Greening ?—I do not know whether it was Greening or Ashmeade ; "old Billy" we called him.

8368. Do you know what his surname is ?—No ; I only know what I heard them call him.

8369. What did you hear them call him ?—They called him "Billy ;" William something his name was.

8370. Were any other persons there ?—A man of the name of Beard.

8371. Did you take care of them ;—Yes ; they had plenty of victuals and drink.

8372. Did they stay at your house till the polling day ?—Yes ; till the morning of the polling.

8373. Did you bring them into Gloucester the next day ?—I rode in along with them ; but there was a trap came over after them ; a four-wheel.

8374. You rode in with them to Gloucester ?—I did.

8375. Were you paid for their entertainment ?—No ; not a shilling ; I never expected anything.

8376. You never received anything for it ?—No.

8377. Did any person come to your house after Wadley and Beard had come there, for the purpose of getting them away ?—They came by our house, and they came with the intention to call there, but they happened to go by my place, or else their intention was to come after them.

8378. Who went by your place ?—A lot of rough chaps ; I do not know who they were, but some from Gloucester.

8379. However, they did not come to your house ?—No.

8380. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you there when these voters were brought to your house ?—No, I was not.

8381. You found them there when you got home ?—Yes ; when I got home from Gloucester, about 11 o'clock.

8382. Was anybody there in charge of them ?—Yes ; William Roberts was there. I believe it was he who sent them to me, from what I heard after.

G. Phelps.

GEORGE PHELPS sworn and examined.

8383. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Mount Pleasant ; at Rudford.

8384. Are you a voter ?—Yes.

8385. A freeman ?—Yes.

8386. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

8387. Were you canvassed for your vote ?—Yes.

8388. Who canvassed you ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

8389. Did you receive any money for your vote ?—No.

8390. Were you offered any money ?—No.

8391. On neither side ?—No ; on neither side.

8392. Did you vote at the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

8393. For whom ?—Mr. Price.

8394. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—An innkeeper.

8395. Had you any voters kept at your house ?—There was one came over for protection.

8396. What was his name ?—Greening.

8397. What is the name of your house ?—Mount Pleasant.

T. Perks.

THOMAS PERKS sworn and examined.

8398. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Apperley.

8399. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

8400. And a voter ?—Yes.

8401. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

8402. For whom ?—Price and Monk.

8403. What money did you receive for your vote ?—£8.

8404. Was that from Mr. Charles Hutton ?—No.

8405. From whom ?—Mr. Henley.

8406. That was for your vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

8407. Were you canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Yes.

8408. Did Mr. Clutterbuck offer you any money for your vote ?—Yes. Not Mr. Clutterbuck ; Mr. Ward did.

8409. Were you canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck and Mr. Ward ?—Yes ; they were both together.

8410. What was offered you ?—£5.

8411. Was that Mr. John Ward ?—Yes.

8412. For your vote ?—Yes.

8413. For whom ?—Mr. Carden.

8414. Were you canvassed by Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes. Mr. Lovegrove sent up to me. He did not come himself ; he sent up.

8415. Who did he send ?—He sent a card.

8416. Have you got the card ?—No, I have not.

8417. What did he say upon the card ?—Only to solicit my vote.

8418. (*Mr. Welford.*) A printed card ?—Yes, I think it was.

8419. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was anything said by either Mr. Clutterbuck or Mr. Ward about Mr. Lovegrove ?—No.

8420. Did you vote at the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

8421. For whom ?—Mr. Carden.

8422. What did you get for your vote ?—£3.

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T. Perks.
5 Oct. 1859.

8423. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Castree.
8424. Is that the auctioneer ?—Yes, I believe it is.
8425. Was any money offered you by any other person at that election ?—No.
8426. Where was the money paid to you for the 1857 election ?—Down at the Spread Eagle.
8427. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it eight or nine pounds you got from Mr. Henley upon this last occasion ?—£8.
8428. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Did you see Mr. Lovegrove before the last election ?—No.
8429. Did you not see him at all ?—No.
8430. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know whether your wife saw Mr. Lovegrove ?—I do not know that she did.
8431. Did she tell you she had seen him ?—She did not tell me she had seen him.
8432. What did she tell you about him ?—She did not say anything to me about him.
8433. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you go with your wife to the Blue committee-room ?—Yes.
8434. When was that ?—At the last election.
8435. Did you see Mr. Lovegrove ?—At the last election I did.
8436. I am asking you about Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes ; I saw Mr. Lovegrove in a room.
8437. In a room upstairs ?—Yes.
8438. Did Mr. Lovegrove say anything to you about Mr. Clutterbuck ?—No; not about Mr. Clutterbuck.
8439. Did he say whatever Mr. Clutterbuck promised should be carried out ?—No ; he did not say anything to me about its being carried out.
8440. Did you say anything to Mr. Lovegrove yourself about it ?—No.
8441. Is your wife here ?—Yes.

M. A. Perks.

MARY ANN PERKS sworn and examined.

8442. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the wife of the last witness, Thomas Perks ?—Yes.
8443. Do you remember being canvassed for your husband's vote before the last election ?—Yes.
8444. Were you canvassed by Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Mr. Ward was not along with him.
8445. Were you canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Mr. Clutterbuck came.
8446. Were you canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Mr. Clutterbuck came over. The other election before this do you mean ?
8447. No ; the last election ?—Yes; Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck came over.
8448. What did they say ?—They wanted me to promise my husband, but I would not promise him because he was not at home.
8449. Did you agree to meet them at the New Inn ?—Yes.
8450. Did you meet them at the New Inn ?—We was there a few minutes before they came, and we stopped there till they came.
8451. Then you saw them there ?—Yes.
8452. Was any promise made to you about your husband's vote ?—He did not promise them at all.
8453. Did they offer you any money for his vote ?—Mr. Ward asked me what I should like ; what I wanted.
8454. What did you say you did want ?—He then promised me 5*l.*
8455. Did you agree then that your husband should vote for 5*l.* ?—I did not promise him that.
8456. Did you afterwards go with your husband to the Blue committee-room ?—Yes.
8457. Did you see Mr. Lovegrove there ?—Yes.
8458. Was that upstairs ?—Yes.
8459. Did you tell Mr. Lovegrove what had been offered ?—No, I did not.
8460. Was anything said about Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Mr. Lovegrove said, whatever I was promised I should have he would perform.
8461. Had you said what had been promised ?—No, I did not, because it was not a promise then.
8462. If it was not promised, how came Mr. Lovegrove to say whatever was promised should be performed ?—He said whatever was promised I should have, and he would perform.
8463. How came he to say that if nothing had been promised ?—Mr. Ward followed me up the street after we came from the committee-room.
8464. Do you mean to represent that when you went into the Blue committee-room you saw Mr. Lovegrove, and the first thing that took place was, Mr. Lovegrove said whatever was promised should be performed ?—Yes.
8465. That was the first thing that was said ?—Yes.
8466. Was anything said by Mr. Lovegrove about sending a fly for you ?—Yes ; he put down a fly.
8467. That a fly should be sent for you ?—That a fly should be sent for us.
8468. To go to poll ?—Yes.
8469. And then you were offered 5*l.* afterwards by Mr. Ward ?—Yes ; Mr. Ward offered 5*l.*
8470. Was that at Mr. Hawkins's ?—Yes.
8471. Did you receive the money from Mr. Henley for your husband's vote ?—Yes.
8472. You received how much ; 8*l.* ?—Yes.
8473. For his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.
8474. Your husband voted in 1857 for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.
8475. Did you receive the money for his vote ?—Yes.
8476. How much did you receive ?—Three sovereigns.
8477. Was that from Mr. Castree ?—Yes.
8478. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.
8479. Did you see any of the Welches at this committee-room where you were in 1857 ?—Yes.
8480. At the Spread Eagle ?—Yes.
8481. How many of them ?—I could not tell, because I never see their faces before.
8482. Was George Welch there ?—I do not know what their names were ; I had never seen them before.

W. Harris.

WILLIAM HARRIS sworn and examined.

8483. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Birmingham.
8484. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—No.
8485. What are you ; a householder ?—Yes.
8486. How do you stand on the register ?—As a householder.
8487. In what parish ?—In the parish of Barton St. Mary in this city.
8488. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you reside now at Birmingham altogether ?—Yes.
8489. You have left Gloucester ?—Yes.
8490. How did you vote at the last election ?—I voted for Price and Monk.
8491. What did you receive ?—I received 7*l.* for my vote and expenses.
8492. From whom ?—I received it from a person of the name of Hewlett; it came through his hands to give to me.
8493. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who is he ?—He is a smith and bellhanger ; he lives in Birmingham.
8494. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to say that Hewlett of Birmingham gave you that money ?—He did.
8495. And then you came to Gloucester, and voted?—I voted before I had the money.

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W. Harris.
5 Oct. 1859.

8496. But you were to have the money?—I had the money afterwards.

8497. Did Hewlett agree with you that you should have the money, or who did?—No; no one ever agreed with me.

8498. But it was an understood thing that you were to be paid when you came?—There is no doubt but that I expected it, coming down all the way from Birmingham; I expected that they would pay my expenses, and that sort of thing.

8499. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

8500. Who did you vote for?—I voted for Carden.

8501. What did you get?—£3.

8502. For your vote for Carden?—Yes.

8503. From whom?—I got it from Thomas Miles.

8504. Who is he?—He is a person employed by the Midland Railway Company now.

8505. Where?—At Stonehouse.

8506. Where was that 3*l.* paid to you in 1857?—At the Fleece in Westgate Street.

8507. Were there many persons there at that time, do you remember; many voters?—From five to seven, I should think, or eight.

8508. Did they receive money for their votes, did you see?—I have no doubt they did.

8509. Did you see them paid anything?—I did not.

8510. Were you offered any money by any other person at that election?—No, I was not.

8511. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you and the seven voters that were at the Fleece agree to go together; to vote altogether?—No; we agreed to go together, but we did not agree to vote together.

8512. You were bargained for separately?—I never was bargained for at all. When I went in I had the money put into my hand.

8513. To vote?—No doubt it was to vote.

8514. And you did vote?—I did vote.

8515. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know from whom this money came?—I received it from a person of the name of Miles.

8516. About this 7*l.* in 1859; do you know from whom Hewlett received the money?—There is no doubt but what it came from Monk from what I was given to understand.

8517. From Brewer Monk?—Yes.

8518. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any one treat you at Birmingham just before the last election?—They did.

8519. Who was that?—John Griffiths.

8520. Who is he?—He is a clerk to Mr. Lovegrove.

8521. Did he offer you anything for your vote?—He did; but I told him I should not take anything, for my determination was to vote for Price and Monk, and so I did not accept the money.

8522. Where was this?—At the Horse and Groom at Birmingham.

8523. Did he offer you any sum? Did he name any sum?—No sum at all; only if I would go on their side.

8524. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did he say to you?—He said "Now Bill" (because he knew me very well), "if you will come on our side" (he said) "I can do something for you." I said, "No, I shall not, for I have promised the other parties."

8525. He did not say what that something would be?—No, he did not, and I did not ask him.

R. Bond.

ROBERT BOND sworn and examined.

8526. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Birdlip.

8527. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

8528. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

8529. What did you get for your vote?—Nothing at all.

8530. Were you offered any money for your vote?—No, I was not, except it was by Harry Jacobs; that is when I went down along with my brother to Jacobs's shop.

8531. How much money did he offer you?—8*l.* apiece; he asked if that was not what we wanted.

8532. Did he offer you 8*l.* for your vote?—Yes.

8533. Did you refuse to take it?—Yes, except he would put it into my brother's hands, and then I would.

8534. That he would not do; would he?—No.

8535. Did he say why he would not do so?—Yes. He asked me what was the reason why I should vote for Sir Robert Carden.

8536. Did you tell Jacobs that you would not take 8*l.*; that you could get more?—I never told him that.

8537. You swear that?—Yes, I will swear it.

8538. Did you tell him you could go to the Blue committee and get 10*l.*?—No, I did not. I told him I could have plenty of money, without having that, and that I should go and give Sir Robert Carden a plumper.

8539. Do you swear you did not say that you could go to the Blue committee, and get 10*l.*?—Yes, I will.

8540. What are you?—I goes about brewing, or anything I can get to do, or buy two or three sheep, or pigs, or anything of that kind.

8541. You go and buy what?—Sheep and pigs, or anything in small quantities.

8542. Have you got any farm or any land?—No.

8543. When you buy sheep and pigs, what do you do with them?—Sell them again; and if I have nothing else to do, I does a bit of labouring work as well as that.

8544. (*Mr. Welford*) Did you tell Jacobs you intended to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. When I went out of his shop I went right from his shop down to the poll.

8545. That was after he had refused to deposit the money with your brother?—Yes.

8546. But if he had deposited the money with your brother you would have voted for Price and Monk?—I should have voted for Carden and Price then. I told my brother so.

8547. (*Mr. Vaughan*) Do you mean to swear that you did not tell Harry Jacobs on the morning of the polling, that you could go over to the Blue committee-room, and have 10*l.* in a moment?—I will swear that I never mentioned such a word out of my mouth.

8548. Did you go to the Blue committee-room after you had left Harry Jacobs?—I did not.

8549. That you swear?—Yes, I will swear it.

8550. Did you go back to Jacobs's shop?—No. I went down to the Shakespeare.

8551. Did you go back by Jacobs's shop, and call out, "A plumper for Sir Robert Carden"?—Yes, I said that. I come here to speak the truth, and nothing but the truth.

8552. Had your brother gone and polled, and come back to Jacobs's shop, and received the money?—Yes; I held the money for him.

8553. He had come back, and received the money?—Yes.

8554. If you had received 8*l.* from Mr. Jacobs you would have gone and voted then for the Liberal candidates, would you not?—I should have voted for Carden and Price.

8555. Just be careful. Do you mean to swear you did not receive any money at all for voting for Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Yes, I will.

8556. That you swear positively?—Yes, I will; I can.

8557. And that nothing was promised you?—Nothing was promised.

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R. Bond.
5 Oct. 1859.

8558. Have you received any money since the election?—No, I have not.

8559. Not a farthing from any one?—No, I have not.

8560. In respect of your vote?—No.

8561. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was any money paid to anybody else for you?—No.

8562. That you swear?—Yes, I will swear it.

8563. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was no money offered to you by Mr. Knowles?—No. I never saw any one till the morning of the poll, except it was Mr. Matthews, and that was three weeks, I should say, before I came to Gloucester.

8564. Did you get any refreshments anywhere on that day?—Yes.

8565. Where?—At the Shakespeare.

8566. Who took you to the Shakespeare?—There was a fly sent up, and came down. Who the young man was that came up I do not know.

8567. You got refreshments at the Shakespeare?—Yes.

8568. Was that on the polling day?—Yes.

8569. Where was the fly sent?—He was coming up to the top of Birdlip Hill; but they could not get the horse all the way up, so he came to the bottom.

8570. Who paid for those refreshments at the Shakespeare?—I do not know.

8571. You did not pay for them?—No.

8572. Who told you to go there?—That was where we was drove to.

8573. Who was in the fly with you?—There was my brother Anthony and Mr. Tewens of Birdlip; but he had nothing at all to do with it; not as I know of.

8574. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes; that was the election before this.

8575. Who did you vote for?—Sir Robert Carden.

8576. What did you get at that election?—Nothing. Mr. Castree came up at that time, and said he would make a present, but I never had nothing.

8577. What did Mr. Castree say he would make you a present of?—He did not say what; he said we could trust to him.

8578. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he say that before or after you had polled?—Before. I never saw him after that; not to have nothing of him.

8579. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said he would make you a present?—Yes.

8580. But he did not?—He did not.

8581. Where was it that he said he would make you a present?—That was when he came to me.

8582. Was that at the Spread Eagle?—No; that was when he came to me when I was at work, to ask me for my vote. I told him I could not afford to come unless I was paid for my time, and he said he would make me a present.

8583. Will you swear you did not receive any money from Mr. Castree at the Spread Eagle in 1857?—No, I did not.

8584. Did you consider yourself very much aggrieved that you had been promised money by Mr. Castree and did not get it?—Yes, I did, after promising me.

8585. As you considered you had been badly treated by Mr. Castree in 1857, how came you to vote for Carden without any money in 1859?—I have always voted Blue, and always will.

8586. Whether you are well or ill treated?—I will never turn my colours to please no one.

8587. Just consider; were you at the Spread Eagle in 1857?—Yes.

8588. Did not Mr. Castree call you out of the room when you were at dinner at the Spread Eagle, and give you 3*l.*?—He did not.

8589. On the staircase?—He did not.

8590. Or give you any money at all?—No; he promised.

8591. Have you got a wife?—No, I have not.

8592. Do you know whether any money was paid to your brother's wife for you?—No.

8593. Or to any person for you?—No.

8594. Neither at this election nor at any election before?—I never received any money at all in my life.

8595. Nor any person for you?—No.

ANTHONY BOND sworn and examined.

A. Bond.

8596. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Birdlip.

8597. You are a freeman?—Yes.

8598. You voted at the last election for Price and Monk?—Yes.

8599. How much did you receive for your vote?—8*l.*

8600. From Harry Jacobs?—Yes.

8601. You came into Gloucester in a fly which was sent out to you by the Blue party?—Yes.

8602. Did you receive that money in Harry Jacobs's shop?—Yes.

8603. Was your brother there at the time?—Yes.

8604. Were you offered money by any person on the other side?—No.

8605. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, not at all.

8606. Did your brother tell you that he had been offered any money?—No, he did not.

8607. Have you ever had any talk with your brother about the election since it was over?—Yes. He told me he never received a penny for his vote for Sir Robert Carden, and that he was never offered any at all.

8608. Were you in Jacobs's shop when your brother left that morning?—Yes; I came out with him.

8609. Did you remain in the shop as long as he remained in the shop?—As long as my brother did?

8610. Yes?—Yes; we both walked out, as it may be, together; my brother walked out, and I followed him.

8611. Did your brother say he would go over to the Blue committee and get 10*l.*?—No; never that I heard him.

8612. Nor anything of the sort?—No, not at all.

8613. He was offered 8*l.* by Harry Jacobs, was he not?—Yes.

8614. Why did he not take it?—Harry Jacobs wanted to hold the money till he had polled, and my brother would not agree to that; and my brother said he would rather vote for Sir Robert Carden for nothing than he would vote for them for 20*l.*

8615. But he would have taken the 8*l.* if it had been left in your hands or given to him, would he not?—He said if he had the 8*l.* he should vote for Sir Robert Carden and Price.

8616. He has told us himself that if he had had the money he would have voted for Carden and Price?—Yes, he said so; and I expect the other party heard him, and so they would not let him have the money till after, and then he would not go at all.

8617. Were you sent for by Mr. Lovegrove after your arrival in Gloucester that day?—No.

8618. Did you see Mr. Lovegrove that day?—After the poll.

8619. Not before?—Not before.

8620. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes; for Sir Robert Carden.

8621. How much did you get then?—I received 1*l.* after the poll for my day's work and expenses.

8622. From whom?—Mr. Castree. Not till after the poll.

8623. Was that all you received from any person?—Yes; ever in my life; that is the only money.

8624. Did you receive that at the Spread Eagle?—Yes; I believe I did.

8625. Did you see your brother receive any money then?—No.

8626. Did he receive any money at the election in 1857?—I cannot tell.

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8627. Has he never told you whether he did or not?—I do not remember that he did.

8628. Just recollect yourself. Did your brother never tell you that he had received any money, and what, for the election of 1857?—I do not recollect that he ever told me anything at all; that he did or did not. I do not think he ever mentioned it to me or I to him. If ever he did I forget.

8629. You received 1*l.* yourself?—1*l.*

8630. Were you in court when your brother was examined just now?—Not all the time.

8631. Were you here a portion of the time?—Just at the last; I came in just at the last; I came in just as he was done.

8632. Do you mean to swear that your brother did not tell you he had received money for his vote at the election in 1857?—If he did I forget it; I do not remember that he did.

8633. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did your wife receive for you in 1857?—Nothing at all.

8634. Did she not receive 2*l.* for you?—No; that she never did.

8635. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always voted Blue?—Always, till the last election.

8636. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you were at the Spread Eagle, was your brother called out of the room?—Yes, I believe he was.

8637. By whom was he called out of the room?—By Mr. Castree, as well as I can recollect.

8638. Do you know what he was called out for?—No. He never told me that he had anything; it was no more than that I thought he had a little, just as I might, for his day's work; but he never told me, to the best of my recollection, at all.

8639. Were you called out of the room when you received your 1*l.*?—I went from the room where we were sitting to the top of the stairs just outside of the door; that is where I received my 1*l.*

8640. There you received it?—Yes.

8641. Were you called out?—No, I was not.

8642. Did you go out yourself, or how did you know your turn was come?—Of course, when I saw Mr. Castree come up, and beckon to me, I knowed.

8643. You knew what he beckoned to you for?—I knew it.

8644. You expected it before, I suppose?—I expected to be paid for my day's work.

8645. What do you generally earn of a day?—I earn sometimes 10*s.* in a day, sometimes 2*s.*, and sometimes I have not earned perhaps more than 20*d.* or so.

8646. What is your business?—A labourer.

8647. Were the Welches called out at the same time at the Spread Eagle?—I do not remember that they was whilst I was there. I believe I left the Welches in the room when I went away.

8648. They had not been called out?—Not that I am aware of.

8649. When you received your money, did you go away, or go back into the room again?—I went back, and stayed a few minutes, and then went away, and I believe I left the Welches there at the same time.

W. Welch.

WALTER WELCH sworn and examined.

8650. Where do you live?—At Staverton.

8651. What are you?—A master tailor.

8652. A freeman?—Yes.

8653. Do you remember being offered 5*l.* for your vote by Harry Jacobs?—I was not.

8654. Were you offered anything by him for your vote?—I was not.

8655. Do you remember a sovereign being left on the mantelpiece of a room in the Waggoners' Arms?—Yes.

8656. Did you ask Harry Jacobs to leave it there for you?—No.

8657. Do you know how it came to be left there?—I was told by the landlord that Harry Jacobs, I think that is the name, left some money there.

8658. For you?—He did not say for me; he left it there; he did not say who it was for.

8659. Had you been eating and drinking with Harry Jacobs before that?—I had had some drink with him, but not eating.

8660. Had he canvassed you for your vote?—Yes; he sent for me to the Pheasant. I was asked to go to the Pheasant by a person of the name of Taylor.

8661. Did he hold up his five fingers to you?—Yes.

8662. (*Mr. Welford.*) Jacobs did?—Yes.

8663. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you understand by his holding up five fingers to you?—He asked me if I could play a game at skittles. I said I could. He asked me if I could play a game at cribbage. I said I could not. He said, "Can you jump?" I said, "I can." He said, "I will jump you for that," holding up five fingers.

8664. Did you understand by that that he would give you 5*l.*?—He never said what it was.

8665. What did you understand by that?—I fancied it was money; I could not swear that it was.

8666. When you found one sovereign was left upon the mantelpiece, did you understand that that was for your vote?—No; he asked me to come to Gloucester.

8667. What did you understand that that 1*l.* was for?—I did not understand there was 1*l.* left; not till after the election was over.

8668. You did not know it was left till after the election?—I did not know that the sovereign was left at the Waggoners' Arms till after the election was over.

8669. Were you offered any money by George Bowers?—No.

8670. No money at all?—No money at all.

8671. Was anything said to you by George Bowers as to money for your vote?—No; not money.

8672. What was said about your vote?—I went down there on the Friday before the election, and he asked me to stop all night. I said I would not; I was determined to go home.

8673. What was said by him about your vote?—He asked me how I was going to vote. I told him I did not know.

8674. You had not made up your mind?—I had not made up my mind. I did not tell him I had not made up my mind.

8675. But the fact was you had not made up your mind at that time?—I had promised before that time.

8676. Had you promised?—Yes; to the Blue party.

8677. What did you mean by saying you had not made up your mind?—I did not tell him that I had made up my mind.

8678. I thought you said you told him you did not know which way you would vote, because you had not made up your mind?—I had made up my mind to vote for Carden.

8679. Did you not say just now you told him you would not promise, because you did not know which way you would vote, and that you had made up your mind?—I would not promise Bowers which way I would vote.

8680. Did he say anything about giving you 8*l.* for your vote?—No.

8681. Or 10*l.*?—No.

8682. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

8683. You voted for Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

8684. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

8685. Were you offered any money to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I was not.

8686. Did Mr. John Ward offer you any money?—No.

8687. You swear that he did not offer you any money

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for your vote?—I swear positively that he did not offer me any money for my vote.

8688. Have you not said he did offer you, and that he did give you 6*l.* for your vote?—No, I never did.

8689. Do you swear that at the last election you received no money from any person for your vote?—I do.

8690. Neither on the one side nor the other?—Neither on one side or the other; more than this sovereign that was left to spend at the Waggoners' Arms.

8691. Did you walk in on the day of the election?—No.

8692. Who brought you in?—Mr. Samuel Butt.

8693. Did you come in a fly?—In a cab.

8694. Where did he take you to when he brought you into Gloucester?—To the Upper George.

8695. Did he give you any money?—No.

8696. Did he promise you any?—No.

8697. What did you have at the Upper George?—Nothing at all. He asked me if I would have anything to drink, and I said "No."

8698. You had nothing to eat or drink?—No.

8699. During the whole day?—When I came to the Upper George, he said, "Will you have anything to drink?" and I said "No;" and he said, "Will you go and poll?" and I went and polled directly.

8700. As soon as you had polled did you walk home?—No.

8701. What did you do?—Walked about the town, and then took the train and went to Cheltenham. I think the train went about 2 o'clock or some little past.

8702. What did you do at Cheltenham?—I was about there; I had nothing to do; I was more acquainted with Cheltenham than with Gloucester.

8703. Did you stay there the rest of the day?—Yes; with some friends.

8704. Did you come back the same evening?—Yes.

8705. The same evening?—Yes; I walked.

8706. Who gave you the money to go to Cheltenham?—No one; I paid my own expenses.

8707. Are you a journeyman tailor?—No; a master tailor; I keep men under me.

8708. Did you poll in 1857?—Yes.

8709. Who for?—Sir Robert Carden.

8710. What did you receive for your vote?—In 1857?

8711. Yes?—Nothing at all.

8712. Were you canvassed?—Yes.

8713. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Walter Clutterbuck.

8714. Did you go to any inn on the polling day in 1857?—The Upper George.

8715. Who did you see there?—Mr. John Ward, I think, was there.

8716. Who else?—I cannot say. I do not know who there were. There were several in and out of the house.

8717. Do you know any persons of the name of Vaile?—No, I do not.

8718. Were there many persons in the room in which you were at the Upper George in 1857?—There were several people in and out. I could not say who they were.

8719. Were they voters?—I could not say.

8720. Do you swear you were not paid any money at that election?—I was not.

8721. Were you offered any money?—No; I am not so bad in want of money as to be bought.

8722. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know a man of the name of Nash?—Yes; Joseph Nash.

8723. Did he come in with you on the election morning?—No, he did not.

8724. Did he receive any money for you at the last election?—No.

8725. You swear that?—I swear that if he did he kept it, for I never had it.

8726. Did he receive any money for you at the election in 1857?—No.

8727. That you swear also?—I swear that if he did he kept it, for I did not poll at that election. I found that Mr. Hope was far behind, and my vote would be of no use at all.

8728. Did you go to the Spread Eagle at the election of 1857?—No; not to my knowlege; no, I did not.

8729. Do know a Mr. Castree?—Yes.

8730. Did you receive any money from him?—He gave me a sovereign for expenses I had been at at one time with my father; that is a long time ago; I told him how it was. My father was canvassed by the Yellow party, and I said I had been at expense in bringing him to Gloucester to vote, and that Mr. Price gave up, and he gave me a sovereign.

8731. Was that at the election of 1857?—Yes, I think it was; the election before this last.

8732. He gave you a sovereign?—Yes; on account of my father, because I had been at expense in bringing him to Gloucester, and getting a conveyance to send him back.

8733. Where did your father come from?—From Staverton; between five and six miles. I said I was at a loss from it, and he said, "I should prefer giving you a sovereign."

8734. Was that all the money you received in 1857?—Yes.

8735. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always voted for the Blue party?—I have, but once, and that was for the county.

8736. You have always voted in Gloucester for the Blue party?—Yes.

8737. Have you never been paid on any occasion?—I have not.

8738. Have you ever given your vote under the expectation of being paid?—No.

8739. Have you ever represented to anybody else that you had been fooled by the Tory party?—No.

8740. Have you ever told Harry Jacobs so?—No.

8741. Did you not tell him you intended to vote for the Liberals this time because you had been fooled before?—No; that is the gentleman there (*pointing him out*); I know him very well.

8742. You saw Harry Jacobs at the Pheasant?—Yes.

8743. Did you not tell him you had been offered 6*l.* on the other side by the Blue party?—No; I never did.

8744. Have you ever called at Harry Jacobs's house?—Yes; on the Sunday.

8745. What did you go there for?—To tell him I would have no hand with that job we was talking about at the Pheasant, about jumping and playing at skittles.

8746. Did you go expressly for that purpose?—I did; because I would have no hand in taking a bribe.

8747. You took some time to consider then whether you would take his offer or not. Did you refuse his offer when it was first made?—I did not refuse it then at all.

8748. Why should you go afterwards to tell him you would not accept it?—I did not know what it was for exactly; I thought whether it was not a trap to draw me out.

8749. (*Mr. Welford.*) You said when he held up his hand and showed five fingers you understood he meant money?—Yes; I understood him that; but never said it. Money was never mentioned to me.

8750. Did you not understand that he meant to offer you 5*l.* for your vote?—Yes.

8751. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you not take time to consider whether you would accept it or not?—I took time to consider it, and I would not.

8752. Afterwards you went to Harry Jacobs's house to tell him you would not accept it?—I would not have anything at all to do with it.

8753. Did you go to his house, and ask him whether he really intended what he had said or

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given you to understand?—No; I did not say three words, I think, to him.

8754. Did you not tell him at the same time that you had seen Mr. Ward, and that he had repeated his offer?—No, I never did, because I had not seen Mr. Ward.

8755. Did not Harry Jacobs say to you, "It will be all right"?—He did not.

8756. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you tell Harry Jacobs that if you did not receive the money yourself you could swear with a clear conscience you had not received it?—I did not.

8757. Nor say anything of that kind?—I said, I would receive no money at all.

8758. You told him that on the Sunday?—I told him at the Waggoners' Arms, that I would receive no money at all.

8759. Did you receive the 1*l.* that was left on the mantelpiece?—No; not for nine days or a fortnight afterwards.

8760. You knew it was left there?—The man that it was brought to there chucked it on the table, and said, "Here is a sovereign that is left here;" and I said, "We will spend it."

8761. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You took the money?—I took it up off the table, and said, "We will spend it."

8762. You did not send it back to Jacobs?—No, I did not, because I did not know that Jacobs put it there. The landlady can prove that.

8763. Did you not consider it a great insult that anybody should leave a sovereign there for you to spend?—He did not say it was to spend, or what it was, but chucked the sovereign on the table.

8764. Who did?—Isaac Withers, the landlord.

8765. (*Mr. Welford.*) When was this?—In April.

8766. How long before the election?—On the Friday before.

8767. And the money was spent the same day?—I did not have it for nine days or a fortnight.

8768. You knew it was left there?—I did not know till they said that it was.

8769. Did not Harry Jacobs tell you he had left it there?—No, he did not.

8770. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If George Bowers had offered you 10*l.* for your vote, would you have refused it?—Yes, I would, for the other party, because I never did vote Yellow, and the chief of my customers are Blues.

8771. You would rather vote for the Blue party and get nothing than vote for the Liberal party and get 10*l.*?—I would. I always did, and my father before me.

8772. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you frequently at the Waggoners' Arms with the Blue party?—No.

8773. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know of your wife having received any money?—No, I do not.

G. Shergold.

GEORGE SHERGOLD sworn and examined.

8774. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Cheltenham.

8775. What are you? Are you a freeman of Gloucester?—No.

8776. What are you?—A householder.

8777. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) For what parish are you on the list?—Littleworth.

8778. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—I voted for Price and Monk.

8779. How much did you get for your vote?—Mr. Wilkes promised to forgive me the rent, and give me 30*s.*

8780. Was that a quarter's rent which you owed to his uncle?—Yes.

8781. Was that 4*l.*?—Yes.

8782. Did he give you the 30*s.*?—Yes.

8783. And you have not been called upon to pay the rent?—No.

8784. Were you offered any money on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—No.

8785. Were you offered any money by any other person?—No.

8786. Did you vote in 1857?—No.

8787. You did not vote at the election in 1857?—No; I never voted before this last election.

H. Lane.

HENRY LANE sworn and examined.

8788. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you examined before the Committee of the House of Commons in London?—I was.

8789. Where do you live?—In Gloucester.

8790. Where?—In Saint Catherine Street.

8791. Are you a freeman?—I am.

8792. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

8793. Were you canvassed for your vote?—I was.

8794. For Messrs. Price and Monk?—No.

8795. You were not canvassed?—Not by any one of the members.

8796. Were you not canvassed for your vote by any person for Messrs. Price and Monk?—I was canvassed by a man of the name of Fletcher.

8797. To vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

8798. Did he offer you any money for you vote?—He did.

8799. What did he offer you?—He pulled some gold out in his hand; the quantity was not mentioned, to my knowledge.

8800. What did he say to you?—He canvassed me, and said, that there was so much gold for me if I would vote for Price and Monk, or if I would give Mr. Monk a vote there was so much for me, but I do not know the amount.

8801. How much gold had he in his hand?—I cannot say; I would not swear; but he had gold in his hand, and showed it to me.

8802. Did you receive any money for voting for Sir Robert Carden?—I did not. I received money as a messenger so many days.

8803. Is that what you call being on the Blue committee?—Yes.

8804. What did you receive?—I think it was altogether 2*l.* 16*s.* or 2*l.* 17*s.*; I think that was somewhere about what I received altogether.

8805. How many days were you in attendance?—All the whole time nearly; I was in attendance from the first of it. Three and sixpence a day was what I was paid.

8806. What are you? What do you do when you are not employed on elections?—I go on errands with letters and so on; all within the seven miles.

8807. But when there is no election going on what do you do?—I am a tradesman.

8808. In what trade?—I sell oysters and fish, and other things. I was 33 or 34 years a servant to Mrs. Pitt and Mr. Goodrich; I was 30 years under one lady.

8809. Who is your landlord?—I have no landlord. I have no one but myself. I have no wife nor family.

8810. Have you a cousin of the name of George Lane?—I have a nephew of the name of George Lane; a brother's son.

8811. Did he canvass you for your vote?—No, he did not. He did my son, I believe; but I know nothing at all about my son.

8812. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is your son named Joseph Lane?—No. My name is Henry, and my son's name is Henry; and this is a nephew of mine; a brother's son.

8813. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Are the Commissioners to understand that you received nothing for your vote except the sum of 2*l.* 16*s.* that you were paid as a

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messenger ?—Yes; and never was anything offered me in my life before this time.

8814. Did you vote at the election in 1857 ?—I did.

8815. For whom ?—Mr. Carden.

8816. Did you receive any money at that election ?—Yes; as a messenger for 10 days; 1*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

8817. As a messenger ?—Yes.

8818. You do not perhaps consider that any payment made to you for what you did as a messenger was in the nature of a bribe ?—Certainly not.

8819. If the people who employed you think it was that is a great mistake ?—Yes, it is. I never did take a bribe in my life, and I am not going to in my old years.

8820. If the people who employ you look upon it as a bribe you disagree with them entirely ?—I do disagree with them entirely.

8821. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you consider your employment as a messenger a pretty good job ?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day I do not consider very much.

8822. What did you do as a messenger ?—Go with letters and things, and go wherever they thought proper to send me.

8823. Did you attend at the committee ?—I did, day by day.

8824. And all day ?—Yes; and sometimes till 10 or 11 o'clock at night; when I have got my health I can get a good deal more than 3*s.* 6*d.* a day; but I am sometimes laid up for six or seven weeks at a time with the gout.

G. Huggins.

George Huggins sworn and examined.

8825. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A gardener.

8826. Where do you live ?—At Barnwood.

8827. (*Mr. Welford.*) What parish is that in ?—That is the parish.

8828. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman ?—No.

8829. A householder ?—Yes.

8830. You were bribed by a man of the name of Pickford, were you not ?—Yes.

8831. How much did you receive from him ?—6*l.*

8832. You received from him 6*l.* to give your vote for Messrs. Price and Monk ?—Yes.

8833. And did you vote for them ?—Yes.

8834. Were you offered any money to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

8835. No money at all ?—No.

8836. Were you offered any land if you would vote for him ?—No.

8837. Do you mean to swear that you were not offered any money by any person if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I was not.

8838. Do you know a person of the name of Frankis ?—Yes.

8839. Were you offered any money by him ?—No.

8840. Did he canvass you for your vote?—No. He asked me if I was going to vote for Sir Robert Carden, and that was all.

8841. Was that all he said to you ?—Yes.

8842. He did not offer you any money ?—No.

8843. And he did not hold out any inducement to you to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

8844. He did not say anything to you about any land which you might have if you would do so ?—No, he did not.

8845. You say you received 6*l.* from George Pickford for your vote ?—Yes.

8846. Did you ever tell George Pickford that you had been canvassed by Thomas Frankis, and that Thomas Frankis had offered you 6*l.* if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I did not.

8847. That you swear ?—Yes.

8848. Did you tell him that you had been offered land worth 12*l.* a year for 6*l.* a year if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No; nothing of the sort.

8849. Did you tell any other person anything of that sort ?—No.

8850. That you swear ?—Yes.

8851. Did you vote in 1857 ?—No.

8852. You did not vote at all ?—No.

8853. Is this the first election at which you have voted ?—Yes.

H. Jellyman.

Henry Jellyman sworn and examined.

8854. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

8855. Do you live at Newent ?—Yes.

8856. Is that on the Severn ?—No; on the Ledbury-road.

8857. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

8858. How much did you get for your vote ?—5*l.*

8859. From whom ?—I do not know the man's name.

8860. When did you get it ?—After I voted.

8861. Where was it paid you ?—At Mr. Lovesey's.

8862. Where does Mr. Lovesey live ?—At the Crown and Thistle, Barton Street.

8863. You do not know the man who paid you ?—No, I do not know his name.

8864. Had you promised any person that you would vote for Price and Monk before the election ?—No; not to my recollection.

8865. You say you do not know the person who gave you the 5*l.* ?—No.

8866. How came he to give you 5*l.* ?—He promised me.

8867. Some unknown man had promised it you?—A man I did not know. I knew him by sight, but I did not know his name.

8868. A man you knew by sight, but not by name, promised to give you 5*l.* ?—Yes.

8869. If you would vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

8870. Have you seen that person since ?—Yes.

8871. Is he in court to-day ?—No.

8872. Have you never inquired who he was ?—I have inquired, and heard his name, but I cannot recollect his name. I have heard his name twice or three times, but I cannot recollect his name.

8873. It has gone out of your memory ?—Yes.

8874. When did he promise you that money ?—He promised me that in the Eastgate Street.

8875. How long before the election ?—It was on the election day.

8876. He paid you the money at the Crown and Thistle ?—Yes.

8877. Was the person who promised to pay you a man named Orton ?—I could not swear it. I could tell the man if I saw him. He belongs to the station somewhere.

8878. Were you offered any money by any other person ?—Not to my recollection.

8879. Were you promised any money ?—Not to my recollection.

8880. But refresh your recollection. Were you promised any money if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

8881. Nothing of the sort ?—No.

8882. Nor offered any money ?—Nor offered any money.

8883. Did any person come to you at Newent, and offer you any money ?—No.

8884. Did you vote in 1857 ?—No.

8885. Was this last election the first election at which you voted ?—Yes.

8886. Have you a brother ?—Yes.

8887. Is his name Francis ?—Yes.

8888. Is he here ?—No; he is very ill.

8889. Does he live at the same place that you do ?—No.

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H. Jellyman.

5 Oct. 1859.

8890. Where does he live ?—I cannot tell you ; I do not know.

8891. How do you know that he is ill ?—My mother told me so.

8892. When did your mother tell you ; this morning ?—Yesterday.

8893. Do you know whether your brother voted at the last election ?—Yes.

8894. Who did he vote for ?—The same as myself.

8895. Do you know what he got for his vote ?—I cannot say ; he told me he had the same as I had.

8896. Did he tell you that he had had the same as you had ?—Yes.

8897. Did he say that the money was paid him by Mr. Orton ?—He did not say who.

8898. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you and your brother together when the money was paid ?—No ; he overtook me in Eastgate Street in a cab.

8899. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did your brother vote in 1857, do you know ?—I believe he did.

8900. Did you ever hear from your brother what he had at that election ?—I believe it was 5*l.* ; I am not quite sure.

8901. Who did your brother vote for in 1857 ?—He voted for Sir Robert Carden.

8902. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you know a man named Cromwell ?—Yes.

8903. Did he tell you that he had received any money at the last election ?—No.

8904. Or that he had been promised any ?—No. I know several Cromwells.

8905. Are they voters ?—I do not know whether there is e'er a one that has a vote.

G. Danter.

GEORGE DANTER sworn and examined.

8906. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman ?—No.

8907. A householder ?—A householder.

8908. You keep carriages for hire, do you not ?—No ; I do not now. I did.

8909. You did at the election ?—One carriage and one horse.

8910. Did you at that time occupy stables belonging to Jefferson Bryon ?—Yes, I did.

8911. Were you engaged by the Blue party to convey persons about canvassing ?—No, I was not. My brother was. I was at home ill.

8912. Was it your horse and carriage that was engaged ?—Yes ; but it was done unknown to me.

8913. How many days was your horse and carriage so employed ?—Two days.

8914. Were you paid for that ?—Yes ; I was paid for it.

8915. Did Jefferson Bryon tell you you must consider your horse and carriage engaged for the Liberal party ?—During the election, and for no one else, and for nothing else.

8916. What money did you receive ?—Who from ?

8917. How much have you received from Mr. Jefferson Bryon ?—Nothing more than I borrowed of him.

8918. How much have you received from the Liberal party altogether ?—Nothing.

8919. You have received nothing ?—No. I want it very bad. I have had nothing at all ; no more than what I borrowed to pay my expenses.

8920. What is the amount of charge or claim you have against the Liberal party ?—Thirty-one guineas. I was at work night and day. I was 26 days and nights and never went in a pair of sheets.

8921. You have received some portion of that money, surely ?—No, I have not ; not a farthing ; no more than what I have borrowed.

8922. Did you not say before the Committee of the House of Commons that you had had some of it ?—I had borrowed some.

8923. Did you not say you had drawn some money ?—I had borrowed it on account ; that was all.

8924. Did you consider that the money you had borrowed was in respect of that claim of thirty-one guineas ?—It was to be deducted out of it when the bill was settled.

8925. Who did you get it from ?—Mr. Bryon.

8926. How much did you get ?—I cannot say how much it was altogetner ; I dare say it ran to 4*l.*, or something like that ; we will say 4*l.* ; that was as much as ever it was.

8927. That you borrowed ?—That I borrowed ; it was at different times ; but I never kept no account of it.

8928. Did you vote for Messrs. Price and Monk ?—I did.

8929. Did you look upon the employment of your horse and carriage as an inducement to you to vote for them ?—As I was at a Liberal house, and he had engaged me during the election, and promised to make a man of me, of course I went that way ; but he is trying to make a mouse of me in some way or another ; he is trying to ruin me as fast as he can.

8930. If your horse and carriage had not been engaged for the Liberal party, would you have voted for Price and Monk ?—No, I should not.

8931. Were you offered any money by the other side ?—No ; not a farthing.

8932. Who engaged your horse and carriage the first few days for the Blue party ?—It was engaged of my brother. I believe it was Mr. Whithorn. That is what he told me, however ; but I was ill in bed, for I had a cold, and my eyesight went from me.

8933. Did Mr. Whithorn offer to engage your fly, and give you something else, if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—He never said a word to me about it ; he did not.

8934. Do you know whether anything of that sort was said to your brother ?—No, I cannot say. He never said anything of the sort to me about it ; in fact he was drunk all day, and knocked the horse and fly pretty well all to pieces. He went about with a lot of wild fellows with short pipes in their mouths. I know it did me a good deal of harm. I wished there had never been an election, and I hope there will never be another.

8935. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is your brother's name ?—Thomas.

8936. Where does he live ?—He has no residence.

8937. Where is he to be found ?—At the Berkeley Arms. He is a sort of tap-boy, but he is rather old for that.

8938. Did you drive Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes, I did. I brought him from his house down to the committee-room four times, and I charged him four hours for it ; I charged him 10*s.*

8939. Half-a-crown a time ?—Half-a-crown an hour ; that is our charge.

8940. How long did it take you to go from his house to the committee-room ?—He kept me waiting at his house before I brought him down, and if we break over an hour we charge half-a-crown for it.

8941. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was the thirty-one guineas you charged for the use of your carriage and horse, or did it include your own services as well ?—It included my services and expenses.

8942. What did you do ?—Went about all over Gloucester, pretty well ; anywhere within the limits of where any votes was to be got.

8943. With the carriage and horse ?—Yes.

8944. For two days ?—For twenty-six days.

8945. I thought you said two days ?—That was for the Blue party. That was the first two days in the month.

8946. (*Mr. Welford*) Did you ever earn as much money in the same time before ?—Sometimes we earn a good deal in a day ; it all depends on circumstances.

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G. Danter.

5 Oct. 1859.

If we have got airing work to do we charge half-a-crown an hour; and if we go by mileage we charge a shilling a mile, and half fare back; but if we are kept waiting we charge half-a-crown an hour.

8947. You had only one horse?—Yes; and he worked twenty-six days every day and night. I only hire it now; I was obliged to sell him.

8948. Supposing you to let your horse and carriage by the day, what should you ask for it?—I should charge by the hour for it.

8949. Suppose you let it by the day for the exclusive use of one person, what should you ask for it?—I should charge by the hour for it.

8950. Suppose you let it by the day for the exclusive use of one person, what should you charge?—1*l.* 5*s.*

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called, and further examined.

8951. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you prepared some lists which you were requested to hand in to the Commissioners?—I was required to make out a list of persons I had seen in the committee-room in the Westgate Street. I have made out such a list as well as I can remember; there may be some inaccuracies in it, but I have done it as well as I could; it includes upwards of 120 names. (*The witness delivers in the list.*)

8952. Have you also prepared another paper?—Yes. The Commissioners will remember that a portion of the money I had received amounting to about 149*l.* I was unable to account for. Some items have been put in since. There was one put in by Orpin yesterday; a payment for refreshments, 25*l.*; William Probert, junior, for money expended during the election, about 10*l.*; Monk, a sum which he paid to Stephens, 10*l.* In his evidence he accounted for 10*l.*; and paid to canvassers at different times during the election about 20*l.*, and for himself 45*l.* Those were sums that he accounted for as having received from me in his examination. William Stephens in the course of his examination accounted for having received 10*l.*

8953. Do you say that those payments were made by Brewer Monk with money which you had given to him?—Yes.

8954. (*Mr. Welford.*) Beyond the money you mentioned before as having given to him?—Yes. It is part of the 149*l.* which was unaccounted for.

8955. Have you since gone into an examination of any papers or books which enable you to say that the sum of 45*l.* was expended in small sums?—Yes; it was within a pound, one way or the other.

8956. Have you gone through the matter with Mr. Brewer Monk since?—Yes; I have talked it over with him.

8957. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is there any other list or account that you wish to put in?—No.

8958. Does the list which you have put in contain the names of the messengers?—Any name I knew I put down. It contains all classes of persons that I knew by name.

8959. But you saw other persons there whose names you do not now know, but whose faces you know?—Yes; other persons whose faces I am perfectly familiar with.

G. Danter.

GEORGE DANTER'S examination continued.

8960. (*Mr. Vaughan*) You said that you had only received 4*l.* on account of your bill?—Somewhere about 4*l.* I borrowed on account.

8961. That is the whole sum I understood you to say you have received?—As far as I recollect.

8962. Did you not yourself sign an order requesting Mr. Smith to pay a sum of money to Mr. Jefferson Bryon for you?—No.

8963. You never signed it?—No.

8964. You never signed any order?—No order at all.

8965. Do you write?—Yes.

8966. Look at that (*handing a paper to the witness*). Is that your handwriting?—No, it is not mine.

8967. Is that signature yours?—No; that is not my writing.

8968. (*Mr. Fitzgerald*) You swear that?—I will swear it.

8969. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I will just read this over: "Berkeley Arms, Gloucester, May 28, 1859. Thomas "Smith, Esquire. Sir, You will be pleased to pay the "amount of my account due by the Committee of "Messrs. Price and Monk, namely, 27*l.* 15*s.*, to "Mr. J. Bryon of the Berkeley Arms." That is signed "George Danter." Having had that read to you, do you now mean to swear that you never signed any paper requesting that money to be paid to Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—No, not to my knowledge.

8970. Not to your knowledge?—No.

8971. If you did sign it you must have known it?—No, I did not sign it.

8972. You swear that it is not your handwriting?—It is not my handwriting.

8973. It is witnessed by W. Henley?—He will say anything.

8974. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you ever hear of that document before?—No; I never heard of it before in my life. They promised faithfully to get me my money, and they kept saying it was all right; and after letting the thing run on they brought in a bill against me that swallowed the horse and fly all up together.

8975. Did you owe Mr. Jefferson Bryon anything?—Of course I owed him, because I borrowed money of him; and the rent of the stables.

8976. How much was the rent?—I cannot exactly say. I can tell you if you can reckon it up.

8977. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was your rent?—Four shillings a week from the 5th of April; at least the 5th of April was on a Tuesday, and it was the Saturday week previous to that that I went on his premises as a tenant; then I paid the first four weeks; and then he said, "Oh, it does not matter about pay-"ing any more; let it run on."

8978. How much did you owe him?—From then till the Monday before the examination, the Friday before the examination in London; so you can reckon that up. I be no scholar.

8979. From when?—From Saturday week before the 5th of April. I do not know how many weeks it was, for I cannot reckon it up myself.

8980. Was that all the money you owed to him?—So far as I know. He brought in a bill for gin and beer and brandy, and tobacco and cigars, and all sorts of things, and put me into the court last Thursday week for it; but the judge nonsuited him, because he said it was an unjust bill. There was no dates. One day he brings me in a charge of 18*s.* or 19*s.* for drink when at that time I was at Painswick with Mr. Monk.

8981. You say you did not sign this document?—No, I did not.

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W. Henley.

5 Oct. 1859.

Mr. WILLIAM HENLEY called, and further examined.

8982. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have heard what the witness has said as to this paper?—Yes; the body of it is in my handwriting; I wrote it at his request.

8983. The body of the note is in your handwriting?—Yes.

8984. Who signed it?—I perfectly well remember the circumstance.

8985. Who signed it?—George Danter. I had previously written his name, "George Danter, his mark;" but he said he could write, and then he wrote his own name, and that (*referring to the paper*) is his signature, I swear.

8986. Did you write the body of the paper in his presence?—Yes.

8987. And at his request?—Yes; on the day it bears date, and I handed it over to Bryon. The signature "George Danter" was written in the presence of both of us.

8988. Was Jefferson Bryon present at the time?—Yes; it was between 12 and 1 o'clock in the day.

8989. How came George Danter to be asked to sign the paper?—If I recollect the thing correctly, he wished to have more money; and Bryon, I believe, refused to advance him any further sum unless he got some authority to receive it from Price and Monk's committee, so that the money might be paid over to him, Jefferson Bryon; and by his (Danter's) instructions, and by Bryon's wish, I drew the note out in the smoking-room of the Berkeley Arms, in the presence of Danter and Bryon.

8990. Do you know why the money was to be paid to Bryon?—I am pretty well sure that the reason why the money was to be paid to Bryon was that Danter was indebted to Bryon.

8991. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was any money paid at the time to Danter?—Not in my presence.

8992. Did Mr. Bryon say how much Danter was indebted to him?—No; but he repeatedly came to me for my advice as to whether he might advance Danter any more money or not.

8993. Was anything said as to the state of the accounts between Bryon and Danter?—Not in my hearing.

8994. It was simply a direction that Bryon should receive from the committee what was due to Danter?—Yes. Danter claimed 31*l.*; but he said to me, some days previously, that he would leave it to me to say what was fair and reasonable. I saw Mr. Smith, and told him the man had worked very hard, and that I thought 27*l.* would be a very fair sum for Danter to receive.

8995. With Danter's consent, did you agree to settle the bill for 27*l.* odd?—Yes.

(*The Witness Danter.*) They wanted to collar the rest; that is where it is. You (the Commissioners) see through it as plain as possible.

8996. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Henley.*) He admitted that he owed Mr. Bryon money?—Yes, I understood that he wanted more money from Bryon, and that Bryon refused to advance him any further sum until he had given him an authority to receive the money due to him from the committee of Price and Monk.

(*The Witness Danter.*) I never gave him no authority at all. I merely asked him to let me have the money, for I wanted it to pay my rent, and to go on in a straightforward way. I never authorized him to make that bill out, nor Bryon.

8997. (*Mr. Vaughan to Danter.*) I ask you once more, did you write those two words, "George Danter"?—Not to my recollection.

8998. You are placing yourself in a situation of great peril, because, according to the evidence of Mr. Henley, and especially if that evidence is confirmed by Jefferson Bryon, you certainly stand before this court almost convicted of perjury?—Yes, undoubtedly.

8999. Now I warn you, and ask you the question again, do you mean to assert that you did not sign this document, and put your name to it?—Not to my recollection.

9000. Do you swear that you did not do it?—No.

9001. You will not swear that you did not put your name to it?—I will swear I never put my name to that bill.

9002. You swear that you did not write those two words?—No.

(*Mr. Henley.*)—I should make this observation: You see I wrote the words, "George Danter, his mark," and he made the observation at the time that he could write, and then signed his name.

9003. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know whether George Danter was sober or drunk at the time?—He may have been a little the worse for liquor, but not so as not perfectly to understand what he was doing.

(*The Witness Danter.*)—I must have been very drunk if I did that, to take 27*l.* when I had 31 guineas coming to me.

A. T. Baily.

ALFRED THOMAS BAYLY sworn and examined.

9004. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you serve Mr. Gregory with a summons to attend here?—Yes; I served him down at the docks.

9005. What is he?—I think he is a clerk or foreman there to Mr. Phillpotts.

9006. What is his Christian name?—I have not got his Christian name.

9007. At what time did you serve him?—About ten o'clock this morning; a little before ten, or about ten.

9008. With a summons?—Yes.

9009. To attend when?—This morning.

9010. To attend here to-day?—Yes.

9011. Did he say he would attend?—He said he would attend; he said he should be up in about an hour, or something of that sort.

9012. Did he give you any reason why he could not attend?—No; he did not state any reason why he could not attend.

9013. Where was it that you served him at the docks?—In Mr. Phillpotts's warehouse.

9014. Who is the next person you served?—Payne.

9015. What is his Christian name?—I do not know. He is clerk or foreman to Mr. Price.

9016. Where did you serve him?—At the docks; Mr. Price's lower yard.

9017. Did he give any reason why he could not attend?—No; he said he should be here.

9018. And was it at Mr. Price's that you served him?—Yes; at Mr. Price's yard; the lower yard at the docks.

9019. With the summons?—With the summons.

9020. To attend here when?—To attend here this morning. Ten o'clock was specified in the summons. I do not think it was ten o'clock when I served him; it might be about ten.

J. Mills.

JOHN MILLS sworn and examined.

9021. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Worcester Street.

9022. What are you?—A painter.

9023. How much money did you receive during the election?—6*l.*

9024. Was that from Mr. Robinson?—Yes.

9025. For what purpose?—I took it to James Pegler of Brother's Place.

9026. Did you receive 6*l.* from Mr. Robinson?—Yes.

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J. Mills.
5 Oct. 1859.

9027. For the purpose of bribery ?—Yes.

9028. Did you tell Mr. Robinson who it was that you wanted to bribe ?—Yes.

9029. Whose name did you mention ?—Pegler's.

9030. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is it James Pegler ?—I think it is. I do not know his Christian name exactly.

9031. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is James Pegler ?—He is a garden-stuff man, and takes out vegetables.

9032. Does he take out vegetables to sell ?—Yes.

9033. Had you agreed beforehand with James Pegler that he should vote for Monk and Price for 6*l.* ?—Yes.

9034. And you gave him that money on that condition ?—Yes ; I gave it to his wife. He knew that I gave it to his wife.

9035. How did he vote ?—For Price and Monk.

9036. Is that the only sum of money that you gave to any person during the election for a vote ?—It is.

9037. Did you offer any money to any other person ?—No.

9038. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is Pegler a working gardener ?—Yes ; he goes about with a donkey and cart.

9039. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is it Thomas Pegler ?—I do not know ; it might be Thomas, for all I know.

9040. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you known that man long ?—I have known him these years, but not to recollect his Christian name.

9041. Did you canvass him ?—Yes ; I went and asked him for his vote.

9042. And then he told you that he wanted 6*l.* ?—Yes.

9043. He would not have voted without ?—No, I do not think he would.

9044. Do you know how he had voted before ?—For Carden.

9045. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did he ever tell you whether he had had any money for voting in 1857 ?—No ; I believe he had.

WILLIAM COLE sworn and examined.

W. Cole.

9046. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Northgate Street.

9047. What are you ?—A tailor.

9048. You received some money at the last election for the purpose of bribery, did you not ?—Yes.

9049. How much did you receive ?—8*l.*

9050. Who was that from ?—2*l.* of Mr. Hutton, and 6*l.* of Mr. Roberts.

9051. (*Mr. Welford.*) What Mr. Roberts ?—The attorney.

9052. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you do with it ?—I gave 2*l.* to Mr. Faville.

9053. Was that for his vote ?—It was.

9054. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9055. What did you do with the other 6*l.* ?—I gave 5*l.* to Mrs. Jennings, the wife of George Jennings.

9056. For the vote of George Jennings ?—Yes.

9057. Where does George Jennings live ?—In Northgate Street.

9058. For the vote of George Jennings ?—Yes.

9059. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9060. Had you seen Jennings before you paid the money ?—I had.

9061. Had you agreed with him for his vote ?—I had agreed with his wife.

9062. Did you agree with him ?—No.

9063. Had you said nothing to him about his vote ?—I understood, the week previous to the election, that he was going into Wiltshire to work, and that if in case he was required to attend to vote for Monk and Price he should require his expenses to be paid ; but, after all, he did not go into Wiltshire ; and his wife led me to understand that a little money would be useful to them, and I was to get as much for them as I could.

9064. Did Jennings tell you that, that you were to get as much money as you could ?—No.

9065. Only his wife ?—Only his wife.

9066. Had you any conversation with Jennings about his vote afterwards ?—No.

9067. You had no conversation with him about his vote before he polled ?—No.

9068. But he did poll ?—Yes.

9069. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9070. Did you give or offer any money to any other person ?—No.

9071. What did you do with the other 1*l.* ?—I spent it in treating different parties.

9072. Were they voters ?—Some of them may have been and some not.

9073. You treated persons some of whom were voters and some not ?—Yes.

9074. Are you a voter ?—No, I am not.

9075. Did any other money pass through your hands besides the 8*l.* ?—No other money.

9076. Do you know of any other cases of bribery besides those you have mentioned ?—I do not.

9077. Neither on one side nor on the other ?—No.

9078. You have no direct knowledge of any other cases ?—No.

9079. What indirect knowledge have you of any such cases ?—I have heard different people spoken of who might require bribery.

9080. But nothing of the kind came within your own knowledge ?—No, nothing at all.

9081. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is Jennings ?—A painter.

THOMAS PUGH sworn and examined.

T. Pugh.

9082. (*Mr. Vaughan*) Where do you live ?—At No. 2, St. Aldate Street.

9083. What are you ?—A tailor.

9084. Are you a voter ?—I am.

9085. You received some money, did you not ?—I did.

9086. From whom did you receive it ?—Mr. Roberts.

9087. Mr. Roberts, the solicitor ?—Yes.

9088. How much did you receive from him ?—6*l.* 10*s.*

9089. For the purpose of bribery ?—No ; not the whole of it.

9090. You received 6*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Roberts ?—I did.

9091. Was part of it for bribery ?—Yes.

9092. How did you spend it ?—I paid a person that came from Pitchcomb 30*s.* for his expenses.

9093. Where is Pitchcomb ?—About two miles distant from Stroud.

9094. Who was that person ?—John Tipping.

9095. Was that for his expenses ?—Yes.

9096. Was it not for his vote ?—Certainly not.

9097. How far is Pitchcomb from Gloucester ?—His residence is more than seven miles from Gloucester.

9098. For what expenses was he paid that money ?—His expenses in coming in the afternoon before the election.

9099. His expenses coming seven miles ?—He would go to Stroud, and then from Stroud to Gloucester.

9100. Was that 30*s.* all you gave him ?—Yes. I do not consider it a bribe in that case, because he had always voted Liberal. In 1857 he voted one for Sir Robert Carden.

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T. Pugh.
5 Oct. 1859.

9101. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he?—A cabinet maker.

9102. A journeyman?—Yes.

9103. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And because he had always voted Liberal till the election of 1857, when he voted for Sir Robert Carden, you think that the payment of 30*s.* to him was not for his vote?—I do. I wrote to him to know how he intended to vote, and he said for Price and Monk.

9104. Did he vote for them?—Yes.

9105. How did you spend the other 5*l.*—3*l.* 10*s.*—I gave to another man named Brabant.

9106. What is his Christian name?—Alfred.

9107. Where does he live?—At what is called Wellington Terrace. I think he is considered an out-voter, or his residence makes him an out-voter, though it is near the city.

9108. What is he?—A tailor.

9109. What did you give him that money for?—For his vote.

9110. He voted for Price and Monk, did he?—He did.

9111. To whom besides did you give any money?—To nobody.

9112. You had got 1*l.* left?—1*l.* 10*s.* I laid that out for parties during the election.

9113. (*Mr. Welford.*) In treating?—A glass with one and a glass with another that I met.

9114. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you treat voters?—Yes; I should think so.

9115. Yourself among the rest?—Yes.

9116. Did you tell Mr. Roberts at the time you got the 6*l.* 10*s.* from him, that you wanted 3*l.* 10*s.* for that man Brabant?—Well, Sir, I cannot say whether the amount was named.

9117. Was it a general statement that you wanted money to give to voters?—Yes.

9118. You knew that he had voted for Carden in 1857?—Yes; and I will tell you the reason why he voted for him. His landlord at that time was Mr. Hooper, one of our body corporate at the present time. I asked him why he had voted for Sir Robert Carden, knowing his principles to be Liberal. He said, "I will tell you what it is. Mr. Hooper has been taunting me a great many times to give him a vote; and I told him in 1857,—no, the election previous to 1857,—that I would at another time." That was the inducement that he told me; that was the reason why he did vote for Sir Robert Carden; and he told me more than that; that young Mr. Hooper went to the shop where he was at work, and there he solicited him very strongly.

9119. It was to oblige his landlord?—Yes.

9120. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did you first canvass Tipping?—In the first place he was canvassed through Brewer Monk. I did not consider that I canvassed him particularly; I merely sent to him, knowing him well.

9121. You knew him well, and wrote to him?—Yes; he is a relative of mine.

9122. You wrote to him to come to vote?—I merely wrote to him to let him know how election matters was going on, and when he should come.

9123. How long was that before the election?—I could not say; some days previous to the election.

9124. Did you receive any reply from him?—Yes.

9125. What did he say?—That he would come the evening before, and stay at my house.

9126. Did he say anything about expenses?—He did; that is why I asked for it.

9127. Did he say anything about them in his letter?—No: I merely suggested it in this way. I said "Now what do you expect are your expenses?" He said, "I cannot tell; but" (he says) "do you think "30*s.* is out of the way?" I said, "I do not know it "is; I will ask for it."

9128. He did not say he had spent 30*s.*?—No; he has told me since that it cost him about very near that.

9129. Was it before he voted that he was paid the 30*s.*?—Yes; on the evening before.

WILLIAM WINGATE sworn and examined.

W. Wingate.

9130. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

9131. Where?—In Hampden Place.

9132. And you are a voter, I suppose?—Yes.

9133. Did you receive some money?—I did.

9134. How much did you receive?—5*l.*

9135. From whom?—Joseph Moss.

9136. A builder?—Yes.

9137. To bribe whom?—William Smith. I met Smith a day or two before, and I said, "Smith, which "way are you going to vote this time?" He said, "I "do not know; I have not made up my mind yet." I said, "I suppose you want a little sugar." "Well" (he said), "I do not know; I have been offered 5*l.* by the "other side." I said, "If you will go for two or three "pounds, I think I can get you that, or perhaps 5*l.* I "dare say we can give you as much as they can." He said, "I do not want so much as that; but if you "can get me a few pounds I shall be glad." I saw Mr. Moss, and he said, "You had better take 5*l.*" I takes 5*l.*, and I sees Smith. I says, "Well, now "about the price?" "Well" (he says), "I shall not "go for the other side, but I could have had 5*l.* if I "would have gone and polled a plumper for Mr. "Carden." I says, "Will three satisfy you?" He says, "Yes." I then gives him three, and he puts it in his pocket, and goes and gets a drop of rum upon the strength of it. The other 2*l.* was rather tenacious, and it adhered to my fingers, and I put it in my pocket, but it did not remain there long, for I got knocking about during the polling day, and got home towards 11 o'clock, minus a hat, and with only 7*s.* left. I turned out again, and found that it was not all gold that glittered. I had some gold in the morning, but it was all gone but 7*s.*; the rest I had spent at different places; the Saracen's Head, the Fountain, and different other places.

9138. You received 5*l.* from Joseph Moss?—Yes.

9139. To bribe William Smith?—Yes.

9140. How much did you give to William Smith altogether?—Three sovereigns.

9141. Did he vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

9142. And it was for his vote that you gave him the money?—It was.

9143. Did Smith say by whom he had been offered 5*l.* to vote on the other side?—He did not. When I went to see him he was gone; and they said that a party had got him, treating him; and when I saw him afterwards he said he had been treated; but I did not see who the party was.

9144. What is he?—A sawyer.

9145. A freeman?—No; a householder.

9146. Where does he live?—In Queen Street.

9147. You say the other 2*l.* went in treating?—Yes; first one and then another.

9148. Were they voters?—Some of them were voters and some were not voters.

9149. Did you buy a new hat yourself?—No; 7*s.* was all I had got; I was minus the hat.

9150. You were treating voters generally?—Most of them were voters. After they had polled they would say, "Just let us go and have a glass;" and I would give them a glass.

9151. At what public houses?—We were about three hours at one stretch at the Fountain, and at the finish-up we were about four hours at the Saracen's Head; that is where I lost my hat. I was at the Black Dog. I dare say I was in a dozen houses. I was at the Bull's Head too, and the Queen's Head, and there were a great many houses I know that I called upon.

9152. Was it beer and spirits that you had?—Yes; and brandy and water; there was very little beer.

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W. Wingate.
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9153. Spirits and tobacco?—Yes, principally.

9154. Is that all the money that you had?—Yes, that is all.

9155. Do you know of any cases of bribery yourself that occurred?—No; I had very little to do with them this time; I had knocked about a bit before, but I had got tired of it.

9156. Did you hear of any other persons that were bribed during the election?—No, I did not.

WILLIAM PAYNE sworn and examined.

W. Payne.

9157. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A clerk.

9158. Were do you live?—In the Southgate Street.

9159. What money did you receive during the last election?—I had 10*l.* from Mr. Robinson.

9160. Mr. Thomas Robinson?—Yes.

9161. And how much from any other person?—I had 10*l.* from Mr. Bryon.

9162. Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—Yes.

9163. Was that all the money you received?—That is all I received.

9164. What did you do with it?—I bribed one man, and the rest I spent in treating.

9165. Who did you bribe?—A man of the name of Allen.

9166. What is his Christian name?—Thomas, I believe.

9167. Where does he live?—He was living at the Island at the time I saw him; he is living in Southgate Street now, I believe.

9168. What was he?—A boatman.

9169. What did you give him?—6*l.*; 5*l.* as a bribe, and 1*l.* to pay his expenses; he had to leave his boat up the country, and come down here.

9170. You gave him 5*l.* as a bribe for his vote?—Yes; for Price and Monk.

9171. And 1*l.* for expenses?—Yes.

9172. To get some person to attend to his boats?—Yes.

9173. Did you tell Mr. Robinson at the time you obtained that money from him, that you wanted it to bribe Allen?—I told him I wanted to make use of it for this man; that I had got him right for the money.

9174. Did you mention Allen's name?—No; I had the money from him to make use of for any person I wanted it for.

9175. Did you mention the man's name to him?—No.

9176. Is he a householder or a freeman?—A householder, I believe.

9177. Then you spent 14*l.* in treating?—Yes.

9178. Who did you treat?—I treated any one that came near me for weeks before the election, and up to the election night.

9179. Did you treat any one, whether Blue or Yellow?—I treated voters and non-voters, in the houses where the Yellows were supposed to attend.

9180. I suppose you confined your favours to the voters?—I did as near as I could.

9181. (*Mr. Welford.*) How long before the election?—I cannot say to a few days; a fortnight or three weeks before the election. I was out of pocket, and reimbursed myself a part of it.

9182. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you mention the names of any persons you treated?—I cannot remember their names. Sometimes when I was in the houses a man would come to me, and say, "Now, master, give me half a gallon of beer," and I would give it to him. I am in connexion with the docks, and the men know me there, and would very often come and ask me to give them beer, but I cannot tell who they were.

9183. Are you a voter yourself?—Yes.

9184. At what houses did you spend money?—At the Bolt, at Jeffs' in the Island, and at Bryon's; those are the three houses that I generally attended.

9185. Who keeps the Bolt?—I believe his name is Jenkins.

9186. What house does Jeffs keep?—The Coopers' Arms, I believe.

9187. Was Jenkins of the Bolt a voter?—I believe he was.

9188. Was Jeffs of the Cooper's Arms a voter?—No. I went and treated men that I met when they asked me.

9189. Did you spend money at the Bolt with any object of inducing the landlord to vote for Price and Monk?—I did; I hoped that he would do so, but he did not.

9190. Did you spend money there with the intention of influencing his mind?—I did not tell him so.

9191. But that was your object?—That was my object.

9192. Did you offer any other money to any other person?—No.

9193. Are you cognizant of any other cases of bribery?—No.

9194. (*Mr. Welford.*) You began to spend money before you received it?—Yes.

9195. How long before?—I cannot tell to a few days; it may be fortnight or three weeks.

9196. You began to spend money on voters before you received it?—Yes; so as to keep them together.

9197. How much had you spent before you received anything back again?—Between three and four pounds, I should say, at a rough guess.

JOHN GOOLD sworn and examined.

J. Goold.

9198. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Westgate Street.

9199. Are you a currier?—I am.

9200. You received some money?—I did.

9201. How much did you receive?—£8, I believe.

9202. From whom?—Mr. Roberts.

9203. From Mr. Roberts, the solicitor?—Yes.

9204. To give to whom?—I handed it over to Mr. Biggs.

9205. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it given to you for that purpose?—No; it was not given to me for that purpose.

9206. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it given to you for the purpose of bribery?—It was.

9207. When you received the money from Mr. Roberts did you tell him for whose vote you wanted it?—I do not think I did.

9208. Had you made an agreement with the person to whom you were to give the money?—No; I gave it to Mr. Biggs.

9209. Is that Mr. Thomas Biggs?—Mr. Biggs, the tobacconist; I forget his Christian name. It was not for his vote, of course.

9210. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did you give it to him for?—He asked me for some money, and I gave it him.

9211. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How came you to receive the 8*l.* from Mr. Roberts?—I asked him for it.

9212. Had you not at the time when you asked Mr. Roberts for that 8*l.* some person in your mind that you wanted to bribe?—It was for a bribe; but I never saw the man, and do not know him.

9213. Who mentioned the circumstance to you; was it Mr. Biggs?—No; it was not Mr. Biggs. I believe it was some gentleman at the Lower George; I do not know who.

9214. How came you to give the money to Mr. Biggs?—He asked me for it.

9215. Did he ask for it for the person for whose vote you had previously got the money from Mr. Roberts?—No. Before I had seen Mr. Biggs, the man I intended the money for was polled.

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J. Goold.
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9216. Do you know who he polled for?—I think for Price and Monk.

9217. What was his name?—I think his name was Ballinger

9218. Where does he live?—I am sure I do not know; I never saw the man. I was merely asked to get some money, and I said I would try and get it.

9219. Who asked you to get it?—I could not say who it was.

9220. Was it a sort of chance medley conversation?—It was. The man was waiting to poll, I believe.

9221. You found when you got the money that it was not wanted, because the man had polled?—Yes.

9222. And then you gave the money to Mr. Biggs?—Yes.

9223. Do you know to whom Mr. Biggs gave the money?—No, I do not.

9224. Did you offer any money to any person for his vote?—No, I think not.

9225. Did you canvass any other person, and ask any other person for his vote?—I may have done so.

9226. Did you offer any money to any persons for their votes?—No, I believe not.

9227. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you promise anything?—No.

9228. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that the only part you took in the transactions which took place at the election in 1859?—As far as bribery, I think it is.

9229. Did you treat any persons?—I may have done that.

9230. Did you treat to any extent?—Certainly not.

9231. Did you treat any person with a view to influence his vote?—Not that I recollect.

9232. Are you cognisant of any other cases of bribery?—Not of my own knowledge.

9233. Have you heard of other cases besides those you have mentioned?—No, I think not.

9234. Do you know of any cases of bribery on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—No.

9235. (*Mr. Welford.*) You had had no personal communication with Ballinger at all, had you?—I never saw him. I do not know the man.

9236. All you know about it is that you were told, in a chance conversation, that he wanted some money?—Yes.

9237. And that he would not vote unless he had it?—Yes.

9238. And when you had got the money for him, you found that he had polled?—Yes.

J. Gregory.

JOHN GREGORY sworn and examined.

9239. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—Foreman to Mr. Philpotts.

9240. Where do you live?—In Parliament Street, Gloucester.

9241. Are you a voter?—Yes.

9242. What money did you receive?—£8.

9243. From whom?—From Mr. George Ball, to give to Mr. Wright, the chinaman.

9244. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does Wright live?—He lives in Barton Street, at present; but he lived in Southgate Street at that time.

9245. Is he a freeman?—No; a householder.

9246. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Ball tell you to give the money to Wright?—Yes.

9247. Did you give it him?—Yes.

9248. For his vote?—Yes.

9249. For his vote for Monk and Price?—Yes.

9250. Was that the whole sum that you had in your hands for the purposes of bribery at the last election?—Yes.

9251. Did you offer any money to any person for his vote?—No.

9252. Did you treat any person?—No. I believe Mr. Ball, in his statement yesterday, said that he gave me that 5*l.* I saw him afterwards, and he found that that was a mistake.

9253. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you canvassed Wright before?—I asked him who he meant to vote for, and found that he had not made up his mind, and I found that several of the Tory party had been there.

9254. He told you so?—Yes.

9255. Did he say that he had had any offer from them for his vote?—Yes.

9256. What did he say they had offered?—Different sums; 5*l.*, and in one case 10*l.*

9257. Who did he say had offered him those sums?—He said that Mr. Isaac James of the Talbot Inn had offered him 10*l.*

9258. To vote for whom?—To vote for Mr. Carden.

9259. And then did you offer him something?—He said he had been tempted by the Tory party; and I asked him what he wanted, and he said eight pounds.

9260. To vote for the Liberal candidates?—Yes.

9261. And then you got the 8*l.* to induce him to vote for them?—Yes.

9262. Did you tell Mr. Ball for whom you wanted it?—Yes.

9263. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say he told you he had been offered 10*l.* by Mr. James?—Yes; the landlord of the Talbot Inn in Southgate Street.

9264. Was that the only person by whom he said he had been offered money?—No.

9265. Did he mention the name of Mr. Hanman?—He did not say Mr. Hanman had offered to pay him any money, but that Mr. Hanman had offered to pay his quarter's back rent.

9266. What Mr. Hanman was that?—Mr. Hanman, the grocer in the Southgate Street.

9267. Did he say how much that was?—£6.

9268. If he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9269. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he tell you any other offers that had been made to him?—Yes; he said that Mr. Brimmell, a rope maker, had offered him 5*l.*

9270. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9271. Did he tell you the name of any other person who had offered him money?—Yes; Mr. Stamper.

9272. What is his Christian name?—He is foreman to Messrs. Barkworth and Spalding, the timber merchants.

9273. He said he had offered him how much?—£5.

9274. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9275. Can you name any other?—Yes; Mr. Maysey, the hairdresser.

9276. What had he offered him?—£5.

9277. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9278. Did he mention any other offer that had been made to him?—He did not mention any other offer to me.

9279. When did you pay him the money; before he voted or after?—Not till after he had voted.

9280. Have you any other statement to make?—Yes. Mr. Wright also saw Mr. Stamper pay a Mr. Fletcher, a labourer at Mr. Teend's, the rope-maker, 5*l.* to vote for Mr. Carden.

9281. Did he tell you anything else?—No.

9282. Do you know any other cases of bribery?—No, I do not.

9283. Do you know anything about the previous election of 1857?—No.

J. P. Jeffs.

JAMES PENDRELL JEFFS sworn and examined.

9284. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a carver and gilder?—Yes.

9285. Living where?—In Southgate Street.

9286. Are you a voter?—Yes.

9287. A freeman or householder?—I am a freeman.

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9288. How much money did you receive ?—£22.

9289. For the purpose of bribery ?—Yes.

9290. From whom did you receive it ?—£15. from Mr. Thomas Robinson, 5*l.* of John Ayres, and 2*l.* of George Vaughan.

9291. How did you spend it ?—I gave some to William Wellstead of Half Street.

9292. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he ?—A carpenter.

9293. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is he a freeman ?—Yes.

9294. Of what parish ?—I do not know the parish.

9295. How much did you give him ?—£6.

9296. For his vote ?—Yes.

9297. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9298. Now, the next ?—Thomas Lapington of Alvin Street 5*l.*

9299. For his vote ?—Yes.

9300. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9301. What is Thomas Lapington ?—He is a butcher.

9302. Now, the next ?—Mr. Roberts, the landlord of the Albion Hotel, 5*l.* for his ostler, George Ireland.

9303. To give to George Ireland ?—Yes. He held it in trust till the man had voted, that is all.

9304. How much ?—£5. Mr. George Phelps of Rudford, for expenses incurred by William Greening, keeping him there a week before the election, 2*l.*

9305. (*Mr. Welford.*) That is the landlord of the Mount Pleasant, is it not ?—Yes.

9306. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that for the expenses of keeping William Greening there ?—Yes.

9307. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much ?—£2.

9308. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are quite sure you paid him 2*l.* ?—Yes.

9309. And for that purpose ?—Yes. I sent the man there in fact that he should not be kidnapped by other parties.

9310. Did you agree when you sent him there to pay Phelps any expenses that might be incurred ?—He came over to Gloucester, and said he should not keep the man on his own responsibility; and I saw him, and promised to pay any expense that was incurred while the man was there. Then there was Thomas Barnes's expenses from Birmingham and back, which I considered legitimate expenses, 1*l.* 10*s.*

9311. For his expenses from Birmingham and back ?—Yes.

9312. You did not consider that to be paid for his vote at all ?—I did not. I gave a man of the name of Pillinger 12*s.* the night before the election.

9313. What for ?—For looking after two voters that the other party was trying to get hold of.

9314. As a watcher ?—Yes.

9315. What were the names of the two voters he was to watch ?—I do not recollect. I paid Mr. Pearce, the landlord of the Bridge End Inn at Lanthony, 15*s.* for a score one of the voters had run up. He said he would not go up to vote till he had got the score paid.

9316. You do not know who had run up the score ?—I do not.

9317. You did not know whether a score had been run up or not ?—I did not. The man said he should not go till his score was paid.

9318. But whether that was true or not you do not know ?—I do not know.

9319. Did you consider that that money was paid to him for his vote ?—I did not.

9320. You did not pay it to him as such ?—I did not. In fact I do not believe that the man knew what the score was at the time; he was very tipsy. After the man was gone, I asked what the score was, and he said 15*s.*, and I paid it; and I gave several small sums, but I cannot call them to mind, to Henry Rees, during the election.

9321. Who is Rees ?—A voter.

9322. What is he ?—A rope maker, I believe.

9323. Where does he live ?—In Littleworth, I believe.

9324. For what did you give those sums to Rees ?—I cannot recollect the sums, but I know I gave him several small sums.

9325. Cannot you tell for what purpose ?—He would come up to me in the street, and ask me to lend him a couple of shillings, and so on, and I would put my hand in my pocket and give it him.

9326. Did you give him those moneys to treat voters with ?—He did not express himself in that way. He said he had to go and meet some friends, and that he had no money to spend.

9327. Is that all the money that passed through your hands ?—I gave the wife of William Greening, I am not confident whether it was 3*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* She came to me, and told me a pitiful tale about her husband, and said he was bad off. That was the wife of William Greening.

9328. (*Mr. Welford.*) That is the man you sent for protection over to Mount Pleasant ?—Yes, it is.

9329. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer any money to any person to vote ?—I did. I offered Henry French 6*l.*

9330. Who is Henry French ?—He is ostler at the Ram.

9331. Did you offer him 6*l.* for his vote ?—Yes.

9332. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9333. Did he take it ?—He did not.

9334. Did he say why he did not ?—He said there would be a good deal of money stirring about this election, and that he thought he should stop.

9335. Do you know for whom he voted ?—I do.

9336. For whom ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

9337. How long before the election did you offer him 6*l.* ?—A week; rather more than a week. It was the day before the writ was issued.

9338. Did you offer him anything afterwards ?—I asked him if he had made up his mind, and he said yes; that he was going the other way. That was a few days before the election.

9339. Did he say what had induced him to make up his mind ?—He did not.

9340. To whom else did you offer any money ?—I believe the party's name is Thomas White; his name is White. It is the same man that Ball spoke about. I was with Ball at the time. He resides in Longsmith Street.

9341. What was offered to him ?—£5.

9342. What is he ?—A carpenter.

9343. Where ?—In Longsmith Street.

9344. Was that to vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9345. Was anything said by him ?—Yes. He said he was behind with his rent, and that he could not very well vote for Price and Monk. I asked him how much he was behind, and he said 10*l.* I believe that at the time he mentioned a party who had called upon him, but I cannot recollect the name now. He said that he could not very well go our side.

9346. Did "the party" say what should be done with regard to the rent ?—He did not; I would not say for certain.

9347. Who was the next person ?—Thomas Jeynes. He resides in Southgate Street, and keeps a small shop.

9348. What did you offer him ?—£5.

9349. To vote for Price and Monk ?—I did.

9350. Did he take it ?—He said he would not go under 10*l.*

9351. Who did he vote for ?—Sir Robert Carden. I told him we could not have anything to do with him at that price, and left him.

9352. Can you mention the name of any other person to whom you offered money ?—No other person.

9353. Are you aware of any other cases of bribery at the last election ?—I am not; I did not see any thing of the sort; I heard that a good deal of bribery was on.

9354. Do you know of any case of bribery on the side of Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I cannot say I do.

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J. P. Jeffs.
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9355. (*Mr. Welford.*) That disposes of all the money you received?—It does.

9356. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not hear anything said, did you, by White, at the time you went to him, about his rent being squared?—There was something said, but I cannot exactly state what.

9357. You cannot say whether that language was made use of?—I cannot say exactly whether it was or not. I beg leave to state, that at one time, when I was asking Wellstead about his vote,—that man has worked for me for several years, and I never before had asked him for his vote,—but some time before the election he told me that if an election took place he should have nothing to do with the other party. I said, "Why?" "Because," he said, "Mr. Whithorn had thrown him over the bridge."

9358. That was before the last election, was it?—Yes; it was some time before.

9359. He said he should not have anything to do with the other party, because, what?—Because Mr. Whithorn had thrown him over the bridge.

9360. Did he say in what way he had thrown him over the bridge?—I did not make any inquiry at the time.

9361. When did he do it?—At the last election in 1857.

9362. Did he say that?—He did.

9363. But how, he did not mention?—He did not mention.

9364. That was some time before the last election?—Yes; but he said that Mr. Matthews, on the Green, had called upon him just before the election, and had promised to put everything straight if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden.

9365. What Mr. Matthews is that?—He is an attorney. There was another little conversation that took place between me and one of the clerks in Sir Robert Carden's committee-room.

9366. What is his name?—William Fisher, the son of Anthony Fisher in Southgate Street.

9367. That has no reference to any voter whose name you have mentioned; has it?—No.

9368. Does it relate to the last election?—It does.

9369. The election of 1859?—Yes, and to Sir Robert Carden personally.

9370. Then you had better mention it to Mr. Coleridge, the secretary?—I will do so.

T. Biggs.

THOMAS BIGGS sworn and examined.

9371. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a tobacconist?—I am.

9372. In what street do you live?—In Westgate Street.

9373. Are you a voter for the city?—I am.

9374. How much money did you receive during the last election?—I received 40*l.* from Mr. Robinson.

9375. How much did you receive from other persons?—I had 8*l.* from Mr. Goold; 7*l.* or 8*l.*

9376. Is that all the money you received?—Yes.

9377. When you received the 40*l.* from Mr. Robinson, did you tell him for what votes you required that money?—I did not.

9378. When you received the 8*l.* from Mr. Goold, did you tell him for whose vote or votes you wanted that money?—I did not.

9379. How did you exhaust that sum; what did you do with it?—£5 I gave to a person named Townsend.

9380. What Townsend is that?—He is a cabinet maker.

9381. What is his Christian name?—I do not know his Christian name.

9382. Is he a voter?—Yes. The circumstances under which I gave him the money were these: There was a person named Vick in the Westgate Street, a voter, and he was being tempted by a person named Cooke, an attorney, to pervert his vote, by voting for Sir Robert Carden. Mr. Cooke had either been threatening him with a distress for a quarter's rent, or had offered him money, (I forget which it was,) to enable him to prevent a distress being put in.

9383. Who is Vick?—A baker.

9384. He was being tempted by a person named Cooke?—Yes. The circumstances were these: I was at my house, and Mr. Townsend, whom I had never seen before, and whom I have not seen since, said, "Here is Vick; he says he is very hard up; he is "very much pressed. You know he is a staunch "liberal, and he wants the amount of 5*l.* to make up "his quarter's rent. He says Cooke has been "threatening him" (I forget whether it was that he had been threatening him, or that he had offered him money to meet the threats of other parties), "and "he says he will be there again soon." I said, "Well, "you call on me again. At all events tell Mr. Vick "if Mr. Cooke calls again to put him off till the "morning." I then went, and stood opposite Mr. Vick's shop, and saw Mr. Cooke go in and converse with him. Standing on the opposite side of the street, of course I could not say what their conversation was; but that seemed to me to be pretty strong evidence that what Mr. Townsend had stated to me was correct; and I then gave him the 5*l.*

9385. Did you say Mr. Cooke was an attorney?—Yes. There are two brothers of them in partnership. This was the dark-haired one.

9386. You gave the money to Townsend?—Yes.

9387. Do you know where Townsend lives?—He lives in the Westgate Street.

9388. What is he?—A cabinet maker.

9389. Where does Vick live?—The shop is now closed. It is directly opposite this hall.

9390. Was he a freeman?—I cannot say. I fancy not. I do not know what his qualification was.

9391. You gave the 5*l.* to Townsend for Vick's vote, did you?—It might be for his vote, or for his necessities, I could not say which. I thought it was a pity that a true Liberal should be in want of 5*l.* under such circumstances, and be forced to sell his principles for that sum.

9392. If the election had not been going on would you have given Townsend 5*l.* for him?—I do not think I should.

9393. Although there might be a distress put in for the rent?—I think I might, under those circumstances.

9394. You might have given it out of your own pocket?—I think I should.

9395. Who was the next person to whom you gave money?—The next person to whom I gave money was Mr. Murrell.

9396. Where does he live?—He lives at the Prince's Plume, over the Severn.

9397. Is he the landlord?—He is.

9398. How much did you give him?—I gave him the sum of 18*l.*

9399. What did you give him that 18*l.* for?—I could not say positively, but I believe it was to bring two voters to the poll who were endeavoured to be taken by the other party.

9400. Was it not to bring three voters?—I understood it was for two; I would not swear whether it was two or three, but I believe it was two.

9401. What were their names?—I cannot say.

9402. Did he not tell you what their names were?—He might have done so; if he did I cannot remember them at this moment.

9403. He said he wanted 18*l.* to give to voters for their votes, and you gave it to him?—I did.

9404. Now the next?—The next was Mr. Webb in the Westgate Street.

9405. What did you give Mr. Webb?—I gave him a sum of 17*l.*

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T. Biggs.
5 Oct. 1859.

9406. Who is Mr. Webb ?—He is a butcher, and lives just up this street.

9407. Westgate Street ?—Yes.

9408. What did you give him 17*l.* for ?—I could not say what it was for. He asked me to let him have some money.

9409. Did he tell you what he wanted you to let him have the money for ?—He did not state.

9410. Do you mean that he came to you, and said, "I want some money," and that upon his saying so you gave him 17*l.* ?—I did. I understood it was for votes.

9411. Did he say so ?—Well, I cannot say.

9412. Did he say that he wanted money to buy votes ?—He might have stated, "I want money for so and so," and I gave it to him.

9413. Do you not think that he did say so ?—I think it is very likely he did.

9414. And did he afterwards give you any statement as to the persons to whom he had paid that money ?—He did not.

9415. Who is another person to whom you gave money ?—During the day I gave small sums to different persons, but the amounts I cannot remember.

9416. Although you cannot state the amounts, can you recollect the names of the persons to whom you gave money ?—I cannot state the names of the individuals.

9417. For what purpose did you give those small sums ?—It was either for fetching in voters or for the expenses connected with voters, or something of that nature.

9418. Did you give small sums to other persons for treating ?—No; not for treating.

9419. Would what you spent in that way amount to about 8*l.* ?—It would.

9420. Did you treat any persons yourself ?—I did not.

9421. Did you offer any money to any persons ?—I did not.

9422. Did any cases of bribery come within your knowledge besides those which you have mentioned ?—I cannot say that there did.

9423. Neither on one side nor on the other ?—Neither on one side nor on the other.

9424. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you attend at the committee-room ?—I did; I was chairman of the Westgate district.

9425. Where did that committee sit in Westgate Street ?—At the Lower George.

9426. Did any of these transactions of which you have spoken take place in that committee-room ?—All of them, except the 5*l.* that I gave to Townsend.

9427. Then all the sums you have mentioned to us as having been paid were paid in the committee-room, except the 5*l.* which you gave to Townsend ?—They were.

9428. Were other members of the committee present ?—There were other members of the committee; whether they were present at the time or not I cannot say; they might have been or might not.

9429. What is your recollection about it ? Did you go into a room by yourselves to do it ?—Oh dear no. I was sitting in the room.

9430. As chairman ?—I was there, having reports of the poll.

9431. And these gentlemen came in, and said they wanted money ?—Yes.

9432. And I suppose they mentioned that certain voters could not be had without money ?—Yes.

9433. And they mentioned at the same time their names, I suppose ?—Very likely they did.

9434. And perhaps they handed their names in to the clerk who was keeping the book. Was there a gentleman keeping the book ?—No; there was no clerk. I should like to make a few observations, finding myself in this position, which is one I never calculated upon. When a person who has some claim to respectability finds himself in the position of having corrupted what are called his fellow citizens, it is due to himself that he should find, if he can, some excuse for having placed himself in such a position; and I hope the Commissioners will not think the time mis-spent if I state that which I hope will be considered to afford, if not a justification, at least an excuse for such conduct. As chairman of this committee I found that votes which would undoubtedly have been ours without any bribery whatever were being tampered with by the other party; and it was necessary, in the position I held, if I wished to give a good account of the voters in the west district, that the temptations which were offered to the voters by the other parties should be rebutted by similar means; and if that does not afford a justification in the eye of the law, I trust that in a moral point of view it will excuse us. I do not expect you will give a moral verdict. I expect that you will do your duty in a legal point of view.

9435. You say that what you did you did for the purpose of counteracting what was being done by the other side ?—Yes.

WILLIAM LEA sworn and examined.

W. Lea.

9436. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Alvin Street.

9437. What are you ?—A grocer and provision dealer.

9438. You received some money, did you not ?—I received 15*l.* from Mr. Roberts, the attorney.

9439. For what purpose did you receive it ?—For electioneering purposes.

9440. For the purpose of bribery ?—I was not told that it was for the purpose of bribery; for electioneering purposes.

9441. That is what Mr. Roberts told you ?—He did not tell me so, but I considered I received it for electioneering purposes.

9442. When he gave you the money, did he say anything as to the purpose for which he gave it to you ?—He only put 15*l.* in my hands.

9443. Where did he do that ?—In the room adjoining the committee-room in the Westgate Street.

9444. What did you do with that money ?—I distributed it.

9445. To whom ?—I gave John Weaver of Columbia Street 5*l.*

9446. For what purpose did you give it to him ?—For his vote.

9447. For Price and Monk ?—Yes.

9448. Who was the next ?—Daniel Windo.

9449. Where does he live ?—In Alvin Street.

9450. What is he ?—He is a carpenter.

9451. How much did you give him ?—£4.

9452. For his vote for Price and Monk ?—He voted for Price and Monk, but there was no contract with him.

9453. When did you give him the money ?—On the day of the election.

9454. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you give it to him before he voted ?—I believe it was before he voted, but there was no agreement between us.

9455. If he had not had a vote would you have given him the money ?—It is very likely I should not.

9456. If he had not been a voter would you have given him the money ?—No.

9457. Is there any doubt that you gave it him for his vote ?—There is no doubt at all about it.

9458. Who is the next ?—William Day.

9459. Where does he live ?—In Alvin Street.

9460. What is he ?—I believe he is a shoemaker.

9461. How much did you give him ?—One sovereign.

9462. For his vote ?—He did not consider it so, and I did not know whether he had voted or not when I gave it him.

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W. Lea.
5 Oct. 1859.

9463. Did he vote for Price and Monk ?—No ; for Monk and Carden, I believe.

9464. You gave him 1*l.* for voting for Mr. Monk ?—Yes.

9465. Who is the next ?—I gave 5*l.* to Thomas Yates ; his remuneration, I think, as messenger.

9466. Where does he live ?—I do not know exactly where he lives.

9467. What is he ?—A carpenter.

9468. You gave him that 5*l.* for his vote did yot not ?—No ; I gave it to him in consideration of his being a messenger. I had his name put down as a messenger at the commencement of the election, and after that I saw Mr. Brewer Monk, and asked him if he had paid Yates as messenger, and he said no, that he should leave that to me. His name was down, and he had attended the committee every day, and Mr. Brewer Monk said, "You pay him, and I will put it straight."

9469. You lumped it all together ?—Yes ; and I put it down at 5*l.*, and gave it him the evening after the election was over.

9470. Had his vote nothing to do with the payment of the 5*l.* ?—No ; I never asked him anything about his vote. I put his name down at the commencement of the election, and I believe he attended the committee every day.

9471. Should you have given him the 5*l.* if he had voted for Sir Robert Carden ?—Certainly not.

9472. Did he vote for Price and Monk ?—I do not know.

9473. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you any doubt that he did ?—I have no doubt in my own mind that he did ; he always voted for the Liberals.

9474. Have you told us all the money you paid ?—Yes.

9475. You received no money from any other person ?—No.

9476. Nor made any offer of any other money ?—No ; not to the best of my knowledge ; and that money I did not receive till the morning of the election, between nine and ten o'clock.

9477. I suppose you had made it known that there were persons for whose votes you should require money ?—I think I did, on the evening before. I said there was this Yates, and likewise Weaver, but no one else. I do not recollect mentioning any other name.

9478. Did you spend any money in treating during the election ?—I might have given 6*d.* to pay for a quart of beer, or something like that ; but that was out of my own pocket. I had no money from anybody else, and had no orders to do it.

9479. Did any cases of bribery come within your knowledge ?—No ; not within my own knowledge ; but I believe that the men I gave money to had been tampered with on the other side. I have no doubt of it. I believe they voted for Carden the election before last, and I have no doubt they were tampered with then ; I mean in 1857. There is one observation I should wish to make. My name was put down on the list of the committee at Hutton's. I was there four or five or six times. I merely went in and out again but as a rumour has gone abroad about Mr. Innell being there, I may safely say that I never saw him there when I was there.

J. Moss.

JOSEPH MOSS called and further examined.

9480. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you put in a list of the persons whose names you mentioned yesterday as persons to whom you gave money ?—Yes.

9481. Is it a correct list ?—I believe it is.

[The witness delivers in the following paper.]

Gloucester Election Commission. Mr. Joseph Moss's statement, as directed to be furnished to the Commissioners at the close of his examination on 4th October 1859.

No. on Register.			£	s.	d.
1,246	William Brown -	King Street (parish of St. Michael), occupier. Paid by Mr. Daniel Clark (1,254), Baker, now at No. 7, Regent Street, California -	5	0	0
1,259	Walter Seymour Davy, and	Barton Street (St. Michael).			
547	James Coates.	Mitre Street (St. Aldate's). Paid by William Mallard of Princes Street (Barton St. Mary). - - -	9	10	0
1,442	Joseph King -	Bearland. Paid by Joseph Moss (659), Hampden Place - - -	5	0	0
600	William Hooper -	Princes Street. By Joseph Moss - - -	5	0	0
651	Owen Harris -	Hampden Place (Barton St. Michael.) By Joseph Moss (659) - - -	6	0	0
1,343	William Smith -	Queen Street (St. Michael). By William Wingate, Hampden Place - -	5	0	0
602	George Huggins -	Near Cheltenham Turnpike. By George Pickford (661), Barton Street (Barton St. Michael) - - -	6	0	0

Canvassed by Mr. Moss.

No. on Register.			£	s.	d.
1,649	Joseph Lovett -	New Town, near Gloucester ; formerly at Hill Close. In 1859 wanted horse and cart. Was put on Blue messengers' list, and afterwards voted for Carden.			
606	William Jones -	Back of the Bell Inn, near Cambridge Street, Barton St. Mary. In 1859, wanted 10*l.*. Wanted 8*l.* in 1857. Voted for Tories both times. (Obadiah Clutterbuck, Tory agent, saw him.)			
39	Robert Hazel Binning (Freeman).	Living with his mother at the Bartlemas Hospital, Gloucester. In 1859 said Mr. Lovegrove gave him 1*l.*, and promised to be kind to him if he voted for Carden.			
235	John Holder -	Eastgate Street. In 1859 wanted 10*l.* In 1857 he wanted 8*l.*, or horse and cart. Had horse and cart soon after election. He voted plump for Carden.			

(Signed) JOSEPH MOSS.

J^s Orpin.

JAMES ORPIN called, and further examined.

9482. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you put in a list of the persons whose names you mentioned yesterday, with a statement of the sums you gave them, and the addresses of those different persons ?—Yes.

The Witness delivers in the following paper.

Persons bribed, and to whom bribes were offered, by the undersigned, James Orpin, at the Gloucester City Election in 1859.

	£	s.	d.
Gave to Thomas Kent, St. Aldate Street	5	0	0
Gave to Henry Curtis, Alvin Street, partly for expenses from Birmingham - - - -	5	0	0
Gave to Robert Williams, Worcester Street, for loss of time - -	2	0	0
Gave to Frederick Bowers, Sherborne Street - - - - -	7	0	0
Paid over to Charles Wingfield, for bribery, which he will account for -	14	0	0

I offered Thomas Fletcher (1020), Columbia Street, 5*l.*, but he said he could have a double five off the other side, and so he voted for Carden. I offered William Henry Best (38) and Charles Best (34) 8*l.* for the two, but they stood out for 9*l.*, which I

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refused to give unless they would poll first. They said they could have more on the other side, and went away. Both polled for Carden. I offered George Henry Bower (58) 5*l.*, which he agreed to poll for; but he came to me again, and said they were giving more on the other side, and if I could not spring that would be of no use. He went away, and voted for Carden.

J. Orpin.
5 Oct. 1859.

(Signed) JAMES ORPIN,
Alvin Street.

RICHARD AYERS WEBB sworn and examined.

R. A. Webb.

9483. (*Mr. Vaughan*). You are a butcher in the Westgate Street, are you not?—A bacon factor and pork butcher.

9484. In the Westgate Street?—Yes.

9485. You received 17*l.*, did you not?—Yes; from Mr. Biggs.

9486. Did you receive any money from any other person?—No.

9487. Did you tell Mr. Biggs what you wanted that money for?—I wanted it for the purchase of votes.

9488. Can you mention the names of the voters for whom you wanted it?—I cannot recollect their names at present.

9489. Give us the names, if you please, of those persons whose votes you did purchase?—I gave a person of the name of Coopey of Longford 8*l.*

9490. Do you know his Christian name?—I do not know his Christian name; he is an old man; he lives at Longford. At least I should have said I gave it to a party to give to him.

9491. To whom did you give the money?—To a man named James Williams, who gave it to the old man's daughter, I think. That is his version of the tale.

9492. You gave him 8*l.* to give to Coopey?—Yes.

9493. Coopey of Longford?—Yes.

9494. Do you know his Christian name?—I do not.

9495. Was that for Coopey's vote?—Yes.

9496. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

9497. Did that man Coopey of Longford vote for Price and Monk?—I believe so.

9498. Did James Williams tell you that he had paid that money to him?—I believe so, as far as I can recollect now. I think he did.

9499. Who is the next person to whom you gave money?—I gave 5*l.* to Edwin Harman.

9500. Who is he?—I believe he is a wheelwright.

9501. Where does he live?—At the Island.

9502. Was that for his vote?—Yes.

9503. For Price and Monk?—Yes; and Mr. Probert, senior; he had a sovereign of me. I do not know what he did with that sovereign.

9504. You gave to Mr. Probert, senior, one sovereign?—Yes.

9505. Who is the next person?—The other I spent at two public-houses kept by a person named Ewers in St. Catherine Street, and Lee in the Island.

9506. What were the names of those public-houses?—I think one is the Traveller's Rest and the other is the Quart Pot.

9507. Which is the Traveller's Rest?—Lee's.

9508. Is that all the money that passed through your hands?—Yes, as far as I remember.

9509. Did you spend that money at those public-houses in treating voters?—Yes.

9510. Did you offer any money to any other person for his vote?—Not that I recollect. If I recollect anything, I will let you know. I cannot charge my memory with anything else at present.

9511. Do you know of any other cases of bribery except those you have mentioned?—Not that I am aware of at present.

9512. Neither on one side nor on the other?—I cannot say that I do.

HENRY LANE, junior, sworn and examined.

H. Lane, jun.

9513. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Wotton.

9514. Are you a voter?—I am.

9515. How far is Wotton from Gloucester?—A mile from here, or somewhere thereabouts; not many yards difference either way.

9516. You have a cousin of the name of George Lane, have you not?—I have.

9517. Were you offered any money by George Lane for your vote?—He gave me 5*l.*

9518. To vote for whom?—Price and Monk.

9519. And did you vote for them?—I did.

9520. Where were you paid that money?—At a public-house called the Bull Inn.

9521. Was that after you had polled?—No; before I had polled.

9522. On the day of the election?—On the day of the election.

9523. Had you been offered money by any other person?—I had not, by no one; it was the first time I was ever tempted in my life.

9524. And the temptation you could not resist?—I could not; it is very tempting to any poor man.

9525. Had anything been said to you about being on the Blue committee?—Yes. I went down on the Tuesday-week, I think, before the election. I was down, and I went to Mr. Taynton. He was managing clerk or something. I said, "Cannot you put me on the committee?" He said, "No; there are no voters to be on the Blue committee this time;" and I left, and went to my business that week.

9526. How long was that before the election?—The Tuesday week before the election. A relation of mine, on the Monday following, comes to me, and says, "Henry, cannot you get me on the committee?" I said, "Well, I cannot be put on myself, but I will try what I can do for you." He had no vote. He married a cousin of mine, but his name I cannot remember just now.

9527. Did you succeed in getting him on?—I did; he went on for a week.

9528. You could not get yourself on?—I could not.

9529. But you got him on?—Yes, I did.

9530. Is he a voter?—No. If you will let me consider, I think I can call his name to my remembrance, but I cannot at this moment.

9531. You were not offered any money by any other person?—No, I was not.

9532. Were you canvassed on the part of Sir Robert Carden's friends?—I was.

9533. Who canvassed you?—Mr. Lovegrove, the coroner, Captain Bradley, R. T. Smith, and another gentleman; he must be a wine merchant in this town; I cannot recollect his name.

9534. Did you promise them to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9535. How long was that before the election?—I think it was on the Tuesday before the election.

9536. Was the person who canvassed you Mr. Beavan?—Yes; Biven is the man's name; he is a tall stout gentleman.

9537. (*Mr. Welford.*) How came George Lane to offer you this money?—I cannot tell you.

9538. Did he mention it to you or you to him first?—He mentioned it to me.

9539. Where did you see him?—At the Cross.

9540. In the street?—In the street; at our Cross in Gloucester.

9541. What is George Lane?—A shoemaker, the same as myself.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

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Tenth Day.—6th October 1859.

W. C. Lucy.

6 Oct. 1859.

WILLIAM CHARLES LUCY sworn and examined.

9542. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a corn merchant in this city?—Yes.

9543. I believe you are a correspondent of Mr. Ralli's?—Yes.

9544. We hear that previous to the election a sum of 200*l.* was sent down by Mr. Ralli to the bank at Gloucester?—Yes.

9545. You wrote to Mr. Ralli in consequence of what Mr. Walker had said to you?—I did.

9546. Tell us, as far as you can, what the nature of the letter was that you wrote to Mr. Ralli?—Unfortunately I took no copy of the letter. I have a letter, which I received from Mr. Ralli in reply, which in some measure explains it.

9547. Tell us, as far as you can, what you wrote to Mr. Ralli?—I met Mr. Walker accidentally in the street, and he told me that 200*l.* was required for preliminary expenses connected with the election, and requested me to write to Mr. Ralli upon the subject. I consented to do so upon the express understanding that that money was not to be used for any purpose of bribery. The substance of that I communicated to Mr. Ralli; and I further stated in my letter to him that I felt confident that the money would not be used for that purpose, in consequence of the character of Mr. Walker and Mr. Robert Wilton, to whom it was to be entrusted.

9548. How came you to say that you would write for that money upon the understanding that it was not to be applied for the purpose of bribery?—I simply wrote because Mr. Walker requested me to do so.

9549. But you say you told Mr. Walker that you would write to Mr. Ralli upon the understanding that no portion of the money was to be applied to bribery?—My reason was this, that I had never taken the slightest part in any election proceedings in Gloucester at all, either as member of a committee or in canvassing voters; that I really felt I knew very little how election matters were managed; and that I had heard that a great deal of bribery had taken place generally at elections at Gloucester, which I could not by any means recognize; and having determined that I would have nothing whatever to do with elections, I required that distinct understanding from Mr. Walker before I would write for the money.

9550. Were you instrumental in providing any other funds besides that 200*l.* for the purposes of the election?—Certainly not.

9551. Did you yourself advance any money to any person for the purposes of the election?—Certainly not.

9552. Do you know any person who did?—No, I do not. Beyond recording my vote, I took no interest in the election, except wishing that Mr. Monk might be returned as a Liberal member.

9553. Do you know that Mr. Ralli, junior, was at Gloucester during the election?—I do.

9554. Had you any communication with him respecting any money?—Certainly not.

9555. He never spoke to you at all respecting any money matters connected with the election when he was in Gloucester?—No.

9556. And you are not cognizant, I understand you to say, of any malpractices, nor of any acts of bribery or corruption, that were committed during the election?—Certainly not.

9557. Neither prior to nor at the election?—Neither prior to nor at the election.

9558. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Ralli directed you to pay a sum of 200*l.*; did he make any stipulation in reply to your letter?—I have Mr. Ralli's letter in my pocket, which will explain it.

9559. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Read it, if you please?—Shall I read the whole of it?

9560. Only that part that relates to the election.—"Had the subject which you allude to in your letter "been referred to me from any other quarter, I should "have felt some serious hesitation in advancing the "sum, lest it should be used for an unfair purpose; "but in the present instance I am fully confident "that that will not be the case, for I know that "under such circumstances you would be the last "person to advise me to accede to the request of Mr. "Walker. I do not doubt that this your advice is "based on the conviction that no unfair use is to be "made of the money which I shall advance. It is "only under this firm conviction that I accede to the "request of Mr. Walker, and shall, accordingly, on "Saturday (to-morrow) pay the sum mentioned, of "200*l.* (say 200*l.*) at Robarts & Co., in the manner "you suggest in your letter to me."

9561. What is the date of that letter?—The date of this letter is the 22nd of April, and I believe I wrote the day before.

9562. Have you had any communication with Mr. Ralli since the election?—Simply a general conversation which I may have had when seeing him in town.

C. Winfield.

CHARLES WINFIELD sworn and examined.

9563. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Sherborne Street.

9564. What are you?—A boot and shoemaker.

9565. How much money did you receive at the last election?—I received 14*l.* of Mr. Orpin.

9566. For what purpose?—For bribing and treating.

9567. Who did you bribe?—The first man I bribed was a man of the name of Haines, a freeman.

9568. What is his christian name?—Manfred; he is now dead. He is on for Alvin Street in the parish of St. John's.

9569. How much did you give him?—I did not give him anything. I gave his wife 4*l.*

9570. You gave his wife 4*l.* for his vote?—Yes; for Price and Monk.

9571. The next?—I gave a man named George Morgan, of Union Street, money; he had 3*l.*, but I gave it to Mrs. Davis, of the Magnet, to give him. That morning he was so hunted up by the Blue party that the person where he lived at, or a person that lodged in the house, was obliged to lock him in the bedroom, because a rough gang, sent by John Michael Butt, of Kingsholm, I believe, went there to fetch him, and they were obliged to lock him in the room.

9572. How came you to give the money to Mrs. Davis?—Because he was locked up in the room out of the way of this rough gang that I have just mentioned, and I could not get to him; and she said that he had told her he had come over to her house in the morning on purpose to get out of the way of them as soon as he got out of bed and was up and dressed.

9573. Was this on the polling morning?—Early on the polling morning; I would say it was seven o'clock.

9574. You gave that money to Mrs. Davis for the vote of George Morgan?—Yes.

9575. And did he poll?—Yes.

9576. For Price and Monk?—I believe he did.

9577. Who was the next?—A man of the name of Whittington.

9578. Where does he live?—In Alvin Street.

9579. What is he?—A plasterer by trade.

9580. How much did you give to him?—This man

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I gave 6*l.* to; but he said he should have went and polled, only he had been so bored by Mr. James Mayséy and Mr. Franklin, that in fact they had been there and given his wife a shilling, and offered him 30*s.* for his vote, or else I believe that man would have polled without anything at all, but because they should not have him I gave him 6*l.* He said they had been after him, and that Mr. Whithorn had sent a man named Daw, a bricklayer, after him; that they wanted to see him very particular, and he said he could not get no rest for them, and I said, "Soonrer "than you shall go and poll for them against your "own principles I will get you 5*l.* if I can," and I gave him 6*l.* because I thought he was a good man.

9581. Who is the next?—That was all I spent in bribery; that was 13*l.*, and I spent 1*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* in treating.

9582. You gave that 6*l.* to Whittington to vote for Price and Monk?—To his wife.

9583. For his vote for Price and Monk?—For his vote for Price and Monk.

9584. And how much do you say you spent in treating?—£1 7*s.* 6*d.* was what it cost me.

9585. Who did you treat?—These parties that I bribed; I treated them and their wives, and several other voters; in fact I was rather excited, and I did not care who I treated that day.

9586. Did you take them to public-houses?—I did.

9587. What public-houses?—The first place I took them to was the Fountain Inn.

9588. What was the next?—I believe I took some into the Maidenhead. I was in a great many public-houses that day; more than ever I was in in my life before, I think, in one day.

9589. Who keeps the Maidenhead?—I think it was a man of the name of Perris.

9590. What other place did you go to?—I went to Orpin's.

9591. (*Mr. Welford.*) What inn does he keep?—The White Lion.

9592. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What others?—I cannot remember what other houses I went into at present; but I know I went into a great many that day. I believe I went into the Red Lion, in Northgate Street, as well, to the best of my remembrance.

9593. Do you know any other cases of bribery besides those you have mentioned?—Not that I bribed.

9594. Did you offer any money to any other persons?—I do not know that I offered any other money, but there were two men that came to me about money, William Henry Best, of St. Mary's Square, a freeman.

9595. What did he come to you about?—He came to know what I could give him for his vote; he and his brother were going about everywhere during the election, like a dog after a flock of sheep; they were on the brevet all the time; every time he heard where a pint of beer was to be had he was sure to be there to have it.

9596. Did you offer him any money?—I do not believe I did; he came to me, and I asked him what he wanted, and he said he wanted 4*l.* for himself and 4*l.* for his brother; and I told him I would endeavour to get it for him if I could; but I did not get it, and he went over to the Blue party; and I believe he was done better by by them than what I could do for him.

9597. Did he tell you whether any money had been offered to him?—No; he did not tell me whether any money had been offered to him.

9598. Now the next?—Charles Best; he is on for Brothers Place; he came the same as his brother before; along with his brother, in fact; and wanted me to give him 4*l.* there and then, and if I could not give it to him then he wanted to know when I could do so.

9599. Did you offer him any money?—I do not know that I did; I dare say I said, "I dare say I "shall get it; I dare say it will be all right," or something to that effect.

9600. Did he tell you he had been offered money by the other side?—I do not believe he did; but I believe he had been. The next man was Thomas Fletcher; he is on the list of householders for Columbia Street.

9601. Did you offer anything to him?—No; I was sent to look after him. I believe he had been to Mr. Orpin's, and he wanted, I believe, more money than Mr. Orpin was able to give him. He could not give him enough to satisfy him, and therefore he left; and I was sent after him to see where he went to; and while I was on the road to look after him I went down into the street where he lives, and the people in the street says, "Ah, you have lost your man; "Mr. Butt has got him at the Black Lion." It was the people that lived there, but I do not know who it was; but they sung out, "You have lost your man." That is all I know, except a little statement that I should tell, perhaps; that I was on the committee at Mr. Hutton's in Northgate Street. I was there, and attended, I believe, every meeting that was held there; and I should wish to state to you that I never saw Mr. Innell there during the whole of the time. Then the next is, that I was canvassed myself by Sir Robert Carden, and we had some conversation about voting in my kitchen, and Sir Robert Carden told me, when he left, that if I would vote for him he would do as much for me as any other man in Gloucester; and I can bring forward witnesses to prove it.

9602. Was Mr. Lovegrove present?—Yes; Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Buchanan, I believe that was the gentleman's name, and my wife.

9603. Were they all standing together?—They were rising up; they were not standing, but just in the act of getting out of the chair.

9604. Did he say what he would do for you?—He did not.

9605. Had you said anything at all to him about what you wanted?—No; I never wanted anything; I always poll without wanting anything for my vote.

9606. When was it that Sir Robert Carden said this to you?—It might be a fortnight before the election; I did not put it down; I cannot say exactly; but I know it was not more than a fortnight; at least I believe it was not.

9607. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you went to these public-houses to treat people did you pay for what was had for the voters?—Yes.

9608. You did not allow a score to be run up?—No.

CHARLES ROBINS sworn and examined.

C. Robins.

9609. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A corn merchant's foreman.

9610. Foreman to whom?—W. C. Lucy & Co.

9611. Did any money pass through your hands at the last election?—None whatever.

9612. Did you receive any money for the purpose of bribery?—No.

9613. Did you receive any money from any person at all?—No; none.

9614. Do you know of any cases of bribery at the last election?—None whatever.

9615. Did Mr. Lucy give you any instructions respecting the election?—Not further than concerning three voters who were in his employ at the time.

9616. Who were they?—Walter Wood, Charles Greening, and Henry Roe.

9617. Did he give you any instructions about securing their votes?—None; he told me there were three voters in his employ, and he should like to see them and me with them.

9618. And did you go to him with them?—I took them to the office to him, and was in the room when

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he spoke to them. He said, "I understand you are "voters?" They answered that they were, each of them. He said, "So far from me influencing you as "to your vote, or who you shall vote for, I do not "want so much as to know who you vote for; but "if you promise any man in the matter, who he is, "or what he is, that you will vote for him, I expect "you to keep your promise; and if there is any "matter that you do not quite understand, if it is in "my power to explain it to you, I will do so."

9619. That is all that took place?—That is all that took place.

9620. Did he caution them against receiving bribes?—He remarked at the same time, "I do not "interfere with you, and I do not wish anybody else "to interfere with you."

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE sworn and examined.

9621. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor at Gloucester?—I am.

9622. You were the agent for conducting the last election for Sir Robert Carden?—I was.

9623. Were all the arrangements for that election made by yourself?—I cannot say that the whole of the arrangements were made by myself, but I had the principal management of the election.

9624. How many solicitors were engaged in a subordinate situation to yourself?—I can repeat the names to you; Mr. Taynton had the management of the committee rooms.

9625. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is his christian name?—Thomas; Mr. Philip Cooke and his brother, Mr. Charles Cooke; Mr. George Bullock was also engaged; Mr. James Buchanan, Mr. Boughton, Mr. Walter Clutterbuck, and Mr. John Hulls.

9626. What is Mr. Boughton's christian name?—I do not know.

9627. There is only one solicitor of that name, is there?—Only one.

9628. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The services of those gentlemen were retained for the purpose of their assisting in the election of Sir Robert Carden?—They were.

9629. How long before the election had they been retained?—They were not formally retained, but I had spoken to them probably about the 4th or 5th of April; I should think about that time. There was no retaining fee, or anything of that kind.

9630. What committee rooms were engaged?—They were nearly opposite the Shire Hall. We first had some rooms in a house belonging to Mr. Edwin Bick; and a short time previous to the election we removed to a larger house just below, I think two doors below; that was two or three days before the election, or something of that kind.

9631. Were there any other committee-rooms besides those you have mentioned?—None whatever.

9632. No district committee-rooms?—None whatever.

9633. Had you a numerous committee?—We had no committee,—no regular committee; we had no committee.

9634. Was the committee-room frequented by the friends of your party?—Yes; almost every one in Gloucester of our party.

9635. What number of messengers were appointed?—I left the appointment of messengers to my clerk, Mr. Griffiths. In the commencement of the contest I particularly requested that he should not employ voters; but at the same time I told him that if applications were made by the relatives of voters, and so on, not to be particular as to the admission of those.

9636. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is the name of your clerk?—John Austin Griffiths.

9637. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you since ascertained how many messengers were employed?—There were, towards the latter end of the contest, a great number, but I have not ascertained the precise number. They were not all messengers; there were messengers, doorkeepers, and various persons employed about the matter. There were a great many more employed than were necessary or than there was work for. Perhaps I had better tell you what it was that gave rise to that number being employed, and to the number being probably daily increased.

9638. You cannot tell me at present the number that were employed?—Not the precise number.

9639. Will you be good enough to furnish us with a list of the messengers, doorkeepers, and others employed in your committee-room, with their addresses, specifying who were voters and who were not voters?—I will do so, and those who were related to voters. I can give you the amount paid for messengers.

9640. The total amount?—Yes; 309*l.*; messengers, doorkeepers, and others.

9641. Is that the sum which was returned to the election auditor?—Not so much was returned to the election auditor.

9642. Do you wish to make any observation as to the reason why that number of messengers was employed?—Yes; when this contest commenced we intended, as I told you, not to employ any voters as messengers and to have a very limited number; but on the other side there were a great many voters employed, and when application was made to us to take on either a voter or the relative of a voter, and we refused them, those men would immediately go over to the other side and get instant employment; and that gave rise to so many being employed.

9643. You would represent that the employment of that extra number of messengers by your party was a measure of self-defence?—It was occasioned by the facility offered by the other side for the like employment.

9644. When were your messengers first employed?—A few were put on, I should think, about the 6th or 7th of April.

9645. And they were continually increased from that date down to the date of the election?—They were.

9646. (*Mr. Welford.*) And at last voters and non-voters were employed indiscriminately?—Yes.

9647. The voters had the preference, I suppose?—Indiscriminately; the amount paid to non-voters was much larger than that which was paid to voters.

9648. Were both classes comprised within the 319*l.*?—Yes.

9649. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What number of clerks had you employed?—I should think five or six, or seven or eight; from six to eight probably.

9650. Had you any more clerks employed than those who are returned in the election agent's accounts?—No.

9651. Had you any other inspectors employed besides those who are returned?—No.

9652. Then, as regards clerks and inspectors, that account truly represents the number employed?—Yes, it does.

9653. Was there in the selection of clerks and inspectors any attention paid to the fact of their being voters?—No, we had great difficulty in getting clerks, and we were only too glad to get those we could.

9654. No preference was given to any persons in consequence of their being voters?—I would scarcely say that; I think two or three clerks were put on from the reason that their fathers or some of their relatives were with us in politics.

9655. Was Gloucester divided into districts for canvassing?—Not at all.

9656. When did Sir Robert Carden commence his canvass?—I should think about the sixth or seventh of April; I am not quite satisfied as to the day, but I think that is as near the time as possible.

9657. About that time?—Yes, I think so.

9658. Did he remain in Gloucester from that time till the close of the election?—No; he went to town two or three times, and remained three or four days, and at one time I think he remained five or six days.

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9659. Was there any person who had charge of the returns made by canvassers?—Yes, Mr. Taynton.

9660. Mr. Taynton the solicitor?—Yes, he took the principal charge; there was no precise duty of that kind.

9661. Were the returns of the canvassers submitted to you from time to time?—Yes, to me and others. Mr. Helps also saw the returns of the canvass.

9662. What did you infer, from those returns, were the chances of success of Sir Robert Carden?—I have the returns here, and from those returns it appeared that our chances of success were favourable if no unfair practices had been resorted to by the other side.

9663. In making that statement do you refer to the early returns, or to the later returns of the canvass?—The later returns of the canvass.

9664. Down to what period are you enabled to state that the returns were favourable?—The returns in the commencement of the canvass came in very slowly, but as the election proceeded we made up our returns, and they were favourable as far as they went; but there were a great number of unreturned votes.

9665. A great number of unpledged votes?—Yes, of unpledged votes. I will read you, if you please, an extract from a letter which I sent to Sir Robert Carden on the 24th of April, that was five days before the election:—"Mr. Helps, Mr. Whithorn, "Mr. Taynton, and myself, last night went into a "minute calculation of our position, and we made it "to stand thus,—Carden, 687; Price, 642; Monk, 581. "There are 184 unreturned votes, of which we can "safely calculate on 91, making our total of pro- "mises 778. If we give Monk and Price all the "other votes, and and I will undertake to say not "one-half will poll, still we are ahead of Monk by "104. In making up Monk's account we have "given him everything, even where we are almost "certain there will be splits with us, and some who "will not vote at all. Mr. Helps thinks our position "good."

9666. Why did you think that if there were 184 unpledged votes, you could calculate on 91 of them?—By going through the list and seeing the tendency they had before in voting, and so on; but they would not pledge themselves which way they would vote this time.

9667. Do you mean that out of the 184 unpledged votes there were 91 who had previously voted for Carden?—I would scarcely say that the 91 had previously voted for Carden, but there were some circumstances or other which led us to infer that we should get 91 out of the number.

9668. Before that day, the 24th of April, had representations been made that there were a number of electors who had declined to give any promise?—Oh yes.

9669. You say there were returns made that many persons declined to give any promise as to how they would vote?—Yes.

9670. Did you find from the statements of the canvassers that there were many of those persons on whose votes you had reason to calculate from the manner in which they had voted at previous elections?—Yes.

9671. Can you state what number?—No, I could not speak to that at all.

9672. At what part of the election was it that you felt it would be necessary to resort to illegal practices?—I consider that the employment of any messengers or other persons about an election otherwise than those that are actually necessary, amounts to an illegal practice.

9673. Beyond those actually necessary to do what?—To do the work.

9674. What number should you consider necessary to do the work?—It varies very much; in the early stage of a contest, very few are necessary beyond the employment of clerks; but as the contest goes on, then the employment of an extra number of messengers becomes more necessary, and as it approaches to a climax you want a vast number, a great number.

9675. What are their duties?—The duty of the messengers is to look after the voters and get them up to the poll; you divide your districts into wards, and a vast number of the voters require a man pretty well to spend all his time in looking after them.

9676. The duty of the messengers is to look after the voters, and get them up to the poll?—Yes; and take messages and run about, and generally to do the work of those in charge of the committee rooms.

9677. Apart from the employment of messengers at what stage of the proceedings would you say that you resorted to illegal practices?—I can scarcely say that we resorted to any illegal practice within my own knowledge until immediately preceding the election.

9678. How long before the election?—The explanation which I shall have to give, will probably fix it about a week, I should think, or something of that kind; that we had it in contemplation.

9679. You began to have it in contemplation about a week before the election?—Yes; that we probably might be compelled, in self-defence, to resort to illegal practices.

9680. Do I understand you to say that you had it in contemplation for the first time about a week before the election?—About a week before the election, I should think that would be the limit; it may have been eight or nine days, I would scarcely fix it to a week; it might be eight or nine days, but certainly not longer than that.

9681. At that time it was only in contemplation?—We scarcely contemplated it then, but it had formed a subject of conversation; we scarcely contemplated it at that time.

9682. In what way had it formed the subject of conversation?—From the commencement of the contest the party on the opposite side, (I should denominate them Mr. Monk's party) had so taken the electors by surprise in their profuse offers of money and other inducements, that we felt that those promises that we had obtained, and that those we expected, we should have a difficulty probably in polling without resorting to illegal practices; but even then we had not at all pledged ourselves to that resort at that moment.

9683. You say from the commencement of the election the friends of Mr. Monk had done this. But when had it come to your knowledge that they had done it, and that they had done it to such an extent that it would be necessary for you to adopt similar measures?—Throughout the whole of the contest it had come to my knowledge that offers and all that kind of thing and other inducements had been made to voters to poll for Price and Monk.

9684. Who were the parties with whom you entered into the conversation respecting the measures that you might be called on to take?—The conversations in general were with Mr. Whithorn.

9685. As to the measures you might be called upon to take, to counteract what you understood was the profuse expenditure of money on the other side?—Precisely.

9686. Can you give us the earliest date of such a conversation as that?—I can scarcely give you the date; I should think it was the Saturday preceding the election.

9687. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was the first?—Yes; and that arose in consequence of a gentleman having requested me to meet him at the railway platform, who was passing through Gloucester to Hereford I think, (I am not quite sure where) to inform him of the prospects of Sir Robert Carden in the contest.

9688. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did the gentleman who you met at the railway station make any communication to you upon the subject of what was passing in Gloucester?—He felt an interest in the success, I

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suppose, of the election; and he wished me to inform him what really were the prospects of success.

9689. You say that that conversation with that gentleman at the railway led to the conversation with Mr. Whithorn as to what you would be required to do to insure success?—No; I should scarcely say that; that gave rise to Mr. Whithorn and myself considering well our position, before I informed this gentleman.

9690. (*Mr. Welford.*) It was to prepare for meeting this gentleman that you had the conversation with Mr. Whithorn?—Precisely, that is what I mean.

9691. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) As the result of that conversation with Mr. Whithorn, did you then determine to resort to corrupt practices on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—Not at all, we did not determine to do that; I informed this gentleman of our position, that it was good, that I thought it would improve, and that we had a very fair chance of success, but that we must take into consideration the profuse offers of money, and the bribery that was going on on the other side, and that we should have a difficulty, I thought, in getting the voters to the poll, unless means somewhat similar were adopted.

9692. Did that gentleman recommend that such means should be adopted?—Certainly not.

9693. Was that gentleman connected with Gloucester?—No; not at all. Shall I give you the result of the conversation.

9694. If you please?—I told him this,—that we should find, probably, as the contest drew to a close, that our position would be damaged by voters going to the other side, and Mr. Whithorn had suggested (indeed I cannot say that I did not concur) that a fund, or something in the shape of a fund, should be provided.

9695. Mr. Whithorn proposed, and you concurred in that?—It was not proposed.

9696. Suggested?—Yes; that a fund should be provided in case we were compelled to resort to that to gain the election.

9697. You mean in case you should be compelled to resort to bribery?—It means that.

9698. Had you before that time opened any public-houses in the interest of Sir Robert Carden?—No; not to my knowledge.

9699. Were there houses in Gloucester, or are there houses in Gloucester which are considered as being in the interest of your party?—Yes.

9700. What are those houses?—Are they kept by parties of our principles, do you mean?

9701. Yes; are they houses kept by persons of your principles?—There are a great number; I could not enumerate them; I could give you a list in; there were a vast number of course in a place like this. I will hand a list in.

9702. Can you give us the name of the gentleman you met at the railway station?—Mr. Bernard. Mr. J. Bernard.

9703. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. James Bernard?—I think it is Mr. Julian Bernard.

9704. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he reside?—I scarcely know, but he will be here; he will give you no trouble.

9705. Is he a relative or friend of Sir Robert Carden's?—I think he is a friend of Sir Robert Carden's.

9706. This conversation with Mr. Whithorn took place on the Saturday?—Yes; when I say Saturday I am not quite satisfied as to the date; it was the same day that I saw this gentleman, and I think it was on the Saturday.

9707. You stated that it was the Saturday previous to the election?—I think so.

9708. As the result of that conversation with Mr. Whithorn, was there a fund of money subscribed?—No.

9709. Or raised?—Well, as the result of that conversation, I informed Mr. Bernard that Mr. Whithorn thought that a fund should be provided in case it would carry the election.

9710. Did you request him to communicate that to Sir Robert Carden?—Oh no; certainly not.

9711. Did you request him to do anything with regard to providing that fund?—No, not all; and not the slightest intimation was given that such a fund would be provided.

9712. Was there a fund provided?—Well, from my own knowledge, I will tell you; on the following Wednesday, I think it was, Mr. Whithorn called me out of the committee-room, and said that he had just had put into his hands an envelope, containing the half of a 500*l.* pound note; how it got there or where it came from he did not know, other than he suspected that it came from Mr. Bernard.

9713. Did Mr. Whithorn say that that envelope had been put into his hands in Gloucester?—It was put into his hands in the committee-room.

9714. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He said so?—Yes; it was picked up by one of the clerks on the table; the envelope opened, and was seen to contain the half of a 500*l.* note; it was handed to Mr. Whithorn, and he called me out of the room, and told me of it.

9715. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it addressed to any one?—It was addressed to Mr. Whithorn.

9716. That was on the Wednesday, the election being on the Saturday?—Yes.

9717. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The envelope contained nothing but the half of that 500*l.* note?—No.

9718. Was it unsealed?—I only saw it open; I was not at the committee-room at the time when it was delivered.

9719. When did the corresponding half of that note come to Gloucester?—I think it was on the Thursday morning, in a letter which came addressed to me.

9720. (*Mr. Welford.*) By post?—By post.

9721. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From where?—From London, I think.

9722. Had it the London post mark?—I think so.

9723. To what effect?—Enclosed in that envelope was another, addressed to Mr. Whithorn, which I handed to him, and in that envelope was the remaining half of the 500*l.* note.

9724. Was any communication made to you in the letter which was so addressed to yourself?—None whatever.

9725. Was it a blank envelope so far as you were concerned?—Quite so. I should tell you at once that the fund I spoke of on the Saturday was 1,000*l.*

9726. (*Mr. Welford.*) On the Saturday previons to the election?—Yes.

9727. That is the fund which you mentioned as necessary to be provided?—Yes; which Mr. Whithorn thought he should have.

9728. That was the sum which you mentioned to Mr. Bernard?—I said it would be prudent if the election was to be obtained, that 1,000*l.* should be provided.

9729. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You told Mr. Bernard that?—Yes.

9730. And the envelope addressed to you containing the envelope addressed to Mr. Whithorn, did not contain the name of any person who endorsed that envelope to you?—No; not a word.

9731. Had you seen Mr. Bernard in Gloucester between the Saturday and the receipt of that money?—No; I had not seen him at all; but I should tell you (for I wish to tell you exactly all that took place) that in consequence of only 500*l.* arriving, I waited until the evening of the nomination, and then I drew out myself from my own bankers a sum of 500*l.*; on the evening preceding the election Mr. Whithorn had 400*l.*

9732. From you?—Yes; from my office.

9733. (*Mr. Welford.*) Part of this 500*l.* which you had drawn out?—It was not part of my 500*l.*; it was part of the 500*l.* received. He had 400*l.* on the evening prior to the election, and before going to the committee-rooms on the following morning he had 200*l.* more; that was 100*l.* out of my own moneys; 500*l.* which I had received from London, and 100*l.* of my own money.

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9734. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Whithorn handed over to you the 500*l.* note?—Yes.

9735. (*Mr. Welford.*) The 500*l.* note had been received by you and paid into your own bankers?—No; it was received by Mr. Whithorn.

9736. And retained by him?—Yes. Then to that 500*l.* note I added 500*l.* of my own and got it cashed; in the evening Mr. Whithorn had 400*l.* of that money.

9737. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) As I understand Mr. Whithorn kept the 500*l.* which was sent in this mysterious way?—Yes.

9738. And in addition to that you drew out 500*l.*?—Yes.

9739. Of which, on the evening of the nomination, you paid 400*l.* to Mr. Whithorn?—No; I received 500*l.* and added 500*l.* of my own, that made 1,000*l.*; I reduced it into gold on the evening previous to the election.

9740. That is your 500*l.* and Mr. Whithorn's 500*l.*?—Yes; and out of that Mr. Whithorn had 400*l.* the evening before, and 200*l.* on the morning of the election.

9741. Then the 1,000*l.* when reduced into cash remained in your office?—It was the same day; it was only the day before the election; I was in my office and he had it between seven and eight o'clock in the evening.

9742. That is, he had 400*l.*?—Yes; and the next morning as he called on his way to the committee-room he had 200*l.* more.

9743. He received, in fact, 600*l.* out of the 1,000*l.*?—Yes; in this way.

9744. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who cashed the 500*l.* note?—I did; it was cashed by my agent.

9745. Who is your agent?—Mr. Doyle; Mr. Edward Doyle, of No. 2, Verulam Buildings, Grays Inn.

9746. What did he cash?—The 500*l.* note and the 500*l.* I had drawn from my own bankers.

9747. You had got a 500*l.* note from your own bankers?—No; I do not know in what notes it was.

9748. It was in notes, at all events?—In notes.

9749. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you see him and desire it to be cashed?—Yes; on the day of the nomination.

9750. That was for the purpose of secrecy, I suppose?—No; I do not know; well, quite that as much as anything else.

9751. Was it not to prevent any person knowing that you had got 1,000 sovereigns in your possession?—No doubt about it.

9752. Was that the whole sum of money which you were acquainted with, or which you had anything to do with during the week of the election?—Entirely.

9753. You allowed Mr. Whithorn to have 600*l.* out of the 1,000*l.*; what became of the other 400*l.*?—It remained in my own possession, it was my own money.

9754. There were 1,000 sovereigns you had; did you keep the remaining 400 sovereigns, or give them to any other person?—They remained with me in my possession.

9755. They remained with you till after the close of the election?—Yes.

9756. For what purpose did you let Mr. Whithorn have those 600*l.*?—Well; it would be useless to say that it was for any legal purpose; it was for the purpose, no doubt, of counteracting the efforts on the other side if it was felt that we should gain the election by doing so.

9757. If it was felt that you would gain the election by the purchase of votes, the 600*l.* were to be so employed?—Yes; no doubt.

9758. And do you now know that the 600 sovereigns were so employed?—No, I know now that they were not—not the whole of them.

9759. What portion of the money was so employed?—I only know that Mr. Whithorn informed me that he had not parted with the whole of that money, but that he had parted with a considerable portion of it; he will tell you himself how much he parted with.

9760. Did he tell you himself how much he had parted with?—No, he did not. I think about 400*l.*, if I remember rightly.

9761. Did he represent to you from time to time, or did he represent to you after he got possession of the money, who were the persons that were required to be bribed?—No; I never had any knowledge of how the money was applied or where it went, in any way whatever.

9762. Have you since learned that there were promises made to electors which were to be redeemed by the payment of money, or in any other way, after the election was over?—No, I do not know of one. What was done was done at the time, I believe.

9763. Do you know whether Mr. Whithorn spent any money besides that money which he received from you?—Before the contest, and during the time of the canvass, he had from me 170*l.*

9764. Before he received the 600 sovereigns?—Yes; during the contest from time to time, for the purpose of the canvass, and for general disbursements during the election, in various sums.

9765. Can you state what those sums were? Can you give me the dates of them?—On the 11th of April he had 20*l.*; on the 18th, 30*l.*; on the 25th, 70*l.*, and on the 28th,—I almost think it was the 28th, —50*l.*

9766. That was the day before the nomination?—Yes, the day before the nomination.

9767. You paid him those moneys upon the representation from him that he required them?—Yes.

9768. Is that the whole sum that passed from your hands to Mr. Whithorn?—Every farthing.

9769. Did you pay or advance any sums of money to any other persons?—No, otherwise than that which I will give you an account of—the auditor's account—and here (*producing a paper*) are extra payments.

9770. Before I come to that, you did not yourself hand over any money to any of those gentlemen who were employed professionally?—Not one farthing.

9771. Did you hand over any money to any other person employed in canvassing, or who took any part in the election of Sir Robert Carden?—Not at all.

9772. Up to the period of the election, have you included in these amounts the whole sum that passed through your hands?—With the exception of this amount, which is not included in the auditor's account, nothing whatever.

9773. I understand you to say that those other payments that you made were payments which you were bound to make under the Act before the day of the nomination?—No; they would have been included in the auditor's account, except for this reason: that when the petitions were tried in London I did not get home till the Saturday evening, and we were much pressed to file the auditor's account on the following Monday. My clerk, who had had the management of this matter of the messengers and so on, was very unwell at the time. He commenced the account, and could not finish it; he was ill in bed for three or four days, and I had to finish it myself; consequently one bundle of messengers' receipts were omitted, and other payments, which I can give you an account of.

9774. Those are payments supplementary to the auditor's account?—Yes, 200*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* I will give you in the details of those, if you please, or I will hand you in the account.

9775. Let us see the account, if you please.—This is the account (*handing it to the Commissioners*).

9776. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was the sum you paid to the auditor?—Neither of the agents paid anything to the auditor or through the auditor.

9777. What was the amount of the auditor's account?—£1,021 10*s.* 11*d.*, including the auditor's fee.

9778. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not supply the auditor with vouchers for any of these sums, did you?—Yes, here they are (*producing a bundle of papers*).

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9779. Are those the vouchers for everything?—They are all the vouchers that I have.

9780. Do you know of any claims outstanding?—Yes, I think there are some; there is an account, I understand, owing to Mrs. Gorely at the Wellington, for dinners or something of that kind, for the canvassers,—£5 15*s.*, I am told.

9781. What is the amount altogether of the outstanding accounts?—I scarcely know the amount. Miss Turk of the New Inn, for dinners, I am told, for the canvassers, 17*l.* 15*s.*; Mr. Dowding, 5*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; Mr. F. Hanman about 2*l.* or 3*l.*, I am told, outstanding. There is an account of 22*l.* to Mr. Growtage, at the Booth Hall, for refreshments and other things supplied to the committee room. I should have put the whole of these in if I had known of them at the time of rendering the auditor's account, as I understand they are perfectly legal, except, perhaps, Mr. Hanman's, about 3*l.*; that may not be considered so. Then there is Mr. Tewen's, 17*s.* 8*d.* There is 2*s.* 6*d.* to Mr. Hanman for some candles, or something of that kind. There is something owing to Mr. Tandy, and I also understand to Mr. Smart.

9782. Hand those in, if you please?—These are merely my memoranda; they have nothing to do with the accounts—they are merely memoranda made to refresh my memory as I give my evidence, nothing else.

9783. Is it your opinion that the items that are comprehended in this supplementary account, as well as the items you have just read, are all of them legal expenses?—Will you allow me to look at that account again (*the account before produced is handed back to the witness*). I believe they are all legal expenses, with two exceptions; the first is, I charge to the Gloucester election a sum of 19*l.* 11*s.*, which was paid to Mr. Taynton under these circumstances. A voter of the name of Taylor had some process out against him, and could not come either to render us assistance at the election, or to record his vote. Mr. Taynton lent him 13*l.*, I think, or something of that kind, to pay this debt, and that with the expenses of going to make that arrangement and so on, amounted to 19*l.* 11*s.*; and he took the man's note, I believe, for the amount, but indorsed it to me. I did not consider it was any advance of mine, and I charged it to the Gloucester election, as it arose out of that transaction. I tell you the circumstances, and you will consider whether it was legal or illegal.

9784. That is one charge—what is the other?—£53 10*s.* to James Maysey, paid upon his canvass and after the election for sundry expenses and other things which he told me he was out of pocket, and of which he must give you an account. With those two exceptions I consider that all the other payments could have gone properly into the auditor's account; and indeed, if those payments had gone into the auditor's account he had no power to disallow any one of them.

9785. Only if they go with the auditor's account they are made public, and if they do not they are kept secret?—We had no object in keeping them secret, the petitions being over; and therefore we had no object whatever in keeping them secret.

9786. (*Mr. Welford.*) There are penalties imposed by the Act in certain cases?—They were scarcely such payments as penalties would attach to; I do not think that penalties would attach to one of them.

9787. Have any representations been made to you by any of the gentlemen who were concerned in the election that monies had been paid by themselves which they should expect to have repaid?—Not one; and I do not think there is one. We do not find the facility on our side that seems to have been afforded by various gentlemen on the other side for similar purposes.

9788. Have you any reason to think, from anything that has reached you in the course of conversation with any person, or in discussing the affairs of the election, that there are any sums of money due to any persons connected with the election of Sir Robert Carden, other than those you mentioned?—None whatever.

9789. How much money have you received from Sir Robert Carden?—I have received 1,175*l.*,—irrespective of the petitions, I presume you mean?

9790. Yes?—I have not received any specific sum on any one account; therefore I had better tell you, perhaps, all I have received.

9791. I am speaking now about the last election?—But the petition immediately commenced, and I received other two sums which I appropriated to the petition; but you may put the sums together or not, just as you please. I can give you the totals of either; they were not remitted to me on either account.

9792. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you conduct the petition on behalf of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

9793. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) State the sums you received, and when you received them?—Sir Robert Carden remitted me, through Williams, Deacon & Co., on April 25th, 500*l.* That is all I had received prior to the election. After the election he paid me 675*l.*

9794. (*Mr. Welford.*) On what day?—I think it was May 14th or July 13th he paid me 400*l.*, and on August 2nd 400*l.* more. That is all I have received.

9795. I understand you to say you had nothing but those two sums you have mentioned?—Yes; I appropriated them in that way, and 800*l.* to the petition.

9796. Do you consider the 800*l.* sufficient to pay the expenses of the petition?—No, not by 800*l.* more.

9797. Do those sums that you have mentioned include your own fees?—No, not a farthing.

9798. Not a farthing, either in respect of the election or in respect of the petition?—No, not one sixpence. I have not received on either account one sixpence.

9799. I do not ask you at all with regard to particulars; can you give us any general notion as to what those figures will be?—I shall leave that entirely to Sir Robert Carden. It is very possible that I shall not charge any fee under the circumstances; I shall leave it entirely to Sir Robert Carden. If he chooses to give me a fee, I shall take it; if he does not, I shall be perfectly satisfied without it, under the circumstances attending the election.

9800. Did you make any arrangement with Sir Robert Carden for any precise sum of money?—Nothing was said when the petition was launched. Sir Robert Carden expressed a hope that the expenses would not be so large as they were on the previous occasions. He thought that the witnesses would not be so numerous, or could not be possibly so numerous. I expressed some hope that the expense would not be more than 700*l.* or 800*l.*, or something of that kind. He expressed a hope and nothing more.

9801. Have you any expectation that your fees would amount to anything like 800*l.*?—If Sir Robert Carden made an appeal to me and said "This has "been an unfortunate matter,"—or anything of that kind,—"the expenses are heavy, do not charge me," I should say I would forego them. I have never had any reason to complain of Sir Robert Carden in point of treatment, and consequently I should leave the matter completely and entirely in his hands, fully satisfied that whatever he did would be satisfactory to me; and I say that from his treatment of me on the previous occasion in 1857, of which you will hear when the proper time arrives.

9802. You were stating what money you had received during the election; during the election, did you not tell us you had received the sum of 500*l.* from Sir Robert Carden?—You did not ask me. You were asking me as to what moneys I had parted with.

9803. I thought I had asked you also what money came into your hands?—I did not catch your intention. I fully made up my mind to give you and this court the fullest possible information upon this

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inquiry, and any inquiry with regard to any previous elections.

9804. Your evidence appears very straightforward; but having received that 500*l.* on the 25th of April, did you dispose of that 500*l.* in any way in the election?—None whatever; it had been partly disposed of before. I had advanced nearly 170*l.* to Mr. Whithorn, and messengers had been paid. It had been nearly disposed of at that time.

9805. In what way had that 170*l.* been expended?—In the payment of messengers and other things. My disbursements, I should think, must have amounted at that time to 400*l.* of that money.

9806. To whom had you paid money for messengers?—To my clerk.

9807. He had the entire control of the messengers?—The principal control.

9808. Have you received the account from your parliamentary agents for the last petition?—No, I have not. Mr. Rose is from home and has been since the vacation, and I have not received it.

9809. Do you know whether any sum of money was sent to Gloucester during the election besides what you have spoken of?—I know that no sum of money has come to Gloucester whatever on the election account; if it had come, it would have been within my knowledge.

9810. If any sum had come, you would have known it?—I am sure I should have known it.

9811. You do not think that any sum of money of which you are not aware, had been sent down in that mysterious manner to Mr. Whithorn?—I am quite sure that no sum of money has been sent down other than that which I have told you of.

9812. Was Mr. Rose in Gloucester during the election?—He was not.

9813. Not at all?—Not all, and he knew nothing whatever of the election. I never spoke to Mr. Rose during the election; I did not see him.

9814. Was he in Gloucester at any recent period before the election?—No, not to my knowledge.

9815. You had no conversation with him about the election, had you?—Not at all.

9816. Do you know whether a gentleman of the name of Frail was here during the election?—To my knowledge he was not; he is in court prepared to tell you that he was never in Gloucester in his life before until last night. I expressed a wish that he should be examined.

9817. You know Mr. Frail, do you, by sight?—I never saw him. He wrote to me saying he was coming to Gloucester, and would I kindly write to tell him the best hotel to come to. I called upon him last night, and then he reminded me that he had been once introduced to me in the lobby of the House of Commons; but I did not remember him and have never seen him from that hour to this.

9818. Having seen him last night and also this morning, are you prepared to say you did not see him in Gloucester during the week of the election?—Most positively.

9819. Have you never heard from any person that he had been here?—Not until I was informed of the suspicion that he was here by Clarke.

9820. When did Clarke inform you of it?—When I took his statement in London soon after his giving information to Sir Robert Carden.

9821. At that time Clarke did inform you that he had seen Mr. Frail in Gloucester?—Yes; that he thought he had seen him, but he did not appear to me to be at all positive about it.

9822. When you were examining Clarke as a witness to be examined before the Parliamentary Committee, did he then tell you that he thought he had seen Frail in Gloucester during the election?—He did.

9823. Did you communicate with Mr. Rose during the election?—I do not think I did, either by letter or otherwise. I do not remember having done so.

9824. You think you did not, but you are not certain about it?—I do not see any reason why I should have communicated with him, and I do not remember that I did.

9825. Did you write to him at all about any trustworthy person?—I did. I do now remember that I did.

9826. What was it you wrote to him with reference to a trustworthy person?—On the 25th of April I received this letter, "Sandwich, April 25." I could not receive it till the 26th; it is dated April 25, 1859.

9827. Who is it signed by?—It is signed by Edmund F. Wood. "Sir,—You may perhaps like to "know that Mr. Monk came here in 1852, and offered "his services to two members of the Tory committee, "and expressed his desire to be allowed to become a "candidate for that interest. The following questions "might give him some trouble to answer if put to "him on the hustings, 'Did you not go to Sandwich "'in 1852, and offer yourself as a candidate for that "'borough in the Tory interest? Did you not have "'an interview with Mr. Wood and Mr. Denne, "'as to the position of the borough? and did "'you not leave yourself in their hands to put "'you in nomination for the borough on the Tory "'side, as they saw fit?' 'Did you not go by their "'express wish to the adjoining town of Deal, and "'wait at the hotel until the question as to the late "'member, Mr. James Macgregor, was determined?' "The Mr. Wood referred to above is the writer of "this communication. Your obedient servant, "Edmund S. Wood." That is addressed "To the "Chairman of Sir Robert Carden's committee, Glou-"cester." Upon receiving that letter it either appeared to me to be a hoax, or one that I should ascertain the truth of before making any use of it as against Mr. Monk; and I wrote, now you remind me, to Mr. Rose, to ask him if he knew a Mr. Wood, whether there were any allegations he had made or said which were worthy of credit, and whether I could trust him; and I think in answer to that I received a telegram from Mr. Rose, to say that Mr. Wood was trustworthy.

9828. And it was in reference to that Mr. Wood that you received the telegram?—Yes, entirely. I should say that after that I communicated with Mr. Wood again, and he went further into the particulars, and quite bore out the statement that Mr. Monk had been a candidate, or had offered to become a candidate, at all events, for Sandwich in 1852. In his letter he spelt the name "Monck," and it occurred to me there might have been some mistake, and that it was another family; but he quite removed that impression, and there is no doubt that Mr. Monk, the candidate for Gloucester in the Liberal interest, was the Mr. Monk the candidate for Sandwich in the Tory interest in 1852. I should say that I did not make use of that either at the nomination or at the hustings. I had made one or two allegations as to Mr. Monk and his position here,—as to his holding certain ecclesiastical offices,—which were met in such (as I conceived) a peculiar way,—evasive way,—that I preferred not to go into another correspondence with the same gentleman. I was not in correspondence with Mr. Monk then; but no doubt Mr. Monk had replied to those allegations before, and not truthfully.

9829. What do you consider altogether was the amount expended upon the election of Sir Robert Carden, apart from the expenses of the petition?—Putting the creditors' expenses in round numbers at 1,000*l.*, the extra 200*l.*, the 170*l.* to Mr. Whithorn, the 100*l.* that I gave him and the 400*l.*,—I do not know whether I am right in putting that,—deducting what he appears to have in hand, the election altogether would have cost him from two thousand to two thousand two or three hundred pounds.

9830. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You do not include the 500*l.*?—No; I should think 2,500*l.* would be about the expenses; I should think it would be about that, as near as possible.

9831. Or it might be more, I suppose?—I don't see

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how it could be more, because I have put the worst complexion upon the case.

9832. That is for the election, as apart altogether from the cost of the petition?—Yes, quite so.

9833. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you take part yourself in the canvass?—I did scarcely anything else.

9834. You did canvass?—With Sir Robert Carden.

9835. Did you canvass with other gentlemen when Sir Robert Carden was not present?—I do not think I did once; I do not remember; but I canvassed separately, at least alone, very often. If there were certain persons upon our canvass that we could not see after the canvassing party had dispersed, I would take an opportunity in some instances of seeing them and canvassing them myself. I did that very often.

9836. Do you remember canvassing a person of the name of James White for Sir Robert Carden?—Very well.

9837. Was there any cider purchased by Sir Robert Carden of him?—I will give you the history of that. We went into White's, and in the course of talking, and so on (his house being nearly full), he pressed Sir Robert Carden to take some of his cider, and a bottle was had out, and Sir Robert Carden tasted it. Of course the cider was very much praised, and it was said to be as good as champagne, and nothing more whatever was said; I must say it was very good. I think White promised to plump for us—to give us a plumper—or something of that kind. Nothing more arose out of the cider till a long time after the election, two or three months, I should think, at least; it may be more. I was coming by White's house; he was standing at the door. He said, "You "have never recommended me a customer for my "cider that you praised so much; I should think "Sir Robert Carden ought to take some," or "would "take some." I said, "Well, you send him some, "then." That was said without the slightest intimation being given. "Well, how much shall it be?" I said, "Send him half a dozen dozen up," and six dozen of cider went to Sir Robert Carden, and I understand afterwards he sent him back the money. That is the history of the cider.

9838. It has been stated here that the sale of the cider was almost a condition of the man giving his vote?—There was nothing said, even about the sale of cider, or the purchase of cider, at the time he called, and it was merely from the accidental circumstance of my passing White's house that anything was said as to the order for the cider being given or its being paid for.

9839. Do you mean to say that neither at that time nor at any other time was anything said by yourself or by Sir Robert Carden in your presence, respecting James White's vote being at all connected with the purchase of cider?—Most positively.

9840. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing whatever. White is above all that kind of thing. He is a very respectable man in his way.

9841. You know it has been stated that a quantity of cider was sold to the amount of 10*l.*?—If I remember right, White told me it would be 18*s.* a dozen, therefore it would be a little more than 5*l.* It was long after the election that the cider was bought.

9842. You are prepared to say it had no reference whatever to the vote given by White?—Nothing whatever. That I will undertake to say, and swear to.

9843. Did you take any part in procuring a party to be sent to his house; a dinner or a supper?—No; I did not even know there had been a dinner or a supper there.

9844. You are aware it has been stated here that a dinner or supper was given for the messengers?—Yes, I have heard so; but I know nothing whatever of it.

9845. Do you know a person of the name of Robert Binning?—I heard it stated by one of the witnesses that I had given him a sovereign; I do remember paying him 10*s.* I did not pay it; but on going home I looked among the messengers' list, and I see he has given a receipt for 10*s.*, and that I believe I paid him, or it was paid him; I did not pay him that I remember. I have known Binning for many years.

9846. He is a voter, is he not?—Yes; he is a freeman.

9847. Do you say that you did not give him a sovereign?—I am sure I did not give him a sovereign. I do not remember even giving him the 10*s.*; except for the receipt I should not have remembered the circumstance at all; but I looked among the receipts, and found his name down for 10*s.*

9848. Did you promise him to be very kind to him?—It is very possible. I have done several acts of kindness for him, and should do so again, quite irrespective of politics or of the election.

9849. It was not in consequence of his vote that you promised to be kind to him?—No; he is a man who is very thankful for any kindness bestowed on him.

9850. But you disclaim that anything of the sort was said with reference to his vote?—Quite so. He divided his vote this time, and I never knew him otherwise than voting with the Conservative side.

9851. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What was the 10*s.* given him for?—For two days' service, the nomination and election days, at the committee.

9852. As messenger?—As messenger.

9853. Would that 10*s.* come into the account?—It is in the account, and is put into the auditor's account.

9854. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For 10*s.*?—I do not remember. I am only reminded of the circumstance by reference to the auditor's account.

9855. Do you know a person of the name of Perks, Mrs. Perks?—I should not know her if I were to see her now.

9856. Do you remember her coming to the committee-room?—Yes, I think I do.

9857. Do you remember saying to her that whatever Mr. Clutterbuck promised you would see performed?—It is possible I may have said so; I do not remember it at all. It is quite possible that I may have said so, because I do not think that I ever made a promise in my life that I did not perform; and if I had it in my power, towards any one acting under me, I should endeavour to perform a promise, whether legal or illegal.

9858. If Mr. Clutterbuck made a promise that Perks should have a sum of money for his vote you would see that that promise was performed?—I should infer that; I should be guided by circumstances of course. If he promised to pay 1,000*l.* it would be impossible, or very improbable, that such a promise would be carried out.

9859. Do you remember her saying that Mr. Clutterbuck had promised her husband or her something for his vote?—No; I remember no such thing.

9860. Do you know a person of the name of Charles Brookes?—Yes, I think I do.

9861. Did you promise that man anything for his vote?—Certainly not; Charles Brookes, I think, was on as a messenger. He made a trunk, I think, or something of that kind, for the committee room.

9862. You made him no promise at all?—To my knowledge I did not.

9863. Did you pay anything to a person of the name of William Cole?—I do not at the instant remember any such name; at the present moment I do not remember anybody of the name of Cole.

9864. Do you remember making any payment to a person of the name of Meadows?—I think, now I remember, that Cole was with Meadows, and I think I gave him a shilling. I recollect their coming to the committee room, and I gave them a shilling or half-a-crown, I cannot tell; in election times you are excessively liberal, and do all sorts of acts that at any other time you would not do.

9865. Especially if it happens that persons are voters?—It does not with me matter very much, I am not very much guided by all that kind of thing; I do

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not entirely confine it to voters or non-voters. I give what I can, and subscribe what I can.

9866. Did you make them any promise?—Certainly not.

9867. Had you any conversation with your clerk about the vote of a person of the name of Rees?—No, none at all. I remember Rees coming to me several times during the election and saying there was 11*s.* or 14*s.* owing to him for something connected with the Conservative cause, and I would not entertain it; but I think I gave him two or three shillings at various times. He voted against us.

9868. You gave that to Rees, you say?—Yes; I think he came on the Saturday night, and said he was on the Liberal committee and they would not pay him any money, and he had not anything to get food for his children, and I think I gave him half-a-crown, or something of that kind.

9869. Is that Rees a pilot?—I do not know what he is; it is Henry Rees, a ropemaker.

9870. At all events you had no conversation with your clerk on the subject?—No; certainly not.

9871. Do you know a person of the name of Murrell, of Littleworth?—Yes; very well. I called with Sir Robert Carden, on our canvass, on Murrell, and having known him for many years I always looked upon him as a Conservative; he informed me that he should have voted with us if he felt at liberty to do so, but inasmuch as Mr. Wilkes had a mortgage upon his property he was compelled to vote the other way; indeed, the same conversation almost arose in 1857, and he afterwards expressed a great desire that I should pay off the amount, and so on, because he is a Conservative in principle.

9872. Did he say what the amount of the mortgage was?—I do not know at all; two or three hundred pounds; but I must do Mr. Wilkes the justice to say that he did not complain of him as to his having coerced him in any way, but he was afraid to vote our way for fear he should offend him; that seemed his prevailing notion.

9873. Did he tell you he wanted 10*l.* very badly? No; not a word.

9874. He did not say if you would give him 10*l.* he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No; he never uttered such a word.

9875. Did you ever canvass him with Mr. Buchanan?—No.

9876. Has Mr. Buchanan ever had any conversation with you about that man's vote?—He never mentioned it to me to the best of my knowledge.

9877. Of course you never gave any authority whatever to Mr. Buchanan to say anything to him with regard to his vote?—Not one word; to the best of my recollection I do not remember that Mr. Buchanan had any influence with him one way or the other.

9878. The evidence of Mr. Wilkes upon this subject is this:—"Mr. Buchanan said it was all left in "Mr. Lovegrove's hands; that he would speak to "Mr. Lovegrove about it, and see if it could be "managed, or something of that kind;" "She then "told me Mr. Buchanan called upon her again and "said he had seen Mr. Lovegrove and spoken to him "about it, and that it would be all right?"—I never remember Mr. Buchanan speaking to me upon that matter, and I do not think he did. Mr. Buchanan was in court two or three days, ready to be called on to answer that allegation; but there are heaps of allegations that have been brought before you that I should like to see brought out separately, because I believe they have been only brought out with a view to create local prejudices against various parties; it is all hearsay; that is mere hearsay.

9879. Exactly so; and it will have no weight unless it is confirmed afterwards?—But it does a great deal of mischief to have such statements made when there is no foundation for them.

9880. Any parties who may be implicated by any evidence given before us will have an opportunity of contradicting it?—But unfortunately the statements go forth to the public, and the first impression is created by that kind of evidence, which it is very difficult, if not impossible, to remove.

9881. Did you call upon Murrell?—Yes.

9882. You did call upon him?—Yes, with Sir Robert Carden on our canvass.

9883. But you did not call at all in consequence of any communication made by Mr. Buchanan, or anybody else?—I have no recollection of having done so.

9884. It is stated that the conversation was that Mr. Lovegrove gave information that it would be all right?—As to giving any information, I am quite satisfied that that is wrong, and I am equally nearly sure that I did not call. I would not undertake to say that I did not call, because I might be there and look in, but I have no recollection of having done so.

9885. Do you know a person named James Dowding?—Yes.

9886. He lives in Bell Lane?—Yes.

9887. Has he a spirit licence for that house?—Yes.

9888. He had none when he went there?—The house was a private house.

9889. Was that spirit licence obtained for him by the influence of any gentleman connected with your party with reference to his vote?—I am not aware how the spirit licence was obtained or through whose influence it was obtained. At the time that allegation was made I thought that Mr. Walker, who sits on your right hand, was the gentleman who granted him the spirit licence, and I so pointed out to you at the time that Mr. Wilton gave that evidence, or whoever gave the evidence.

9890. So far as you know, the granting of that spirit licence had nothing to do with procuring his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Not to my knowledge; he voted the time before with us, and he voted this last time with us; and I consider he is a Conservative on principle. I think the Conservatives at the time of that licence being granted were in a minority on the magistrates' bench; I am sure of it.

9891. Do you know how Mr. Dowding voted on the previous occasion?—I think for Sir Robert Carden. I forget for the minute where he resided; I do not know whether he had voted at previous elections.

9892. Whether for the Blue or Tory candidate?—No; I was not so interested in previous elections as I have been in the two last, consequently I could not tell you from memory how he did vote.

9893. Do you know a person of the name of Meredith in Alvin Street?—Yes; he keeps the Star.

9894. Is he a freeman?—He is a voter I know; I do not know whether he is a freeman.

9895. Did you give him money?—Not a farthing.

9896. Did you promise him any money?—Not a halfpenny.

9897. Did you see him at all before the election?—Yes, several times.

9898. But you did not give him any money, or promise him any money when you saw him?—No; I do not remember doing either.

9899. Do you know a person of the name of Decimus Best?—Yes, very well.

9900. Is he a guard, or something at the railway station?—Yes.

9901. Did you ever promise him any money?—Not a farthing.

9902. Did you hold out any inducement to him?—Not at all.

9903. Did you promise to endeavour to get Bartlemas Hospital for him?—No; I have no influence; I am not a trustee. If I could get it I should certainly give him the appointment; I think he is very deserving of it from old age.

9904. But you never told him you would try to get it for him if he would vote for Carden?—Certainly not; and I do not remember his having ever made an application to me. We sometimes get applications made by parties who say, "Would you try and see "these gentlemen, or that gentleman, and try to do "the best you can to get him to vote for me to put

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"me in the hospital." You often get those kind of applications, and probably Best may have come to me at some time with such an application, but certainly not during the last election, nor was his application in any way connected with his vote.

9905. Do you recollect a person of the name of Merrett?—Yes; William Merrett.

9906. Were you very anxious to secure his vote?—Equally so as with all the other free and independent men in the city of Gloucester. I do not ever remember my anxiety making me "crazy," as I was said to have been by one of the witnesses.

9907. You were never "crazy" after him?—I do not remember being in that state.

9908. Did you offer him any money to vote?—Not one farthing.

9909. Did you make him any promise?—Not any; he very often has shillings from me, and so on, and has for many years past, and he may have had a shilling or two during the election. I do not think he did during the election, for, as he stated before the Committee of the House of Commons, he was on "the running fuddle" on the Liberal side during the whole of the contest.

9910. He did not confine his favours to the Liberal side, did he?—They are not at all particular, if they cannot get it from one side they will come to the other.

9911. Did you promise to put him on the Blue committee?—I do not remember seeing him at all; indeed he was on the other committee. I remember meeting him at the Cross during the election in the morning; and, in a very impetuous way, I asked him how he could be such an ungrateful scamp or rascal, or something of that kind, and there I left him. I was not at all particular as to what I said to him, for I had done (as I considered) a great many acts of kindness for him, and for his father too.

9912. Do you remember canvassing a Mr. Westbury in Westgate Street?—Yes, perfectly well; I remember that Mrs. Westbury had a great notion that she was entitled to some immense sum in the funds, and I said that after the election was over and all that kind of thing, we would give it due attention, and get the money for her if we possibly could.

9913. 40,000*l.*, was it not?—I think it was more; I performed that promise to a certain extent, for I wrote to Sir Robert Carden to ask him if he could send me down a list of the unclaimed moneys, and he sent a book down,—a very useful book,—which I took down to Mrs. Westbury in part performance of the promise I had made to her with reference to this fund; and when I was in town I called on certain parties with a view to do all I could to satisfy her, and I obtained some information for her about it, but I am sorry to say that the money has not been obtained, and we are as distant as ever from obtaining it. What I did had nothing whatever to do with the vote, it was not done to influence the voter; he had voted with us before, and this was a mere conversation. Her anxiety was to inform Sir Robert Carden that there was this sum, and he coming from London, she thought there would be nothing to do but to go to the Court of Chancery, or somewhere, and ask for the money and have it.

9914. But you did not discourage the pleasing prospect that she had in her mind with regard to getting the money?—No.

9915. You said it was all right, did you not?—I would not say I made use of the term that it was all right, but I have no doubt that I said I would look into it when I had a little time on my hands to enable me to do so.

9916. Have you looked at all into the register for the purpose of coming to any conclusion in your own mind as to the number of electors that are venal?—No; I have not gone carefully through the register with that view, but I think that the statement that has been put forth on the other side, that there are in Gloucester a certain number of venal voters, is undoubtedly correct, and that the number of venal voters does probably amount to 300 or 400.

9917. You think there are as many as 300 or 400?—Yes, and if practices such as those which were followed up at the present election were generally adopted those 400 would probably increase to 700 or 800; because when offers are made of 10*l.* and 20*l.* for votes, there are many persons who are now honest who would be tempted by the offer of such money, and consequently the number of venal voters would very much increase; and I cannot help saying that the statement made by Mr. Herbert was the most consistent of any made by the Liberal side—that it would be perfectly useless to carry on a contest (he was speaking of the Liberal side) unless some of those venal voters were purchased.

9918. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It would be impossible to carry on a contest in Gloucester successfully, on either side, without purchasing some of the venal voters?—Yes; it would be impossible to carry it on successfully, on either side, he said.

9919. What do you say about it yourself?—I say they must be taken into consideration, and that they are taken into consideration by both sides.

9920. It has been stated here, that if all those voters who may be considered venal were to be deducted from the gross number of electors, there would be a majority of 150 in favour of the Liberal candidates. Do you concur in that statement?—I have heard those statements made, with much surprise. I believe that the statement made by Mr. Wilton was made without reference to figures and without an examination of the books; and I will undertake to say, that if any two parties could agree in the first place on who are and who are not venal voters, the constituency would be equally favourable to us as to the other side.

9921. Do you mean to say, that if an agreement could be come to as to who were venal electors, and if an investigation were made of the politics of the remaining voters, there would be a majority of 150 for the Tory party?—No, I do not say that. I say that if such a state of things could be arrived at the power would be very nearly balanced. I believe that we should have a majority rather than the Liberals. The moment Mr. Price made the statement he did, I told one or two of our friends that I only wished that such a state of things could be arrived at, in order to test the accuracy of the statement that the Liberals would have a majority of 150.

9922. Do you know of any intimidation having been practised at the last election by persons who are owners of houses in this place for the purpose of inducing their tenants to give their votes for Sir Robert Carden, which votes would otherwise have been given to the Liberal candidates?—I do not think that house property in Gloucester is sufficiently valuable to justify or give effect to any threat of the kind you refer to, because there are so many houses vacant that the landlord is rather the obliged party than the tenant.

9923. Does that apply to house property of such a nature and of such a value as would be generally occupied by the lower class of voters?—Yes. I have now myself, I think, 28 vacant houses of that class, which I should be very happy for any one to take.

9924. (*Mr. Welford.*) But a tenant might be in arrear for rent, and might in that way be in the power of his landlord; do you know of any cases of that kind?—I do not.

9925. Was Mr. Goodrich an active supporter of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, he has been an active supporter of the Conservative party for many years.

9926. He has a considerable property in this neighbourhood, has he not?—Yes, considerable property.

9927. Do you know yourself that Mr. Goodrich put the screw on any of his tenants?—No, I do not. I do not think that he is a man who would do it.

9928. You have heard, have you not, that inti-

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mations of that kind have been made to us?—Yes, I have heard that among other random statements.

9929. Do you know of anything of the kind yourself?—No, I call Mr. Goodrich a very indulgent landlord.

9930. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you his agent?—No, I am not.

9931. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you prepared to state that there was no bribery committed on the part of Sir Robert Carden's friends before the week in which the election took place?—It is impossible for me to say there was not any bribery committed, but there was none to my knowledge, unless you refer to the putting on of extra messengers.

9932. I do not refer to messengers at all?—There was treating and all that kind of thing. That amounts, I consider, to bribery, and I should think there is no doubt some of our canvassers were spending money in that way upon the electors.

9933. Apart from the employment of messengers and apart from the treating of voters, do you undertake to say that no bribery at all was committed by the friends of Sir Robert Carden anterior to the Saturday before the election?—There was not to my knowledge.

9934. I suppose you would not be anxious to have any very special knowledge about it?—Certainly not. I rather should avoid it than not, certainly.

9935. It has been stated here that the Liberal party were compelled to resort to bribery in consequence of their finding out that corrupt practices were resorted to on the other side, and that large sums of money were being offered as bribes by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, which is perfectly untrue, and which is not supported by facts brought out before you or before the Committee of the House of Commons in evidence. No sooner had Mr. Monk accepted the candidateship for Gloucester, than reports were prevalent that he was a rich man,—that having been beaten at Cricklade, he was determined to get into the House; that Mr. Ralli, his father-in-law, was a millionaire, that he was very anxious to have a friend or to have some interest in the House in consequence of his connexion with some Greek interest, and that he was determined to spend any amount of money, whatever that might be, to return him to Parliament. Those reports were spoken of as facts, and in confirmation of that Mr. Monk had not been down here three days before it was currently reported and believed by the electors that Mr. Ralli had sent down a clerk with gold to distribute; and it is a fact beyond doubt that every canvasser connected with the Liberal interest from the moment Mr. Monk put his foot into Gloucester was supplied with money, and was treating and doing all these acts as though money was not of the slightest consequence; and I am satisfied that if the true state of the case were revealed to you, instead of their having spent from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l.* in bribery, it would appear that they spent not less than from 3,000*l.* to 4,000*l.* in direct bribery.

9936. Is that a matter of guess on your part?—It is from the reports which were continually being brought to us during our canvass and to the committee-rooms.

9937. You form that opinion from reports that were brought to your committee-room by persons who were canvassing?—Yes; and from information conveyed to me personally by our various friends, and all that kind of thing.

9938. You have yourself no knowledge of any sum of money having been spent by the Liberal party, except to the extent we have had revealed here in the the course of this inquiry?—No; I have not; but it is somewhat singular that there have been scarcely any cases brought before you in the course of this inquiry other than those that were brought out in consequence of certain sums of money having been traced and found out and having to be accounted for.

9939. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you say that reports were brought to your committee-room, do you mean reports as to the expenditure, or reports as to the receipt of money?—Reports that lots of money had come down, and then we found those reports verified, or somewhat confirmed, by the fact that everyone in the Liberal interest, whoever they were, appeared to have plenty of money to spend among the voters.

9940. Will you tell us, if you please, from whom those reports came?—They were general reports.

9941. Did you ever endeavour to trace those reports yourself, or can you give the Commissioners any information that will enable us to trace them?—When I heard of Mr. Ralli, and his connexion with Gloucester, I certainly endeavoured to ascertain whether any clerk had come down, and my impression was at the time that a clerk had actually come down with money, and that that money was conveyed to some of the parties in Gloucester at the Docks. My impression was so, but I could not ascertain it as a fact.

9942. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did that impression rest on any foundation whatever?—Nothing more than the fact that money was evidently obtained in the early part of the canvass.

9943. You state that there were reports current that money had been received in Gloucester, and that those reports were confirmed in your opinion by the statements of the canvassers, that the Liberal party had money?—Yes.

9944. Do those reports constitute the only ground for the opinion you entertained that money had come down from London by any clerk?—They were not founded on anything more than that.

9945. You had no further ground for the opinion you entertained that money had gone to the Docks?—No.

9946. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you hear of complaints being made on the other side that there was no money forthcoming till very late?—No; I never heard that at all. And what has struck me as very singular during the course of this inquiry has been, that the different sums of money which were advanced by the various parties in Gloucester should not have been advanced by Mr. Monk himself if they were not intended to be used for an illegal purpose.

9947. (*Mr. Welford.*) You have told us that before the Saturday preceding the election on which you had the conversation you have referred to you had advanced some sums of money yourself to Mr. Whithorn, amounting to 170*l.*?—No; he had only had 50*l.* and 30*l.*

9948. For what purpose had he had them?—To give to the canvassers, for the purposes of the canvass principally.

9949. Had you at that time received any intimation from the voters you had canvassed that they expected payment for their votes?—No; there was a backwardness to promise, but I do not think that during the whole of the canvass I ever heard from any one voter, personally, that he expected to be paid for his vote.

9950. You saw the returns which were sent in by other canvassers, did you not?—Yes.

9951. Did you receive from other canvassers information of such intimations having been made to them by voters?—Yes.

9952. How early in the election?—It came in this way; that John Nokes or Thomas Stiles, and so on, would not promise; but were waiting to see what would turn up, and all that kind of thing.

9953. Did any of the canvassers inform you of any definite sums that were required by voters?—I think I remember one instance of a man named Taylor, who brought information that Fletcher, a canvasser, had gone to him and said that he had received a book from the Liberal committee; that he was empowered to purchase votes; that he had got his name among the others; that the price would be from 5*l.* to 10*l.*, and that if he would promise he should have 10*l.* I think that was nearly the first instance I knew of.

9954. When was that?—I could not fix the time, but it was early in the canvass.

9955. And he intimated, I suppose, that if he voted

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for your party he was to have the same sum?—No; I do not think it was exactly so.

9956. But that was to be inferred from what he said?—I do not think he meant it in that way, but he brought it as a piece of news to the committee.

9957. You were acquainted with the constituency before the last election?—Yes.

9958. Can you inform the Commissioners whether any particular class or classes of the constituency are more venal than others?—I do not think that the freemen are much worse than some of the householders, but I think that, generally speaking, the out voters require something for their time in coming to give their votes. I think they look upon it, not as a bribe, but if they are to be put to inconvenience or trouble in the matter, they consider that they should receive some remuneration for it. They are generally very poor, and they do not look upon it as a bribe.

9959. I understand you to say it is your opinion that whenever an election occurs at which there is corruption it produces a tendency to increase the number of venal voters?—There is no question about it. If there were to be another election conducted in the same way as the last, instead of there being 400 venal voters I will undertake to say we should have 800.

9960. How and when did you receive any intimation that you were to see Mr. Bernard at the railway?—I received a message by telegram.

9961. From whom?—From him, I think.

9962. Had you any previous acquaintance with him?—Yes; I knew him very well. I am uncertain whether it was in his name; I have some doubt whether it was not in another name.

9963. You received an intimation by telegraph that you were to meet some gentleman who was coming by the railway?—Yes.

9964. Did that telegram express the object for which he was coming?—Not at all, I think.

9965. Had you known Mr. Bernard in reference to previous elections?—The first time I knew Mr. Bernard was in 1857, when he accompanied Sir Robert Carden to Gloucester.

9966. Did Mr. Bernard intimate to you that a fund, such as you suggested might be necessary, would be provided?—On the contrary he deprecated it, and expressed a wish not to hear anything more upon the subject, and he left without giving the slightest intimation that any such fund would be provided.

9967. Where does Mr. Bernard live?—I do not know. I think he had lodgings in the Albany in Piccadilly.

9968. Do you know what he is?—He is a man of property, I think.

9969. He is in no profession?—No, I think he is an engineer, and connected with some manufacture; a man of property.

9970. Do you know where the 500*l.* you mentioned as having come in a most mysterious way came from?—Not at all.

9971. Do you know by whom it was conveyed to Gloucester?—No, I never heard. I never ascertained.

9972. Was any intimation made by you to Sir Robert Carden that such a fund might be necessary?—Never.

9973. Then the only intimation that was made to anybody that such a fund might be necessary to win the election, was made to Mr. Bernard?—Yes.

9974. And when the 500*l.* was received you had no doubt that it was to be employed for the purpose of winning the election?—I think so.

9975. Is that 500*l.* included in the sum which makes up the 2,500*l.* which you say the election cost?—No; I have put the rough average expenses, independent of that, at about 2,000*l.*

9976. That would make it 2,500*l.*?—Yes, because I think you will hear that the whole amount of that even has not been expended.

9977. Do you consider yourself accountable for that 500*l.* to anybody?—Certainly not; and I have no claim whatever on Sir Robert Carden for the 500*l.* that I advanced.

9978. Have you not deducted that 500*l.*; I think you have given us certain sums which you received?—Yes; I put it in this calculation in the hope of having it.

9979. Sir Robert Carden paid you the sums you have mentioned generally without allocating them to any particular purpose?—Yes.

9980. And in your estimate you have applied the sums you received from him in recouping to yourself the 500*l.* you yourself advanced?—Yes.

9981. In considering the chances of Sir Robert Carden's success, you must have taken into consideration the fact that a large number of venal voters exist in Gloucester?—Unquestionably.

9982. And you never expected to win the election without using some such means as those we have heard of?—Certainly not. If such practices were not resorted to by either side, and we could have in Gloucester a pure election, I will undertake to say we should beat the Liberals out and out.

9983. At the commencement of the last election, and in the actual state of things at that time, did you expect to win the election without having recourse to the venal voters?—We had no intention at the commencement of the contest to resort to venal voters at all. That is, we had no intention to pay money to them; and had the other side not done so we should have been, I believe, at the head of the poll.

9984. Do you think there has been lately a pure election in Gloucester?—No, I do not.

9985. Had you any reason to suppose that the last election would be purer than former elections had been?—No.

9986. Then you must have anticipated that you would be obliged to resort to venal voters to win the election?—They would have formed part of the voters no doubt.

9987. Did you think that the employment of them as messengers would be sufficient to secure their services?—Yes, I think so. It has been said on the other side that we always have the venal voters; I deny that statement, and I say that of course the venal voters go to the side that will pay them the best.

9988. Can you tell me whether there are any outstanding accounts besides those you have mentioned?—I do not know that there are any of my own knowledge; if any should be brought to my notice I will inform the Commissioners of them through Mr. Coleridge.

9989. Is anything due to Jonah Dyer of the Three Cocks?—No, he is paid in that account.

9990. Mr. Mastricht of the Shakespeare?—I do not know that there is anything owing to him.

9991. Obadiah Clutterbuck of the Dolphin?—No.

9992. Richard Latch of the Black Lion?—No.

9993. Charles Belcher of the Pelican?—I do not think there is anything owing to him.

9994. Frederick Evans of the Barley Mow?—I have no knowledge of anything owing to him.

9995. John Hunt of the Prince of Wales?—No.

9996. Giles of the Worcester Arms?—There was a little account, but from something which was brought to my knowledge I have struck it out in pencil.

9997. James Rudge, beerseller, is anything due to him?—I was told by a liberal that there was an account owing to him, but I had forgotten it.

9998. Have you not said that you expected accounts to the extent of 300*l.* yet to be sent to you?—Never, to my knowledge.

9999. You have never had such an expectation?—No, never.

10,000. Have you stated that you expected 300*l.* for your own fee?—No, not at all; if Sir Robert

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Carden would present me with 300*l.* I should be certainly very much obliged to him; but he is quite welcome to my services without any fee whatever.

10,001. Do you know of any other money having come down to Gloucester besides that to which you have already referred?—I do not believe any did come down.

10,002. You know of none at all events?—No, of none; and I think I can undertake to say that none did come from any source.

10,003. Do you know of any money having been borrowed by any friends of Sir Robert Carden?—Not a farthing.

10,004. What were the messengers paid a day?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

10,005. Can you tell us how many messengers there were employed?—I will have a list of the messengers made out for you.

10,006. And in that list you will distinguish the voters from the non-voters?—Yes.

10,007. And also those who were connected with any voters?—Certainly; I have nothing whatever to conceal in this inquiry, and I have given you pretty well the worst version of the matter, because I consider this is a time when some good, I hope, will arise from it, so as to change the aspect of affairs in Gloucester on both sides.

10,008. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Sir Robert Carden was returned for the first time in 1857?—Yes.

10,009. We are not going into the question at present as to the bribery practised then, but were you aware that bribery was practised at that election on your side?—At the time of the election and for some considerable time afterwards, I had no knowledge of it whatever, and was under the firm belief that none had been practised; but I shall, when the proper time arrives, give information upon the point. I do now believe that bribery did exist on that occasion.

10,010. Was Sir Robert Carden aware that bribery had been practised?—Not in the slightest degree.

10,011. When did it first come to your knowledge that bribery had been practised on your own side in 1857?—Not till long after the settlement of the petition; there were two cross petitions, and it came to my knowledge when the settlement of the accounts and so on took place afterwards.

10,012. Did you communicate that to Sir Robert Carden?—No, I did not.

10,013. Was Sir Robert Carden at all aware from anything you then said to him, or from the amount that he was called on to pay, that bribery was practised at that election?—You will hear from me that from the mode in which the accounts were settled, and so on, Sir Robert Carden had no notion whatever that bribery had been practised.

10,014. Then Sir Robert Carden, when he came to Gloucester the second time as a candidate, was under the impression that his return on the former occasion was perfectly pure?—I think so; I do not think there was anything within Sir Robert Carden's knowledge that would lead him to believe that Gloucester was a place such as it has been described to be.

10,015. Then there was no special reason why Sir Robert Carden should give any special instructions on this occasion against illegal practices, supposing him to disapprove of them?—I think not; you will hear the circumstances when you come to inquire into the election of 1857.

10,016. I only want to know those circumstances so far as they affect your own and Sir Robert Carden's knowledge; was Sir Robert Carden in possession of any information which would or ought to have led him to take peculiar precautions on the occasion of the last election, to prevent bribery being resorted to?—No; I for the first time had the conduct of the election in 1857 personally; the responsibility of that contest was thrown upon me. I looked somewhat with awe upon the corrupt practices which had previously prevailed, and I was consequently much more particular in 1857, than, I am sorry to say, I was in 1859; and, consequently, any direct knowledge of what took place was strictly kept, I think, from Sir Robert Carden.

10,017. We have heard that when Sir Robert Carden came in 1857 to Gloucester, he made public professions of his hatred and detestation of anything like bribery?—I think he did.

10,018. Were his private instructions in accordance with those professions?—Certainly; he gave no private instructions in the matter; but he had nothing to lead him to believe that his return would be or was obtained by bribery; he gave me most specific instructions when he came down the first time to Gloucester.

10,019. And nothing having occurred to change his opinion with regard to the state of the borough, he did not repeat those instructions upon the occasion of the last election?—No, nothing passed upon the subject one way or the other.

10,020. What was to lead you then to have the conversation to which you have referred with Mr. Whithorn, in which you and he determined if necessary to resort to bribery?—It was really the result of Mr. Bernard's visit to Gloucester; that first made us think seriously of our position; and I should say that although that took place,—although that arrangement was made and the fund was provided,—unless it was quite clear that we could carry the election, it was not intended to spend any money.

10,021. I understand you to have said that Mr. Bernard sent you a telegraphic message to say he was coming?—Yes.

10,022. And you went to meet him at the station?—I did.

10,023. And did he first suggest that it was possible that the election might not be carried without bribery?—No, he asked me what were our prospects. He said, "Come, just tell me what are your pro-"spects," and so on, just as a friend of any candidate would be very likely to do, and I told him as nearly as possible what my impression and the impression of Mr. Whithorn was.

10,024. But you had had some conversation with Mr. Whithorn before, had you not?—No, I saw him in the evening.

10,025. I thought you told us just now that you had a conversation with Mr. Whithorn preparatory to your going to the station to meet Mr. Bernard?—I have no doubt I had, but I showed Mr. Bernard what our canvass was, and so on. Mr. Bernard stayed the night at the Wellington in Gloucester, and I saw him in the evening, and went into a minute calculation of our canvass.

10,026. I did not understand you to say before that Mr. Bernard had stayed in Gloucester; I thought you said you had seen him at the station, as he was going to Hereford by train?—I met him on the platform; he was going to Hereford by the train. We talked some little time there; I said, "I should like "to have a talk with you upon this election very "much," and at my request, I think, he went over to the Wellington Hotel; and I saw him again that evening, and was surprised to hear afterwards that he had remained the night there. The following day I went there and found that he had left.

10,027. Where did this conversation occur, which you say took place at the railway station?—On the platform; he had just arrived. If you have the telegram before you, I think you will see it says, "Meet "me at the station," or something of that kind; and I met him there, and we stayed talking ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. I pressed him to stay a little, and said we could not talk very well at the station, and we walked over to the Wellington, and that led to another long conversation, and I said I would came up in the evening and tell him how we stood.

10,028. Who first suggested that it would be necessary to resort to bribery at the election, Mr. Bernard or you?—I am sure Mr. Bernard did not; I am satisfied about that, because he did not agree in our resorting to that mode at all, not at that time, nor at all during the time I saw him. The effect of the

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conversation was this:—"Here are parties being "offered very considerable sums on the other side, "and how can we expect to win this election; in all "probability we shall not win it unless we are in a "position to purchase some of the votes, and what I "should recommend is, that there should be a fund "for that purpose provided."

10,029. Was that suggestion made to Mr. Bernard with reference to the conversation you had had with Alderman Whithorn?—Yes, we agreed upon that.

10,030. Then you had had a conversation with Alderman Whithorn on the subject before?—Yes; when I got the telegram I think I informed Mr. Whithorn of it, and perhaps produced it to him; then I thought it was Mr. Bernard, indeed, I was inclined to think it was Mr. Bernard; a general conversation took place, and then I met Mr. Bernard on the platform, and after that we went into serious talk upon the matter.

10,031. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then between your first interview with Mr. Bernard on the platform, and your subsequent interview with him in the evening, did you consult with Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

10,032. Did you consult with anybody else?—No.

10,033. Did Mr. Whithorn go to see Mr. Bernard with you?—I think he did; I think I saw him twice, I think I went personally myself, and then afterwards I went up to Mr. Bernard with Mr. Whithorn; but nothing whatever took place when Mr. Whithorn was there.

10,034. Was nothing said about a fund being provided?—No, not at all.

10,035. What was discussed?—We talked about the election, but nothing about a fund. Mr. Bernard studiously avoided saying anything about it.

10,036. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had Mr. Whithorn any conversation with Mr. Bernard apart from you?—I do not know that he had.

10,037. How long before you had the conversation you have been speaking of, was it that you heard that promises had been made on the other side to electors?—I think upon the starting with the canvass they commenced with a determination to win; they commenced with that feeling and with that determination, and did not at all disguise such intention either to the electors or to any one else.

10,038. Was that intimation given to you by members of your own party, or by the other side?—It was what one found universally spoken of.

10,039. Did you yourself personally hear it?—I heard it on all hands.

10,040. But did you hear of individual cases of promises made to electors?—I did not hear of individual cases, because, as one of the witnesses said, it was not the time for making direct offers. I think the first direct offer I heard of was that of Taylor's, where Fletcher goes round with his book, and says, "What shall it be? If you will vote for Price and "Monk I will give you 10*l.*"

10,041. When did that occur?—In the course of an election contest, with the thousand things that take place, it is impossible to fix dates correctly.

10,042. About when would it be?—It was very early in the canvass.

10,043. Did you ever hear that any of your own canvassers had been making promises?—I did not.

10,044. Did you authorize any promises to be made?—No, I did not.

10,045. Did no information reach you at all in the early part of the canvass that any promises had been made by your own side?—None whatever. I do not believe that any had been made, because we were not in a position to make them, and had not the slightest intention of carrying any out at that time.

10,046. After this conversation, which you say took place between you and Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Bernard, did you give permission to any of your canvassers to make promises?—No, I would not say anything to them, one way or the other.

10,047. You had no knowledge, during that week, of any promises being made by your party?—No, I did not make any promises whatever myself, nor do I know of any having been made.

10,048. Then when you received this 500*l.*, and allowed Mr. Whithorn to take 600*l.*, for what purpose did you suppose that money was to be employed?—To use Sir William Hayter's expression, I had a very strong suspicion that it was for the purpose of purchasing votes.

10,049. Was it for the purpose of first commencing purchasing votes, or was it for the purpose of performing promises previously made?—I do not know at all how Mr. Whithorn proposed to manage the matter; it was never intended that the money should be spent at all, or that any portion of it should be spent, unless there was a probability and reasonable chance of gaining the election.

10,050. It was never intended by whom?—Neither by me nor by Mr. Whithorn.

10,051. That is, it was never intended by you, and it was never intended by Mr. Whithorn, so far as you know?—Yes.

10,052. You had no idea yourself that Mr. Whithorn was taking that 600*l.* for the purpose of performing promises that had been previously made to voters?—No, I had not. The fact is, that this money was only provided the evening before the election; it came in the morning, and then the whole of the voters had been swept away from us, and consequently there was no means of using it, and we virtually abandoned the election at half-past nine in the morning.

10,053. Were you aware how much of this money Mr. Whithorn expended?—No, I was not.

10,054. Are you now?—Mr. Whithorn has told me, I think, that he expended about 400*l.*, or something of that kind.

10,055. Has he told you when he commenced to expend it?—No, I have not obtained the particulars. I carefully abstained from doing so.

10,056. (*Mr. Welford.*) When were you appointed election agent?—Either the evening before, or on the morning of the nomination.

10,057. You are aware, are you not, of the Act of Parliament under which an election agent and an auditor are appointed?—Yes.

10,058. Did you treat that Act as of no operation?—I treated the Act with the greatest possible respect in 1857, but when we had two petitions and various consultations with counsel and others upon that Act, it was, in the words of Mr. Carter, treated by all as being perfect moonshine, and the Act itself was really never framed or intended to put an end to bribery.

10,059. Practically you disregarded it?—Practically it was disregarded. The Act would have been made much more stringent and much better if there had been any serious intention on the part of the legislature, I think, to put down bribery, which intention I do not believe exists.

10,060. Have any proceedings been taken against you in respect of acts done at the last election?—None whatever.

10,061. Hostile or friendly?—No.

10,062. You have mentioned a letter of the 24th of April to Sir Robert Carden, in which a certain calculation is given of voters—687 voters to Carden, and 642 to Price, and so on. Was that letter written before or after your conversation with Mr. Bernard?—I think it must have been after. If I am right in assuming it was the Saturday that I saw Mr. Bernard, it would be the 23rd.

10,063. You did not see Mr. Bernard the following day?—I did not see Mr. Bernard again.

10,064. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have told us that you had no reason to know where this 500*l.* came from, except that it came after your conversation with Mr. Bernard; have you never heard where it came from?—Yes; Mr. Bernard will admit having sent the money; he will be down here; he will not give you any trouble about that.

10,065. Has he ever told you whose money it was?—Yes; his own.

10,066. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He told you that himself?

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—Yes; Mr. Bernard, as I understand, is a man of property and a man of means.

10,067. You do not know why he should spend 500*l.* to promote Sir Robert Carden's election, do you?—No; there is no other reason that I know of, except that he was endeavouring to serve a friend.

10,068. (*Mr. Welford.*) Has he ever told you that he sent any other money to Gloucester?—No.

10,069. Has he told you that he has not?—That he has not I am satisfied.

10,070. Has he ever told you so?—Certainly; yes.

10,071. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Bernard go on to Hereford?—I do not know at all.

10,072. You said that you met him on the platform of the station, and that he was going on to Hereford?—At least I inferred that; I think he told me he was on his way to Hereford.

10,073. But he does not seem to have gone on to Hereford that day?—He did not, I know; he remained at the Wellington Hotel.

10,074. He remained the whole night at Gloucester?—Yes.

10,075. And went on the next day?—I do not know what became of him; I went up to the Wellington Hotel on the Sunday evening, and found that Mr. Bernard was not there; consequently, I do not know whether he went to Hereford, or whether he returned home.

10,076. Are you quite certain that Mr. Bernard was not in Gloucester after the Sunday?—Certainly not, to my knowledge; I did not see him.

10,077. Can you undertake to swear that Mr. Bernard was not in Gloucester during the week of the election after you had had the interview with him to which you have referred?—Certainly, he was not here as far as my knowledge extends, and I do not believe that Mr. Bernard was here. I could not, of course, swear that he was not, but to my knowledge I never heard that he was; and I do not believe he was in Gloucester after that evening, or after that day.

10,078. Are you quite ignorant as to the means by which the envelope with the half of the five hundred pound note was deposited upon the table in the committee room?—Perfectly so.

10,079. Have you never heard from any person since that time any mode by which the deposit of that envelope in that way could be accounted for?—No; Mr. Taynton, who was in the committee room, I believe, will tell you the circumstances as far as he knows them with regard to the delivery of it.

10,080. Was it not arranged with Mr. Bernard that he should send down 500*l.*?—It was not; no arrangement or understanding was arrived at at all.

10,081. Was no sum of 500*l.* mentioned?—No.

10,082. Was no sum at all mentioned to him?—Yes, 1,000*l.*; I have told you that,—that it would be desirable to have a fund of 1,000*l.*

10,083. But was anything said about any sum that should be sent down?—Not a word, nor that any sum at all would be sent down.

10,084. You say that the money was not intended to be spent, unless it was thought that the election of Sir Robert Carden could be secured by its expenditure?—That was certainly my notion.

10,085. If you had thought that the election of Sir Robert Carden could be secured by the expenditure of 1,000*l.* in bribery, would that money have been expended?—I believe it might, and probably I should have been foolish enough to have expended two or three hundred pounds more if necessary.

10,086. At that time it was your intention, was it not, to carry the election of Sir Robert Carden by a sufficient expenditure of money in the purchase of venal votes?—The excitement of an election might have carried one to a hundred pounds or two beyond the thousand pounds.

10,087. I am speaking of your intention at that time?—The intention was not to spend any money unless we could gain the election.

10,088. But it was the intention, was it not, to spend what money should be required for the purpose of securing the return of Sir Robert Carden by the purchase of votes?—I can hardly say "that would be required;" the 1,000*l.* undoubtedly would have been spent, and another hundred pounds or two, probably.

10,089. Did you consider that the sum of money which was handed to Mr. Whithorn would be sufficient to accomplish the return of Sir Robert Carden?—No; it was the fact of money being paid on the other side for votes that induced us to believe that we must resort to similar means.

10,090. Did you contemplate that the payment of 400*l.* for the purchase of votes would secure the return of Sir Robert Carden?—No; that 400*l.* was a mere instalment.

10,091. What money did you contemplate would be sufficient for the purpose?—We did not contemplate any specific sum of money.

10,092. 400*l.* was a mere instalment, you say?—Yes.

10,093. A mere instalment of what?—It was a portion of the sum of money that had been provided.

10,094. Of what sum of money?—Of the 1,000*l.*

10,095. Did you consider that you should succeed in returning Sir Robert Carden by the expenditure of 1,000*l.* in the purchase of votes?—We hoped to have succeeded spending scarcely any of it; but if it was found necessary to do so to secure his return there was 1,000*l.*, and no doubt it would have been spent.

10,096. What sum of money did you consider it would be necessary to expend in that way?—We made no calculation. I made none, certainly, as to what was necessary, or what was not.

10,097. You say 400*l.* was a mere instalment?—That was a portion of the 1,000*l.*

10,098. What I wish to direct your attention to is this,—if 400*l.* was not the whole sum that you expected would be necessary to be spent in the purchase of votes, what was the sum which you expected would be necessary to be so expended?—We could not tell at all. It depended on the voters and on what was done on the other side. If they were offering four or five pounds, we probably should have to give six or seven pounds, if we saw a chance.

10,099. This sum of 400*l.* was given to Mr. Whithorn as I understand you, on the morning of the polling?—On the evening before the polling.

10,100. That is on the evening of the nomination day?—Yes.

10,101. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that the day on which you drew the other 500*l.* from the bank?—Yes.

10,102. Did you send up to London by private hand?—Yes.

10,103. And the money was brought down to you the same day?—Yes.

10,104. By whom did you send it?—My nephew.

10,105. Having only one night and the morning of the polling day to distribute this money, I suppose you must have had a good many hands employed for the purpose of distributing it?—No, not one.

10,106. You contemplated, did you not, that if the money was to be distributed to any effect it would take a good many hands to distribute it?—Upon our canvass we stood to win the election, but in consequence of the money that was offered to the voters on the other side, we supposed that there would be defalcations and so on, and that was the reason why that money was provided. It was to provide against those defalcations.

10,107. Did you and Mr. Whithorn make any calculation of the number of voters who might be found wanting?—No; none whatever. I had no conversation with Mr. Whithorn as to any calculation of the kind.

10,108. You understood from him did you not, that there would be a certain number of voters who might be found wanting?—I understood from him that

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we ought to be provided with a fund of 1,000*l.*; that we ought to have it there to use if necessary to carry the election.

10,109. And that money was disbursed in the course of the night?—No; after the nomination day there were a certain number of unreturned votes.

10,110. After you got the money on the evening of the nomination day, if that money was to be paid before the electors voted, it must have been all disbursed in the night, between the night of the nomination, and the morning of the polling day?—On the morning of the polling day.

10,111. To do that with any effect must have taken a good many hands, it would require a good many people to distribute it?—I do not know anything of the *modus operandi*.

10,112. Does not your own reason tell you that it must have taken a good many hands to disburse it?—If they had an offer from the other side, some of our voters would probably have declined to vote, unless they had similar sums from ours.

10,113. Was there any place in Gloucester where the money was distributed?—No; not to my knowledge.

10,114. Then the agents must have sought out the voters?—I do not know at all what was done.

10,115. Were all these gentlemen you have put down, professional and otherwise, agents acting for you?—They were acting to win the election, but they had no knowledge of any of the transactions of which I have spoken.

10,116. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you the returns that were made by the canvassers?—No; I have not. The returns would be on slips of paper, and would be taken off and probably burnt or destroyed.

10,117. Have you the book in which the returns were entered?—Yes.

10,118. Have you got it here?—No, I have not.

10,119. Have you got it at your office?—Yes, and I have my canvass book; the result of the canvass book.

10,120. Let me see, if you please, the book in which the returns of the canvassers were entered?—You shall have it.

10,121. You say the first time you heard of bribery being resorted to by the other side, was when the statement was made to you as to Taylor?—That is my impression.

10,122. Cannot you fix the date of that?—No, I cannot, it is impossible.

10,123. Did Taylor come to you?—No; I did not see Taylor.

10,124. Who did you hear it from?—It is impossible to tell, but what I heard then, was afterwards confirmed, because upon the election petition he was one of the witnesses whose evidence I took, but he did not give his evidence before the Committee.

10,125. You say you cannot fix the time at all; you seem to recollect the circumstances, but cannot fix the time?—No; I cannot.

10,126. How long was it before the election?—I cannot recollect.

10,127. What was the amount expended by Sir Robert Carden in the election of 1857?—I think the election cost him 1,100*l.* I think as near as possible the statement made by Mr. Price the other day agrees with the facts which will appear before you, when the proper time arrives.

10,128. As far as you know the total amount was about 1,100*l.*?—About 1,100*l.*,—1,100*l.* or 1,200*l.*

10,129. In this supplementary account which you handed in, I see under the date of May 17th, there is a charge for a payment to Taylor of 19*l.* 11*s.*?—That was to enable Taylor to come down and canvass, and afterwards vote.

10,130. Then Jonah Dyer for loss of time as canvasser, 6*l.*?—Yes.

10,131. Is that Jonah Dyer of the Three Cocks?—Yes.

10,132. Did you look upon that in any other light than as a bribe to Jonah Dyer?—Certainly I did not look upon it as a bribe. He spent, I suppose, sixteen or eighteen days, and that was for his loss of time, it was for services performed.

10,133. Under the date of May 18th, there is some money paid to Jabez Franklin, on account?—That was on account of his services as a canvasser; I think you will find a subsequent payment to him.

10,134. He was a canvasser on your side?—Yes.

10,135. Was he a supporter of the Conservative party?—Yes, always, and all his family before him.

10,136. Was he paid 9*l.* as a canvasser, for his services?—No; it would depend on the time he was engaged, and so on.

10,137. Did you hear the statement made by Mr. Price the other day, as to his election in 1857 having cost something more than 300*l.*?—Yes.

10,138. Does that lead you to think that Sir Robert Carden's election in 1857, must have been a corrupt election, contrasting his expenditure with that of Mr. Price?—No, it does not; Sir Robert Carden was a new man, and he came down and desired that every one connected with his election should be paid liberally, as they were, and that was the reason. I think that Mr. Price himself might have been returned at both the elections, certainly in 1859, with scarcely any expenditure; the contest actually and really was between Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk.

10,139. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I want to know something more about these professional charges: the gentlemen charged for in this account were all agents, were they not?—Yes; they were out canvassing and assisting.

10,140. Were there any other canvassers on your side besides those whom you have put down here?—Not that I am aware of,—not regular canvassers; there were a great number engaged in the election doing the best they could to serve the cause.

10,141. Had Mr. Whithorn any agents employed by him who were unknown to you?—Not at all.

10,142. You gave Mr. Whithorn 400*l.* for the purpose of its being disbursed in the way in which you suspected this would be disbursed; through whose hands did you suppose Mr. Whithorn would pass that money?—I cannot form an opinion upon that, and as Mr. Whithorn is to be examined I must, if you please, refer you to him.

10,143. Had you any doubt that he would employ some of the people named here in the distribution of it?—I can scarcely say what he would do or how it was done; I really do not know.

10,144. You kept yourself purposely ignorant of the manner in which the money was to be spent?—Certainly.

10,145. Do you know of any persons whose names are not mentioned in this account who were employed by Mr. Whithorn as canvassers or who were employed in any way during the election?—I do not.

10,146. Do you remember that telegram (*handing a telegram to the witness*)?—Did you know of Sir Robert Carden having sent a telegram during the election?—No.

10,147. You cannot explain it?—No.

10,148. Has that any reference to the election?—No, none whatever.

10,149. Do you remember that telegram (*handing another telegram to the witness*)?—Yes.

10,150. Did you canvass a man named Thomas Llewellyn in Worcester street?—I do not know whether his name is Thomas; I called on all of them. There is a printer of that name that I called on several times, and could not see, and I saw Thomas the horse-dealer.

10,151. Do you employ him at a salary?—He has been in my office a fortnight. He is now in my office.

10,152. Did you take him into your office in consequence of a previous promise?—Certainly not; and I wonder at any one suggesting such a question.

10,153. Do you know a voter of the name of Smith, who lives in Worcester Street?—Yes.

10,154. Did you ever offer him anything?—Never.

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10,155. We have heard from another witness that the municipal elections in this borough create considerable interest and excitement ?—Yes, they do.

10,156. Are you aware that money is spent on either side at those elections ?—I believe there is never a contested election without the expenditure of money.

10,157. Do you know where the money comes from ?—Generally by subscription.

10,158. Do you know of the members for the borough having ever furnished to either side any of the money that has been spent in municipal elections ?—I believe that both members have subscribed.

10,159. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know that Sir Robert Carden has done so ?—There was a very severe contest in which the Liberal candidate spent 700*l.*, I think, and the other candidate 300*l.* or 350*l.* That was a contest between Eassie and Stafford ; and, the debts remaining unpaid, I made a strong appeal to Sir Robert Carden, and, I think, he sent a subscription. I will ascertain what it was.

10,160. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is the constituency for municipal elections pretty much the same as that for the return of members to Parliament ?—No, they vary.

10,161. I understand you have not yet come to a final settlement of accounts with Sir Robert Carden. That must be necessarily postponed till Messrs. Baxter and Rose send in their account ?—Yes.

10,162. Was Sir Robert Carden aware that a large number of messengers were employed in 1857 ?—There were very few messengers employed, or not a great number.

10,163. Was he at all aware that a great number of messengers were employed at the last election ?—No, not at all. I do not think he was at the committee rooms more than twice during the whole contest.

10,164. (*Mr. Welford*). The sum of 1,000*l.*, which was mentioned by you to Mr. Bernard, was fixed as to amount by Mr. Whithorn, I think you say ?—Yes.

10,165. You did not enter into the calculation yourself ?—Not in any way whatever.

10,166. As to so much of the money as was spent, you left that to Mr. Whithorn's discretion ?—Yes.

10,167. And you left the mode of spending it also to his discretion ?—Yes.

10,168. Did your clerk, Griffiths, go to Birmingham to canvass any voter ?—He went to Birmingham, but I think that was upon the petition.

10,169. Before the election ?—He is here. I rather think he did go. I thought it was upon the petition, but he did go.

10,170. During the following day was Sir Robert Carden asked for more money ?—Not a farthing.

THOMAS CHARLES KEENE sworn and examined.

T. C. Keene.

10,171. (*Mr. Vaughan*). Are you a voter for this city ?—Yes.

10,172. Where do you live ?—At Bulley.

10,173. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Price and Monk.

10,174. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

10,175. Were you offered any money to vote on the other side ?—No.

10,176. You were not offered any money by any person ?—No.

10,177. Were you canvassed ?—Yes, I was canvassed.

10,178. Were you canvassed by Mr. Ward ?—Yes.

10,179. Were you canvassed by Mr. Clutterbuck ?—Yes.

10,180. And you were not offered by either of those gentlemen anything for your vote ?—No, I was not actually offered any money by either party.

10,181. You say you were not actually offered any money ; was there any approximation ? Was anything like an offer made to you ?—Not any more than I believe it was Mr. Clutterbuck asked me, as to those on the other side, if I was under any obligation to them, and I told him "No ;" and that was all that passed, anymore than that he wanted me to give him a vote, and I told him I had promised the other party, and I should give it to them.

10,182. And nothing further was said by Mr. Ward or by Mr. Clutterbuck ?—There was a little more said. I told them I had promised Mr. Price, and he wanted me to give one to Mr. Price and one to Mr. Carden, and I told him I would not promise.

10,183. Did you say anything about having been paid your expenses at the election in 1857 ?—Yes, I think I did say something about that.

10,184. Did you say that you had been paid your expenses at the election in 1857 by Alderman Whithorn ?—I believe it was Mr. Whithorn ; but to say for a certainty I could not say who it was, I do not know that I ever saw the person before, and I do not think that I have but about once since.

10,185. I want to know whether, before the last election, you had received your expenses at the election of 1857 from Alderman Whithorn, or from any other person ?—Yes, I did.

10,186. How much did you receive ?—Half a sovereign.

10,187. When did you receive it ?—That was after I had voted.

10,188. After you had voted in 1859, do you mean ?—No, not the last election, the election before.

10,189. In 1857 you voted ?—Yes.

10,190. For whom did you vote ?—Mr. Price and Monk.

10,191. In 1857 ?—No, not in 1857, this last election.

10,192. Whom did you vote for in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

10,193. And you received upon that occasion half a sovereign from Alderman Whithorn ?—When I voted for Sir Robert Carden.

10,194. Was that for your vote ?—No, it was for my expenses. I came in nearly six miles, and walked in and walked back again, and I concluded that it was for the expense of the journey and refreshment.

10,195. The expense of walking ?—Walking backwards and forwards, and loss of time and refreshment.

10,196. Do you mean to swear that that money was not paid to you upon that occasion for your expenses and your vote ?—It was for my expenses.

10,197. For your expenses and for your vote ?—No, I did not consider it was for my vote at all.

10,198. Did you consider that you would have received half a sovereign upon that occasion if you had not had a vote ?—Certainly not. I should not have been required there.

10,199. At the last election in 1859 you received nothing for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

10,200. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did you see Mr. Ward last ?—Do you mean previous to the election or now ?

10,201. Previous to that day ?—I do not recollect seeing him since the election, not to the best of my knowledge.

10,202. Were you promised anything in 1857 ?—No.

EDWARD SHARPE sworn and examined.

E. Sharpe.

10,203. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Stonehouse, I believe ?—Yes.

10,204. And you are a timber merchant, are you not ?—Yes.

10,205. Do you remember before the last election canvassing Mr. Taylor ?—Yes.

10,206. He lives at the Pheasant, does he not ?—Yes.

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E. Sharpe.
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10,207. At Staverton ?—Yes.

10,208. You canvassed him for his vote ?—For his vote.

10,209. For Sir Robert Carden ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

10,210. How many sets of beech did you offer him for his vote ?—Not one.

10,211. You mean to swear that ?—I do.

10,212. Did you offer him anything for his vote ?—I did not ; the conversation turned on bed wood. I had been supplying Taylor for some years previous with beech bed wood ; when I called on him to canvass him for his vote, he began to inquire whether I had beech wood for sale, which we always have in stock. I said, "You do not expect that I am coming here to "offer you beech wood for your vote." "Well, sir," he said, "I suppose you are come here for that pur- "pose," or something to that effect, "but it is of no "use for you to offer me anything for my vote unless "you offer me a good sum;" and he held up his hands in this position (*holding up ten fingers*). I said, "I do not know what you "mean by that," he said, "Ten," I said, "I do not "understand what that means ;" "Ten pounds," he said, "and I have been offered that besides" (*holding up five fingers*). I said, "If that is the case, I cannot "do anything for you." I said, "What do you expect for your vote if you promise it to me?" he said, "I should not take less than a hundred sets, but "you ought to give me a hundred and fifty." Well, I told him I could do no such thing, that I could send him a hundred sets, or a hundred and fifty sets if he wanted them, but that I should expect payment for them in due time, the same as I had had before. "If those are your conditions," he said, "I "shall not promise to vote for your friend." I said, "I will see you to-morrow (that would be the day "of polling in Gloucester), where will you meet "me?" He said, "At the Black Dog, in North- "gate Street." I said, "Very well, I will meet you "there, and we will talk the matter over."

10,213. Do you mean to represent that you did not offer him any sets of beech-wood to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did not offer him one set under any circumstances.

10,214. You did not offer him thirty sets of beech-wood ?—I did not.

10,215. Did he not say he should require fifty sets? —He never made any such remark ; he said, "I shall want a hundred and fifty sets for my vote."

10,216. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is the value of a set of beech ?—Three shillings and sixpence a set is what I had been charging him two years past ; the value of 150 sets would have been 26*l.* 5*s.* During the time I was in conversation with him in his own room, his good lady (his wife) came in, and she said, "If you "have made a bargain with my husband to vote for "you, he shall not vote for you unless you give me a "silk dress as well." I said, "Why, ma'am, you look "very well in your dress, will you allow me to look at "your daughter's ?" I met Taylor the next day, the day of polling, and he said, "It is of no use you "saying anything to me, for I have done very well ; "I shall vote opposite to you, for Price and Monk."

10,217. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did he say what he got for his vote ?—No ; he said, "I have done very well."

10,218. Did he tell you that he had received 10*l.*? —He did not tell me what he had received ; he said he was very well satisfied.

10,219. You deny then altogether that you made him any offer for his vote ?—I made him no distinct offer of anything.

10,220. Nor any promise ?—None whatever.

10,221. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not make him any offer in consequence of the exorbitancy of his demand ?—I had no thought of making him any offer at all. I had no authority to do so.

10,222. If he had been more reasonable in his demand you would have made him an offer, would you not?—No, I should not. I should have sold him the beech, and expected him to pay for it.

10,223. Might what you said to him have led him to believe that you did mean to make him an offer?— Well, it may, but I did not intend to make him an offer of a single set, or to make him an offer of the value of a shilling.

J. Frail.

JOHN FRAIL sworn and examined.

10,224. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Shrewsbury, I believe ?—I do.

10,225. Do you know a person of the name of Clarke ?—I think I do.

10,226. He is a person employed to go about and manage or take part in elections, is he not?—I beg your pardon.

10,227. Is he employed to go about to places where elections are going on, and take part in them ?—I do not know that ; I never employed him myself.

10,228. Do you know whether that is his ordinary employment ?—I know two persons named Clarke.

10,229. Do you know John Clarke who was examined before the Committee of the House of Commons touching the Gloucester election ?—I was not present at his examination.

10,230. Do you know Richard Thompson ?—I believe I do ; but I was not present when he was examined either.

10,231. But you know a man named Richard Thompson ?—I know a man named Thompson, but whether his name is Richard, John, or Thomas, I do not know.

10,232. Is he an old man with a red face ?—With a red face and glasses ; I know him.

10,233. Do you know a person named John Clarke, who is or was a friend of that man Thompson ?—I have no knowledge of the friendship that existed between them.

10,234. Do you know a person who was intimate or acquainted with him ?—I know two men named Clarke, and I believe they are both of them named John ; the one is a short man, and the other is a stout, stronger, and taller man. Each of those men, I believe, was formerly employed by Mr. Croucher, and I have seen them with Mr. Croucher some very many years ago.

10,235. Did you see either of those John Clarkes during the last election for the city of Gloucester ?— I never did.

10,236. Were you at the Wellington Inn during the last election week at Gloucester ?—Certainly not ; I never was in the city of Gloucester in my life until last night.

10,237. You never were ?—Never.

10,238. Then if John Clarke has stated that he saw you there on Tuesday or Wednesday in the week of the election at Gloucester, is that untrue ?—Quite so.

10,239. Had you anything whatever to do with providing or being the means of conveying any money to Gloucester during the last election ?—Certainly not.

10,240. Were you at the railway station at Gloucester during the election ?—I was not ; I was in my own town during the time of the election, and for a fortnight before.

10,241. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean to say that you never passed through Gloucester by railway during the election ?—I passed through by railway on my way from Bath and Bristol on two or three occasions, but never further than the railway station was I in the city at any time.

10,242. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you in any way concerned in the last Gloucester election ?—In no way whatever, not in any shape or form.

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JAMES ASHMEADE sworn and examined.

J. Ashmeade.

6 Oct. 1859.

10,243. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Minsterworth.

10,244. What are you ?—A labourer.

10,245. Are you a freeman of the city ?—Yes.

10,246. For whom did you vote at the last election? —Carden.

10,247. In 1859 ?—Yes.

10,248. Did you give him a plumper ?—Yes.

10,249. How much did you get for your vote?—Nothing at all.

10,250. How much do you get a day ?—Twenty-pence a day for my labour.

10,251. Do you know Mr. John Ward ?—Yes ; I have known him the last four or five years.

10,252. Did Mr. Ward offer you 5*l.* for your vote ? —No, he did not.

10,253. Do you mean to swear that ?—I can swear it.

10,254. Did Clutterbuck offer you 5*l.* for your vote? —No, he did not.

10,255. Did no person offer you any money for your vote ?—No, he did not.

10,256. Not on either side ?—No ; on the other side they offered me 9*l.*—10*l.*

10,257. Did Mr. Henley offer you anything ?—Yes, 10*l.*

10,258. And you did not take it ?—No, I did not.

10,259. Do you mean to swear that you were not offered any money or paid any money to give your vote for Sir Robert Carden by any person at all ?—No, I was not.

10,260. Neither by Mr. Ward nor by Mr. Clutterbuck, nor by anybody else ?—No, I was not.

10,261. Have you seen Mr. Ward at all to-day ?—I saw him at the Cross.

10,262. Where do you come from now to this court ?—Minsterworth.

10,263. Have you been to a public-house with him? —I saw him at the public-house ; I went to the Greyhound.

10,264. Have you been at the Greyhound with Mr. Ward ?—With Mr. Ward ?

10,265. That is my question ?—Not along with Mr. Ward. I saw Mr. Ward at the Cross, and then went to the Greyhound.

10,266. Have you seen Mr. Ward at the Greyhound ?—I cannot say I have not seen him there.

10,267. Can you say you did not ?—No, I cannot.

10,268. Did you not see Mr. Ward at the Greyhound to-day ?—Well, I saw him ; I was in the room ; I saw him come there to the Greyhound.

10,269. You saw Mr. Ward at the Greyhound to-day ?—Yes.

10,270. What made you say just now you did not see Mr. Ward at the Greyhound ?—I saw Mr. Ward I says to-day.

10,271. What made you say you did not see Mr. Ward at the Greyhound ?—(*No answer.*)

10,272. Answer the question ?—Well, I saw Mr. Ward in the street.

10,273. What made you say you did not see Mr. Ward at the Greyhound ?—I saw him as he passed by the door, but I could not say any more.

10,274. Do you mean to swear that you did not see Mr. Ward in the Greyhound ?—I saw him come to the door, but I never saw him after he came to the door.

10,275. Do you mean to swear that you did not go to the Greyhound with Mr. Ward ?—No, I did not, not with Mr. Ward.

10,276. Did Mr. Ward go to the Greyhound before you ?—I cannot say.

10,277. Was Mr. Ward at the Greyhound when you went there ?—I was in the room and I saw him there.

10,278. You saw Mr. Ward when you went in ?—After I was in there.

10,279. In what room was Mr. Ward ?—I do not know in what room he went into.

10,280. You swear that you do not know into what room he went ?—Yes.

10,281. You swear you do not know in what room you saw him ?—No.

10,282. In what room were you yourself ?—I was up in the long room, I was ; they call it the dining room.

10,283. Was that the room in which Mr. Ward was ? No, it is not.

10,284. What room was he in ?—I saw him at the door.

10,285. Inside the house ?—He was outside the door.

10,286. When you were in the long room did you not see Mr. Ward in the house ?—I did not see him when I was in the long room.

10,287. Will you swear you did not see him ?—When I was in the long room, of course I could not swear where the man went to ; I saw him down there at the door.

10,288. Have you dined to-day ?—No, I have not.

10,289. Have you had no dinner at all ?—No, I have not.

10,290. You have had no dinner ?—No.

10,291. Have you had anything at all to drink ?—I had a pint of beer at my own expense.

10,292. Just attend ; will you swear that you have not dined in Gloucester, with Mr. Ward, Mr. Maysey, and Mr. Franklin ?—No, I have not.

10,293. Do you know Mr. Maysey ?—I have seen the man.

10,294. You know him by sight ?—Yes, I do.

10,295. Do you know Mr. Franklin by sight ?—No, I do not.

10,296. Do you swear, that you have not dined or taken refreshment in company with Mr. Ward and Mr. Maysey ?—I have not taken any refreshment with Mr. Ward nor with Mr Maysey ; all that I have taken, I have taken standing up by myself.

10,297. You have had no refreshment with either of them ?—No.

10,298. And you swear that Mr. Ward was not in the Greyhound while you were there ?—Not in the room, I do not say whether he was in the house or not.

10,299. Do you mean to swear that Ward was not in the Greyhound while you were there and that you did not see him there ?—I saw Mr. Ward whilst I was in the room.

10,300. How long had you been at the Greyhound ?—About half an hour.

10,301. At what time did you come to Gloucester ? —I received my summons this morning at eleven o'clock.

10,302. At what time did you come into Gloucester ?—It was very near one o'clock when I came to Gloucester.

10,303. Did you go to the Greyhound upon your coming into Gloucester ?—No, I did not.

10,304. Where did you go before you went to the Greyhound ?—I stood at the Cross.

10,305. How long did you stand there ?—About a quarter of an hour.

10,306. Whilst you were standing there did you see Mr. Ward ?—No, I did not.

10,307. Did you see Mr. Maysey ?—No.

10,308. Where did you go to when you left the Cross ?—I went from there to the Greyhound.

10,309. In going to the Greyhound did you see Mr. Ward ?—I saw Mr. Ward come to the door ; I did not go along with Mr. Ward.

10,310. Were you standing at the door ?—No, I was not.

10,311. When he came ?—No, I was not ; I was sat down in the room having some bread and cheese when Mr. Ward came to the door.

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J. Ashmeade.
6 Oct. 1859.

10,312. Did he come into the room into which you were?—Yes, after I had had my refreshment.

10,313. He did come into the room after you had had your refreshment?—Yes.

10,314. How long did he stay in the room?—About two minutes.

10,315. Then he was in the room in which you were; how came you to swear just now that he was not in the room in which you were?—I told you before that I saw him; he came into the room, and was not there two minutes.

10,316. How came you just now to say that he was not in the room in which you were?—(*No answer.*)

10,317. Answer the question. Can you answer the question?—I told you that I saw Mr. Ward there; he came into the room.

10,318. You said before, in answer to a question which I put to you, that he was not in the room in which you were; now you have said that he was in the room?—That was after.

10,319. Did you have any conversation with Mr. Ward?—No.

10,320. No conversation at all?—No.

10,321. Did he not say a word to you about your coming here?—No.

10,322. Did he not ask who you were?—No, he did not.

10,323. Not why you had come to Gloucester?—No.

10,324. Not a word about it?—No.

10,325. Did he give you anything to eat or drink?—No.

10,326. Nothing at all?—No, nothing at all.

10,327. He gave you nothing to eat or drink?—No.

10,328. Was Mr. Maysey in the room?—Yes, Maysey was in the room.

10,329. Was he in the room at the Greyhound at the same time as Mr. Ward was there?—Mr. Maysey was, but Mr. Ward never mentioned anything about it.

10,330. Do you mean to swear you did not speak to either Mr. Ward or Mr. Maysey?—I spoke to Mr. Maysey.

10,331. Did Mr. Maysey speak to you?—Yes, he did.

10,332. What did he say to you?—He asked me how I did do.

10,333. What did he say after that?—Nothing at all.

10,334. That was all that was said?—Yes.

10,335. Did he say nothing about your coming here to give evidence?—No.

10,336. Not a word about it?—No.

10,337. Did he tell you not to say anything about Mr. Ward having offered you any money?—No.

10,338. Not a word about it?—No.

10,339. When did you last see Mr. Ward at your house?—I cannot say when it was.

10,340. Aye?—I cannot say.

10,341. Was it before or after the election?—I saw him there before the election.

10,342. How long before the election?—It was about the 5th of April or the 6th of April that I saw him.

10,343. He came to your house more than once?—Only once.

10,344. Did he come to you about your vote?—Yes.

10,345. Do you mean to swear he did not offer you any money for your vote?—No, he did not.

10,346. He did not offer you anything?—No, he did not.

10,347. How did you vote in 1857?—I never received anything at all in 1857; and before I would vote for the yellow party I would have my head chopped off; I want churches, not chapels.

10,348. How did you vote at the election in 1857?—I voted for Carden; I gave him a plumper.

10,349. What did you get for your vote then?—Nothing at all.

10,350. At the election of 1857 you say you got nothing for your vote?—No.

10,351. Do you know the wife of Samuel Vaile?—I have seen her.

10,352. Do you mean to swear that she did not give you 3*l.* at that election?—I can swear that she never gave me 3*l.* at all.

10,353. You swear that she never gave you 3*l.* at the Upper George?—No, she did not.

10,354. Did your wife give you 3*l.*?—No, she did not.

10,355. Either before or after that election?—No.

10,356. Nor at that election?—No, she did not.

10,357. You did not receive any money yourself?—I did not.

10,358. You swear you received none from the wife of Samuel Vaile?—I never had any money from her.

10,359. You never received any money from anybody at that election?—I did not.

10,360. Not a fraction?—No.

10,361. And do you still persist that you received no money at all for your vote at the last election?—No, I did not.

10,362. You were offered 10*l.*, you say, by Mr. Henley for your vote?—Yes.

10,363. And that you refused to take?—Yes.

10,364. And you receive twenty-pence a day as wages as a labourer?—Yes.

10,365. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you see Mr. Ward last Friday?—I saw him in the street.

10,366. Did you speak to him?—I said good morning to him.

13,367. Did you say anything else?—No.

10,368. You swear that, do you?—I saw Mr. Ward here in Gloucester, and I said good morning to him.

10,369. Did you say anything else to him?—He asked me how I was.

10,370. What else?—What else?

10,371. What else did he say to you?—Why, nothing at all.

10,372. What else did he say to you?—He asked me how I were.

10,373. Did he say anything else?—No, he did not.

10,374. You swear that?—Yes.

10,375. Did he say anything about your coming here as a witness?—No, he did not.

10,376. You swear that?—Yes, I will.

10,377. Did you receive any money at the last election?—No.

10,378. Did your wife receive any?—No.

10,379. What did you receive for your expenses?—I paid all my own expenses.

10,380. Who repaid you?—Nobody at all.

10,381. Did you receive anything before the election?—No, I did not.

10,382. Did Mr. Ward say to you that he hoped you had done well with what you had received?—No, he did not.

10,383. Did he say anything like it?—No.

10,384. Did you find any money about your house about the election time?—No.

10,385. Did your wife find any?—No.

10,386. You are sure of that?—Yes, I am.

10,387. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you ever promised any money?—No, I was not.

10,388. Never at any time?—No.

10,389. You have always voted Blue, have you?—Yes, I am Blue to the heart now.

10,390. Do you think you deserve to be paid for your vote?—No, nor no one else ought not to that votes true-hearted, let them vote which side they have got a mind to.

10,391. You say you received a summons to attend here this morning at 11 o'clock?—At half past ten.

10,392. How far do you live from Gloucester?—Three miles.

10,393. When did you set out to walk here?—I was at work.

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10,394. How long did it take you to walk into Gloucester?—An hour and a half.

10,395. Had you anything to drink before you left home this morning?—No.

10,396. How much have you had since you have been in Gloucester; one pint of ale.

10,397. Do you mean to swear that that is all you have had to-day?—Yes.

10,398. One pint of ale?—Yes, besides tea and coffee.

10,399. I think you said that you met Mr. Ward at the Cross?—Was that Friday?

10,400. No, to-day. Did you not say you met Mr. Ward at the Cross to-day?—Yes, and I saw him at the Greyhound afterwards.

10,401. Did you walk with him from the Cross to the Greyhound?—No, I did not.

10,402. That you swear?—Yes.

10,403. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you walk after him?—No. *J. Ashmeade.* 6 Oct. 1859.

10,404. Did you go before him, and did he walk after you?—I saw Mr. Ward at the Cross, and I went from there to the Greyhound.

10,405. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Mr. Ward go with you?—No.

10,406. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Ward to-day except what you have told us?—I have not.

10,407. Not at any time?—No.

10,408. Will you swear that he never told you not to come here?—Yes, I will.

10,409. Or Mr. Maysey?—Yes.

10,410. Or anybody else?—No.

10,411. Has anybody told you at all what to say here?—No.

ANTHONY GILBERT JONES called and further examined. *A. G. Jones.*

10,412. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

10,413. Do you see James Ashmeade in court?—I do not identify him as James Ashmeade, but my impression is that he is the last witness.

10,414. Did you see that man (*pointing to Ashmeade*) going to-day from the Cross in Gloucester to the Greyhound?—I did.

10,415. Was he walking alone?—He was in company with Mr. Ward.

10,416. Mr. John Ward?—Mr. John Ward.

10,417. Was any other person with them?—No; but at a stated distance of about four or five yards there was a person of the name of Maysey, (I do not know his christian name,) and another person was walking behind them.

10,418. Was James Ashmeade in company with Mr. Ward and James Maysey?—No, he was in company with Mr. Ward, and James Maysey and another individual were walking behind them at a distance of about four or five yards.

10,419. Had you an opportunity of observing Ashmeade and Ward for some little time?—During the time that I walked from the Cross down to the Greyhound.

10,420. Were Ashmeade and Ward walking as though they were strangers, or as though they knew each other?—As though they knew each other, I should infer.

10,421. Were they talking to each other?—Yes, they appeared to be.

10,422. Did Ashmeade go into the Greyhound?—I cannot swear to that fact; I believe they did.

10,423. I am asking you first of all as to Ashmeade. Did he go into the Greyhound?—I believe he did; they could not have separated; they must have gone together into the Greyhound.

10,424. You believe they both went into the Greyhound?—I believe they did.

10,425. You do not swear that they did?—I do not; and Maysey and the other man followed them.

10,426. Did they go into the Greyhound?—I have the same belief with reference to their going in.

10,427. About what time was that to-day?—It was on my way from the Court after the adjournment this morning to my office; it must have been a little after one o'clock.

WILLIAM HENLEY called and further examined. *W. Henley.*

10,428. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a stationer?—I am.

10,429. Do you know the witness, James Ashmeade?—I do.

10,430. And do you know Mr. John Ward?—I do.

10,431. And James Maysey?—I do.

10,432. Did you see them to-day in the street in Gloucester?—I did.

10,433. Was Ashmeade walking by himself?—No.

10,434. Was he in company with any one?—They were in conversation together at the Cross directly facing the Post Office. Mr. Franklin, Maysey, Ashmeade, and another person, who, I afterwards learnt, was of the name of Drinkwater.

10,435. At what time was that?—That was immediately after the rising of the Court at mid-day.

10,436. How long were they in conversation together?—I should think three or four minutes; it may perhaps have been five minutes.

10,437. Did you see where they went to from the Cross?—I did distinctly.

10,438. Where did they go?—To the Greyhound.

10,439. Did they go into the Greyhound?—They did.

10,440. Did you see them go in?—I did. I walked down the Eastgate Street as far as the Gloucestershire Bank, and on my way I saw them in conversation half-way up the Greyhound entry, and near the back door. I immediately afterwards sent a person in to partake of some little refreshment, and to see in what part of the house they were; he is in Court, and will describe it.

10,441. Who is that person you sent?—I do not know his name, but he is the foreman of a respectable establishment in Gloucester; he will speak for himself; he is behind me (*a paper is handed to the witness*). I understand his name is J. Maunder.

10,442. Do you know how long they remained in the Greyhound?—I was waiting myself to see them come down to the Court for at least half-an-hour, and I left in expectation of their coming down before me.

10,443. For one half hour they were in the Greyhound?—Yes, at least half an hour; I swear to that.

10,444. Did you see them or any of them come out of the Greyhound?—No, I came down to the Court, and I believe, from information I have received in Court, that they did not come until a messenger fetched them.

JOHN MAUNDER sworn and examined. *J. Maunder.*

10,445. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—Foreman to Mr. Willis, a bootmaker in Southgate Street.

10,446. Were you requested by Mr. Henley to go into the Greyhound to-day?—I was.

10,447. At what time?—It was about one, or shortly after; somewhere about that time.

10,448. Did you go into the Greyhound?—Yes.

10,449. Did you see the man who has been examined here, James Ashmeade?—I did.

10,450. Where was he?—When I first went in he was sitting by himself, and another person had just passed over the room from him.

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J. Maunder.
6 Oct. 1859.

10,451. What room was he sitting in?—It is what they term the smoking-room, a little apart from the bar.

10,452. Was he eating or drinking anything?—Nothing.

10,453. Do you know Mr. John Ward?—I do not.

10,454. Do you know James Maysey?—No.

10,455. Do you know a person of the name of Franklin?—No.

10,456. How long did you remain at the Greyhound?—I remained there about half an hour as near as possible.

10,457. While you were there, was James Ashmeade joined by any other persons?—Yes, in the first instance he was joined by one.

10,458. Then after that?—They then had some refreshment, bread and cheese and ale.

10,459. Do you know who that person was who had refreshment?—No, I do not know who it was.

10,460. Should you know him again if you saw him?—Yes.

10,461. Is Mr. Ward in court?—(*Mr. Ward.*) Yes.

10,462. (*Mr. Vaughan to the witness.*) Is that the person you saw (*pointing to Mr. Ward*)?—Yes.

10,463. Did you see him pay for the refreshments?—No.

10,464. By whom were they joined afterwards?—This gentleman (Mr. Ward) was the last that came in.

10,465. First of all you say one person came?—Yes.

10,466. Who joined afterwards?—Previous to that, I mentioned there was one person in the room, and he walked across the room and sat down.

10,467. There was one other person in the room before?—Yes.

10,468. Where did he sit down; did he sit down by Ashmeade?—No, in the first instance he sat down on the opposite side of the room.

10,469. After that, did you see any person go in and take refreshment?—No.

10,470. You only saw one person with Ashmeade in the room having bread and cheese?—I believe they all partook of it.

10,471. Did you see them?—Yes, I was sitting there. They certainly all partook of it except the last one that came in. I left at the time he came in.

10,472. Was the person you saw there in conversation with Ashmeade?—By whispering; and he wrote something on a paper.

10,473. How long did the whispering continue?—Not above two or three minutes.

J. Ward.

JOHN WARD called and further examined.

10,474. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You know James Ashmeade?—I do.

10,475. Did you meet him to-day at the Cross in Gloucester?—I saw him near the Cross.

10,476. Had you any conversation with him?—I had.

10,477. Was James Maysey there?—He was in the neighbourhood, but not up alongside of us, I think.

10,478. Was he at the Cross when you were talking to James Ashmeade?—I could not swear that he was.

10,479. Was Franklin there?—He was with Maysey I think.

10,480. Was Drinkwater there?—I think he stood at one corner.

10,481. Were you altogether talking?—Certainly not.

10,482. Were you the only person talking to Ashmeade?—Maysey and Franklin stood very near, and I asked Ashmeade if he had had a summons; he said he had. I said, "Why did you not come into "Gloucester before;" and I said, "Will you tell me "if you had money in 1857 from any party." He said, "I had not." I said, "Mind you tell the truth, "and nothing but the truth."

10,483. Did you walk with him down to the Greyhound?—To the best of my belief I did not; I would not swear whether he walked with me or behind.

10,484. Did you go into the Greyhound?—I did.

10,485. Did you go into the Greyhound with Ashmeade?—I believe not.

10,486. Did you go into the Greyhound, and go into a room where Ashmeade was?—I went into the bar of the Greyhound, and Ashmeade came into that bar.

10,487. Did you go into a room called the smoking room?—I did.

10,488. Was Ashmeade there?—Ashmeade was.

10,489. Was Maysey there?—He was afterwards.

10,490. Was Franklin there?—Yes.

10,491. Was Drinkwater there?—No.

10,492. Did you have refreshments?—Certainly not.

10,493. Were refreshments produced?—Certainly not. I dined with a gentleman who will be here presently.

10,494. Was there any bread and cheese produced?—Not while I was there.

10,495. Did Ashmeade take nothing while you were there?—Nothing whatever.

10,496. Neither bread, cheese, nor beer?—Neither bread, cheese, nor beer to my knowledge. There was no bread and cheese while I was there, nor did I see any beer.

10,497. Did you pay anything?—I paid 1*s.* 6*d.* for my dinner, and Mr. George was present at the time I paid it, and Theophilus Trotter.

10,498. At what time did you dine?—Half-past one.

10,499. Was that at the time when Ashmeade was there?—That was at the time Ashmeade was there.

10,500. Will you swear you paid for no refreshment of any sort for Ashmeade?—I swear most distinctly that I paid not one farthing more than 1*s.* 6*d.*, which I paid for my dinner.

10,501. You swear that that did not include any refreshments of any sort for Ashmeade?—Most decidedly.

10,502. You were engaged in whispering to Ashmeade in that room; what did you whisper to him about?—I am not aware I whispered. I told him he had better go down to the Court, and to be careful to tell the truth, and nothing but the truth.

10,503. Did you think that the man was so unworthy of belief that it was necessary for you to enjoin him to tell the truth?—Certainly not, but I heard the evidence of Mrs. Vaile stating that she received 3*l.* for him, and that was the reason why I asked him if he had had any money. He told me that he had not. I told him if he had, to say that he had the money.

10,504. Do you wish the Commissioners to understand that you did not say anything to him for the purpose of inducing him to give false evidence here to-day?—I swear it most positively.

10,505. You did not say anything of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

10,506. You swear that you have not been tampering with him for the purpose of inducing him to say what is not true?—I swear most positively that I asked him to come here and tell the truth.

10,507. Can you give any reason, except that which you have already given, why it became necessary for you to see him when you knew that he had received a summons to attend here, and give evidence?—The meeting I had with him was accidental.

10,508. I did not ask that question. Can you give any reason why it was necessary for you to see him and talk to him with regard to the evidence he was to give here?—I am not aware that I did go to see him or talk to him with regard to any evidence he was to give here. I saw him in the street, and it was an accidental affair my going into the room. I wanted

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J. Ward.

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to see the "Times" newspaper, to see if there was any account of some betting in that paper in consequence of an occurrence which took place here.

10,509. Was it necessary that these persons should accompany you to the Greyhound?—I went into the commercial room to dine with Mr. Theophilus Trotter, and asked Mr. Maysey to remain in the smoking room while I had my dinner.

10,510. Did you go over to see that man Ashmeade at his house on Friday last?—I did not.

10,511. That you swear?—I swear it.

10,512. You deny that you said anything at all to Ashmeade to-day for the purpose of inducing him to give false testimony before the Commissioners?—I wear most positively that I told him to come here and tell the truth.

(*Mr. Vaughan to the Witness.*) I strongly recommend you in future not to have anything to do with any of the witnesses that are summoned. Let them come here and give their evidence without your endeavouring in the slightest degree to influence their testimony; and do not offer any opinion as to the sort of testimony they are to give. We shall be able to judge for ourselves as to their testimony. I recommend you not to interfere with them any further; and if we find that any further interference is attempted, we shall be obliged to take further notice of it.

B. Townsend.

BENJAMIN TOWNSEND sworn and examined.

10,513. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A cabinet-maker.

10,514. Where do you live?—At the Old Spa House, Westgate Street.

10,515. Did you receive any money from Mr. Biggs at the last election?—Yes.

10,516. For what purpose did you receive it?—I received it on purpose to give to a party for his vote.

10,517. What was the name of that person?—Vick.

10,518. What was he?—A baker.

10,519. Where did he live?—In Westgate Street,—I could not exactly tell you the number,—nearly opposite this Shire Hall.

10,520. What money was it that you received?—Five sovereigns.

10,521. Did you give it to Vick?—Yes.

10,522. For whom was he to vote in consequence?—For Price and Monk.

10,523. Did he vote for them?—Yes.

10,524. Did Vick apply to you for the money, or to get him the money?—The man was in rather low circumstances, and I thought that the money would do him good, and I asked for it and got it and gave it to him.

10,525. For his vote?—For his vote.

10,526. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—Yes.

10,527. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any other money pass through your hands during the election?—No.

10,528. Did you pay anybody else?—No.

10,529. Do you know of anybody else who was bribed?—No.

10,530. Do you know anything of the election of 1857?—I knew of the election, but I had nothing particular to do with it.

10,531. Had you anything to do with bribing voters?—No, I have never had anything to do with bribery; I was always an independent voter.

J. Buchanan.

JAMES BUCHANAN sworn and examined.

10,532. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor, I believe?—Yes.

10,533. At Gloucester?—Yes.

10,534. Were you employed professionally for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, I suppose I was.

10,535. Were you?—I am put down as an agent in the accounts.

10,536. Is it true or is it not true that you were an agent?—Yes, I suppose it is.

10,537. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you paid?—No, I have not been paid.

10,538. Do you expect to be paid?—I hope to be.

10,539. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In what way were you employed?—I used to go out canvassing with the party now and then during the progress of the election, but I did not take a very active part in it. I used to start from the Bell with the party, and go anywhere about with them wherever they went, but I did not take any particular district.

10,540. Had you anything to do with the arrangements at the committee room?—No, not the slightest.

10,541. Did you make returns of your canvass?—No, I did not take out any book; I only went out generally with the party canvassing, and there were a few other persons that I called on by myself.

10,542. You made no returns at all?—I might have made some returns if I called on a voter.

10,543. Did you?—I dare say I did, but I could not answer for it.

10,544. Did you offer any money to any person?—No.

10,545. Did you give any money to any person?—No.

10,546. Did you receive instructions to do so?—No; the only sum of money that I gave away during the election was eightpence or tenpence to three men for some beer; that is the only money that I ever gave away during the election.

10,547. Did you receive instructions from anyone connected with the committee, to report it if you met with any persons whose votes might be purchased?—No.

10,548. Did you make any such reports?—No.

10,549. Did you yourself canvass any individual voter?—Yes, I did.

10,550. Who did you canvass?—There was John Taylor of Northgate Street, I canvassed him, and a man named William Harris.

10,551. What is John Taylor?—A fruiterer.

10,552. Who else did you canvass?—William Harris.

10,553. Where does he live?—In Blackfriars.

10,554. What is he?—An engineer.

10,555. For whom did they vote?—They both voted for Price and Monk—no, Harris did not vote at all.

10,556. And who did Taylor vote for?—For Price and Monk, I believe, I am not certain about it. I did not see him vote, but he has told me since how he voted. There may have been one or two others that I asked personally to vote, but I cannot recollect who they were.

10,557. Did you offer any inducement to John Taylor to vote for Carden?—No, not the slightest.

10,558. Do you know a person of the name of Murrell?—I know him by name.

10,559. Did you canvass Murrell?—No; it was another party that canvassed him.

10,560. Who?—My father.

10,561. Your father canvassed him?—Yes.

10,562. Is your father a solicitor?—No.

10,563. Did you canvass a person named Merrett?—No; perhaps I may have called upon him going round in the general canvass.

10,564. Had you any conversation with Mr. Lovegrove respecting either of those persons whose names I have mentioned?—No.

10,565. Had you any conversation or communication with Mr. Lovegrove about any voter in Gloucester?—It would be too much to say I might not. I may have made a remark about a voter, how he was going to vote and so on, but with regard to anything illegal, there was nothing of the kind.

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J. Buchanan.

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10,566. Did you make any communication to Mr. Lovegrove as to the necessity of paying any persons for their votes ?—No.

10,567. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any voter tell you that he expected to be paid ?—Not that I recollect.

10,568. Did any voter intimate that he expected to be paid ?—Not that I recollect. I have not the slightest recollection of it.

10,569. Your own exertions were not very great in the matter ?—I went round with the party, and I used to be at the committee room, and backwards and forwards, and any voter that I thought I could do anything with I went and called on.

10,570. But the only persons you recollect having canvassed are the two you have named ?—No ; there was another man named Haviland.

10,571. What did he say ?—He voted for Price and Monk.

10,572. When were you retained for the Conservative party ?—When the first intimation was given that there would be a dissolution of Parliament. Mr. Lovegrove told me he should want me.

10,573. Mr. Lovegrove told you you would be retained professionally ?—I put that construction upon it. He said "I shall want you again," or something of that kind. I considered that it was a retainer.

10,574. And you say you have not been paid; have you sent in any account ?—Yes.

10,575. What was the amount of it ?—Fifteen guineas, that included what I did as inspector, and I was at the committee room the previous night.

10,576. You acted as inspector during the election ?—Yes.

10,577. You know nothing at all about any bribery? —No.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at ten o'clock.

Eleventh Day.—7th October 1859.

J. Murrell.

7 Oct. 1859.

JAMES MURRELL sworn and examined.

10,578. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you keep the Prince's Plume ?—Yes.

10,579. How much money did you receive ?—I received 15*l.*

10,580. From whom ?—Mr. Biggs.

10,581. From Mr. Biggs, the tobacconist ?—Yes.

10,582. What other money did you receive ?—None else.

10,583. Did you receive that money from Mr. Biggs for the purpose of bribery ?—Yes.

10,584. Did you tell him so?—I do not know that I did.

10,585. Who did you bribe ?—Thomas Ballinger.

10,586. What is he ?—A labourer.

10,587. Where does he live ?—I believe he lives in Alvin Street.

10,588. Is he a freeman ?—No.

10,589. How much did you give him?—£10.

10,590. For his vote ?—For his vote.

10,591. For Price and Monk ?—Yes; for Price and Monk.

10,592. When did you pay him that money ?—On the morning of the election.

10,593. Who was the next person ?—Thomas Bossom.

10,594. How much did you give him ?—£4.

10,595. Where did he live ?—He lives on the Pool Meadow estate.

10,596. (*Mr. Welford.*) In what parish is that ? —It is an extra-parochial place, a parish of itself.

10,597. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is he ?—A carpenter.

10,598. A freeman ?—A freeman.

10,599. Did you give him that 4*l.* for his vote ?—Yes.

10,600. For Price and Monk ?—For Price and Monk.

10,601. What did you do with the remainder of the money ?—I spent it in different sums, and some other to it ; perhaps a pound, or something of that sort.

10,602. Out of your own money ?—Out of my own money.

10,603. In treating ?—It was in tobacco, and grog, and beer.

10,604. Did you give that to the voters ?—Yes ; some to the voters, and some to others ; whoever I met with where I was.

10,605. Did you spend any money in any public-houses besides your own house ?—Yes ; I did not spend it in my own house ; there was nothing charged that was had there.

10,606. In what houses did you spend money ?—Some at the Cooper's Arms, and some at the Fountain.

10,607. Did you take people into those different houses ?—No ; I did not take them in.

10,608. Did you go in there yourself ?—I went in there myself.

10,609. And spent money among the persons who were there ?—Yes; I met with some one or other who asked me to treat them.

10,610. You paid for what you had ?—Yes.

10,611. Do you know of any other cases of bribery? —No.

10,612. Neither on the one side nor on the other ? —No.

10,613. Did you offer any other money to any person ?—No ; not that I am aware of ; I do not recollect it at the present time ; I do not think I did.

10,614. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you ask Mr. Biggs for the money, or did he offer it to you ?—I asked him for it.

10,615. Had you seen Ballinger before, and the other man ?—Yes.

10,616. And you asked him for the money for that purpose ?—At the time.

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined.

10,617. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you have some communication to make with reference to the evidence you gave yesterday ?—Yes; I have come thus early to the Court to correct an error in my evidence of yesterday, and it is this : as I informed you yesterday, I received from London on the night of the election 1,000*l.*

10,618. (*Mr. Welford.*) In gold ?—Yes, in gold.

10,619. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On the night of the election ?—On the night of the nomination. Mr. Whithorn had 400*l.* of that money.

10,620. On the same night ?—On the same night ; and I stated that on his way to the committee room on the following morning he had 200*l.* more.

10,621. £200 more in sovereigns ?—Yes. Now as to the disposal of those moneys I did not know and

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took no pains or trouble to inquire, inasmuch as a petition had been decided upon; I was under the impression that a great deal had been spent in bribery; and therefore I preferred not to inform myself of the matter; but after the petitions were over, from a conversation that I had with Mr. Whithorn, I was under the impression that 400*l.* or 500*l.* had been spent in bribery, or at all events that a considerable sum had been spent, but that there was a sum to hand over, subject to an account being gone into and adjusted. That impression being upon my mind, and that there would be certainly 400*l.* to receive back, I yesterday in my evidence (and I cannot say how sorry I have felt ever since I gave that evidence) suppressed the fact that Mr. Whithorn had the remaining 400*l.* of the 1,000*l.* on the morning of the election; making up the whole 1,000*l.*

10,622. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was on the morning of the election?—On the morning of the election; and it will be for Mr. Whithorn to show how he disbursed that sum, or to give you a satisfactory explanation as to its disposal.

10,623. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Then instead of Mr. Whithorn having 200*l.* only, he had 600*l.* from you on the morning of the election?—He had.

10,624. (*Mr. Welford.*) In gold?—In gold.

10,625. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you to say that you knew that yesterday?—I knew it.

10,626. And the reason why you did not state it yesterday was that you thought there would be a portion of that money to come back, and therefore that it would not be necessary to state it?—At least 400*l.*

10,627. Do you now find from your conversation with Mr. Whithorn that no portion of that 400*l.* will come back?—I do not know what portion will; we have not gone into any account, and consequently I am not in a position to say what portion will come back.

10,628. Finding that that 400*l.* will not come back, you have come here to state it?—Yes, I have, at the first possible moment; I think it due to the Court, and due to myself, to put myself right.

10,629. It is an important alteration in the evidence, of course, and it was due to yourself to correct it; but you seem to have laboured under an impression yesterday that that 400*l.* need not be disclosed in consequence of your belief that it was to come back?—It arose from that fact. I did not want to disclose a greater sum than was positively necessary, or than I thought really and seriously was expended; however, I think it is quite right to mention it.

10,630. I suppose you have considered since yesterday the evidence that you then gave?—I have, most carefully.

10,631. Is there any other circumstance that you omitted to state yesterday which you can disclose today?—There is not. I am not quite sure whether I named, when I spoke as to the accounts owing to the public-houses, two names, those of Smart and Tandy, but they are down in the list that I have, and I think I named them; I think I named Tandy.

10,632. (*Mr. Welford,*) Where does Smart live?—At the Swan and Falcon; I never saw the account, and do not even know the amount of it.

10,633. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What particulars are you prepared to give with regard to that if you have never seen the account?—I only know it from this circumstance, that Tandy and Smart called upon me about their accounts some two months ago, but I never saw the accounts; I think they were sent in to Mr. Whithorn.

10,634. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is Tandy's address?—The Rising Sun.

10,635. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did they call upon you about?—To know when their accounts would be settled.

10,636. Do you not know what the amounts of those accounts were?—No, neither of them.

10,637. Are they both unsettled at the present moment?—As far as I am concerned; I did not even know of the contraction of either of them.

10,638. Did you know that those two houses, the Swan and Falcon and the Rising Sun, were houses at which considerable treating was going on, on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—As to the Swan and Falcon, I heard that some treating was going on during our canvass, and I sent by Mr. Maysey instructions that if any beer or other things were drawn and supplied there we should not pay for them.

10,639. You do not know yourself, do you, by whose orders the various items of those unsettled accounts were contracted?—No, I do not; you will have all the accounts put in; they have been sent to Mr. Whithorn, and he will inform you of all the accounts.

10,640. That 400*l.* which you have now disclosed is to be added to the grand total of the expenses of the election?—Yes.

10,641. I understood you to say that the total, altogether, at the outside, would be about 2,500*l.*?—If Sir Robert Carden pays this 500*l.*; if he recognizes this 500*l.*, and if he should recognize the 1,000*l.*, or at all events say 500*l.*, then his expenses would be, as I say, about 2,500*l.*

10,642. And in addition to that you have to add 400*l.*?—No, the auditor's expenses 1,000*l.*, extra expenses 200*l.*, that is 1,200*l.*; and then there is 1,175*l.* to be added to that.

10,643. I understood from you, that irrespective of this sum of money, the 400*l.* which you have mentioned this morning, the amount would be in the gross about 2,500*l.*, putting it, as you said, at the worst?—Did I say 2,500*l.*?

10,644. Yes; first of all you said 2,000*l.* and then you said 2,500*l.*?—I thought I limited it to 2,000*l.*

10,645. £2,000 independently of the 500*l.* sent to Mr. Whithorn?—I think you misunderstood me; I can tell you in a moment what the total would be, 1,000*l.*, 200*l.*, and 1,175*l*; that would be 2,375*l.*, and then I take it in round numbers at 2,500*l.*

10,646. (*Mr. Welford.*) With the accounts outstanding?—As to my fee it would not be taken into the account.

10,647. You exclude that?—Yes.

10,648. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I do not quite understand how you make your calculation; the account sent in to the auditor amounts to 1,021*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*?—That is right.

10,649. Since that there is an account, not included in the auditor's account, for what you consider legal expenses, amounting to 200*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*?—Yes.

10,650. There was a sum of 175*l.* paid to Mr. Whithorn?—£170.

10,651. Paid to Mr. Whithorn before the election?—Yes, and 1,000*l.* since; 1,000*l.* at the election.

10,652. That is all?—That is all, and then the difference would be on the outstanding accounts and so on.

10,653. (*Mr. Welford.*) I take the 1,175*l.* as being the amount of the 1,000*l.* paid to Mr. Whithorn and the 175*l.* paid by you to Mr. Whithorn also?—It is quite optional with Sir Robert Carden whether he recognizes this 500*l.* or not.

10,654. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Those are the sums, 1,121*l.*, 200*l.*, and 175*l.*, and the bills now outstanding?—Yes, and that would make a total of 2,500*l.* taking it altogether.

10,655. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that all the expenditure, as far as you know?—As far as I know it is, and I believe we have taken it at its worst figure; I put down the bills at a couple of hundred pounds.

10,656. You gave me some items which amounted to about 60*l.*?—Those are the amounts that I actually know, but there is Tandy, Smart, and Morton besides.

10,657. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What became of the 500*l.* that Sir Robert Carden sent down to you?—I had paid that amount nearly all away before it had arrived.

10,658. You only reimbursed yourself?—That is all.

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J. Lovegrove.
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10,659. (*Mr. Welford.*) So far as you know, you cannot give us any other account than you have given of the application of this money?—No. There is one thing which I omitted to state yesterday, which I also think I should bring to the notice of the Court. A short time previous to the election an application was made to me by a respectable tradesman in this town, Mr. Henry Smart, for a loan of 20*l.* or 25*l.* The application being made to me just upon the eve of the election, I took the trouble to see him, and I told him I could not make the advance. I asked him what it was for; he told me I need not make any inquiry into the matter, and I believe I gave him the name of Mr. Whithorn. If anything else should occur to me during this inquiry I shall take the opportunity of instantly informing you of it.

10,660. Why did you refer Smart to Mr. Whithorn?—I thought it was connected with the election, and I would not have anything to do with it.

10,661. You thought Mr. Smart wanted the money to apply it in purchasing the votes of some voters?—That was my impression, certainly. I have seen Mr. Smart since, and he most positively declares that it was not so; that he really wanted the money. I think it is right to mention it to you, because Mr. Whitborn, I believe, did make the advance.

10,662. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that the only instance in which you referred any person to Mr. Whithorn?—That is the only occasion on which I had occasion to refer anybody to Mr. Whithorn; but if any application of the kind had been made to me I should have referred the party to Mr. Whithorn.

10,663. What is Mr. Smart; where does he live?—He is a stationer, I think, and bookbinder in Northgate Street.

10,664. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had Mr. Smart generally voted for the Conservative party?—I think so. I do not know whether he had ever a vote before. I am not quite sure, but I had always thought he was a Conservative.

10,665. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you concur in an observation which was made by a witness of the other party, that the corrupt practices prevailing at parliamentary elections have any relation to those which have prevailed at municipal elections?—I think there is a connexion. I think they have had a prejudicial and injurious effect upon the constituents.

10,666. Can you trace any connexion between the last parliamentary election and the last municipal election?—Nothing more than an impression. I think that if people are in the habit of being paid to vote in municipal elections, it naturally follows that if they can get money at the general elections they will do so.

10,667. But you are not aware that any of the money that was spent at the parliamentary election was intended also to influence the municipal election?—Not the slightest.

10,668. Nor *vice versâ*?—Not at all.

H. T. Lovegrove.

HENRY THEODORE LOVEGROVE sworn and examined.

10,669. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the son of Mr. Joseph Lovegrove?—A nephew.

10,670. Did you take up some notes to London during the week of the election?—On the evening preceding the nomination I met my uncle in Westgate Street about half-past nine o'clock.

10,671. On the Thursday evening?—Yes; and he said, "I shall want to see you to-morrow morning to "go up to town,—to go up by the express;" he did not say anything more; I went to him and went up to his bed-room about half-past seven, and he said, "I just want you to go up to town and change these "notes."

10,672. That was on the morning of the nomination?—On the morning of the nomination.

10,673. What notes did he give you?—I think one was a 500*l.* bank of England note, and I think the others were five 100*l.* notes, but I know the total amount was 1,000*l.*

10,674. Did you go to London with the notes?—I did.

10,675. Where did you go?—He said, "Perhaps it "will be better for you to go up to Mr. Doyle's; "they know him perhaps at the bank, and he will "change them for you." Mr. Doyle is one of my uncle's London agents.

10.676. Did you take them to Mr. Doyle's?—I went to the office and found he was at the Examiner's Office in Chancery Lane, where I saw him, and I asked him to change the notes, and I went with him into the Strand.

10,677. Did you obtain the money from him?—Yes.

10,678. A thousand sovereigns?—I opened the bag and said, "I suppose it is all right;" and he said, "Yes." I did not see the gold; there were five bags of 200*l.* each, he said.

10,679. Did you see five bags?—Yes.

10,680. And did you bring them back to Gloucester?—I did.

10,681. And gave them to your uncle?—I went to the office and found he was out, and put them in a safe, and told him I had brought them down.

10,682. You reached Gloucester on the Friday evening?—I got down about six o'clock.

10,683. Did you take any part in the election?—Yes, but not as an agent at all. I was not put on the list.

10,684. Did you canvass a person of the name of Gardner?—I did.

10,685. Does he live at a place called Sheepscombe?—Yes.

10,686. Did you offer him any money?—Certainly not, and I did not offer one farthing during the election; I might have given 6*d.* or 1*s.* to persons to get them out of the office when they have been tipsy.

10,687. Did you tell him he could have 5*l.* for his vote?—Certainly not.

10,688. Nor anything of the sort?—Certainly not.

10,689. Did you tell him that Carden had plenty of money this time?—I did not.

10,690. Nothing of the sort?—Certainly not.

10,691. Did you give him at all to understand that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden you could obtain either money or employment for himself on the Blue committee?—I did not give him to believe at all about money; when I canvassed him, I said, "Will you give us your vote this time, I believe you "generally do?" "Yes," he said, "it is all very "fine you coming now, but you forget us when the "election is over." I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "Ah! your uncle; I have done a great deal "of work for him, and he has forgotten me altogether "now." I said, "How has he forgotten you? If "you can do your work as well as anybody else, I "have no doubt he would be as willing, and perhaps "more so, if you oblige him, to give you work." In "fact, I said, "You must understand that I will not "offer you anything, because it would be worse "than all the canvassing put together; but I will "speak to my uncle, and he shall see you, and if he "has any work for you to do at the yard, very "likely he will give you some." I was very careful not to promise him anything of the sort; I would not to any one.

10,692. You were not aware yourself that bribery was about to be carried on by your party?—I was not.

10,693. And you thought if you offered him any money that would be worse than all the canvassing?—Yes; I was most careful all through the election, because, being a young man, they would have been very glad to have got me into a mess.

10,694. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did the conversation with Gardner take place before you went up to London, or afterwards?—Some time previously. I canvassed

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him twice or three times. I went and canvassed a respectable farmer named Frankis.

10,695. I suppose, after you had been to London with the money, you suspected that bribery was going on?—Of course nothing was said upon the subject, and I did not like to ask any questions. I did not know really about it, because my uncle, I suppose, was careful not to tell me.

10,696. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You had a very strong suspicion as to the purpose to which the money was to be applied?—Yes; but suspicions may be right or wrong. I thought it looked suspicious.

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HENRY KEAR WHITHORN sworn and examined.

10,697. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are an alderman of this city?—I have to request that my examination may be allowed to be postponed till Monday next. I am exceedingly anxious to make a full disclosure with regard to every shilling that came into my hands, and with regard to every fact within my knowledge connected with the election; but my accounts were kept, more particularly on the day of the polling, in a very loose manner. I am not at present in a condition to give a satisfactory account of the whole of the money I expended; but I think I shall be able to do so by Monday next, if the Commissioners will allow my examination to be postponed till then.

10,698. You knew some weeks ago that this Commission was coming to Gloucester, did you not?—I did.

10,699. And we have been sitting here now nearly a fortnight. Of course you knew you would be examined, and that being so, have you not taken any steps since the issuing of the Commission to prepare an account?—Indeed I have; but a great deal of it has been on loose scraps of paper. The accounts will require a good deal of time to make them up, particularly with regard to what took place on the day of the polling, which is a very material part of them. Before that time my accounts were kept very regularly. Unless my examination is postponed, I shall be obliged to go over the poll book from beginning to end to come at facts that I cannot otherwise get at.

10,700. Do you not consider that you have had sufficient time to prepare an account?—I have not been able to do so. There is one account I have altogether mislaid, but I believe I shall be able to put my hand upon it this morning.

10,701. What account is that?—A rough account of the money that passed through my hands on the day of the polling, which is a very material account; in fact, it is the main account; all the rest is of minor importance.

10,702. Is that an account of the money that passed through your hands on the day of the polling?—Yes, on the day of the polling.

10,703. Do you mean to represent that at the present moment it is quite impossible for you to undergo an examination as to the money which passed through your hands?—It is impossible for me to give you the particulars. I could not do it; it would be quite impossible.

10,704. Are you unable to furnish any statement of the sums that passed in the gross through your hands?—I could do that; but I should like to refer to the precise account.

10,705. I understand you to say you can give us the gross sums, but you cannot give the details?—I cannot.

10,706. The Commissioners think that ample time has been afforded to you for the preparation of the account which you must have been aware you would have to render, and are of opinion that your examination should be proceeded with now, and that you should charge your memory to the utmost extent which is possible for the purpose of giving every information in your power respecting moneys which came to your hands, and the mode in which you disposed of them?—I can readily do that with large amounts, but not with small ones. I can state one thing with regard to my not having devoted so much time to the accounts since the Commission issued as I might otherwise have done, that my health has not been good, and for the greater part of the time I have been from home on account of my health.

10,707. We will proceed with your examination, and when we come to any parts of it upon which you are unable to give evidence which is satisfactory to your own mind, you will state, if you please, the reason why you are unable to give that satisfactory explanation. You are, I believe, an alderman of this city?—I am.

10,708. And have been for many years a resident here?—Yes.

10,709. Have you taken an active part in elections during the time you have been a resident?—Not till about 1852.

10,710. What part devolved upon you in the management of the last election?—As soon as the canvass commenced, Mr. Lovegrove wished me to take the expenditure of the canvass pretty much upon myself, which I did.

10,711. Do you wish to represent by that, that the payment of various moneys was to be undertaken by you?—Yes; he did not wish to have anything of the sort to do himself, and requested me to do it.

10,712. You were to have the payment of moneys for all the expenses incurred at the election?—It may not have been all, but the expenses of the canvass, and upon the committee.

10,713. When did the canvass begin?—I think either on the 5th or 6th of April, but I am sure I cannot tell which day.

10,714. Was the committee room of Sir Robert Carden open at that time?—It was; I do not think it was open the first day or two. I think about the second day it was.

10,715. There were parties who were employed in canvassing, I believe?—There were.

10,716. Did those canvassing parties disclose to you the information they received from time to time?—They generally did.

10,717. What was the nature of the returns of the canvass in the early stage of the proceedings?—They did not come in very rapidly; they came in rather slowly than otherwise; but they were not unsatisfactory.

10,718. Up to what time were the returns not unsatisfactory?—We never considered them up to the 12th as unsatisfactory.

10,719. Repeat that answer if you please?—We never considered them, even at the close of the canvass, as unsatisfactory.

10,720. What do you mean with regard to time by "the close of the canvass"?—Up to the day of the polling.

10,721. Up to the day of the polling the returns of the canvass were satisfactory?—Yes.

10,722. Do you mean they were satisfactory upon the supposition that the election would be a pure one, or that the election would be a corrupt one?—I will not go so far as to say they were satisfactory if it was to be a pure one, because there were a great many promises that we were pretty well sure would depend on money.

10,723. Do you mean to say there were many promises made to voters if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden which you might have to perform by the payment of money?—Why I say that is, that there was a very considerable difficulty after about the first week of the canvass with regard to promises.

10.724. At what time were you aware that considerable difficulty existed with regard to promises?—I should say about a week or nine days after the canvass began. In fact, the promises were altogether not as freely given as they were at the former election.

10,725. I thought you said just now that the re-

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turns were not unsatisfactory up to the close of the canvass?—No more they were; they showed that we had a majority; they showed as we went on that we had a chance of winning, though many of the voters were slow in promising.

10,726. Did the returns show that you had a chance of winning without the employment of money in bribery?—No, I do not think they did. When I say that, I will give my reason why. If you were to ask me that question, I do not think either the one side or the other could ever reckon on a majority without employing money in bribery.

10,727. Is that the additional explanation that you have to make?—That is my belief. I believe that neither party could gain the election without the aid of money; but there was another reason, I think, why the promises came in very slowly.

10,728. What was that other reason?—There were continual, almost daily reports made to me by the canvassers that large sums of money were being offered to voters by parties on the other side of the question, and to such an extent was that said to be done, that I certainly did not believe it to be true at the time. My own idea was, as I told them when the report was made to me, that it was merely done for the sake of damaging or spoiling the vote, but that it was never intended to be carried into effect.

10,729. Who were the canvassers who made you such returns as those?—I believe Mr. Maysey told me so very frequently. He canvassed that class of men principally who could give the best information about it.

10,730. To what class of men in particular do you allude?—Principally the lower class of voters.

10,731. Voters living in the city and out of the city?—In the city. I do not think he canvassed any of the out-voters; he did not to my knowledge; it was not within his department.

10,732. He was an active partisan; was he not?—Yes, he was.

10,733. What time do you fix as being the earliest time at which those reports were made to you?—I think it began very early in the canvass, because it was currently reported that there was a large sum of money to be expended on the other side. Every person was talking of it.

10,734. You said just now that it was eight or nine days after the canvass began that you found considerable difficulties to exist with regard to promises?—The first difficulty began about that time. It is impossible for me to say to a few days.

10,735. Might it have been rather longer than that; would you say about eight or nine days?—I should think that would be about the time.

10,736. Had you taken any steps for the purpose of defeating the effect of what was reported to you as being done on the other side?—Not at that time.

10,737. Had you had frequent conversations with Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject of the canvass and with reference to the reports which you had received?—Mr. Lovegrove and myself frequently talked of it.

10,738. Throughout the election?—Yes.

10,739. Did you tell Mr. Lovegrove that it would be necessary to resort to bribery?—No, I did not; not at that period.

10,740. But you did tell him you were of opinion that bribery would be necessary, did you not?—We came to a conclusion (Mr. Lovegrove and myself) that it might be possible that we should require money for that purpose.

10,741. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When was that?—About a week previous to the election. We thought it was better to have a fund in reserve for it.

10,742. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the day that you fix as the day on which you came to that conclusion?—The first time, I think, we thought of it was about the Saturday previous to the election.

10,743. Had not you and Mr. Lovegrove before that time discussed the necessity for it?—No, I do not think we had.

10,744. Had you never expressed an opinion to Mr. Lovegrove before that, that your party would require to bribe?—Not a decided opinion; I think not; I have no recollection of it.

10,745. What gave rise to that discussion or to that conference which was held upon the subject between you and Mr. Lovegrove on the Saturday?—I knew that there were a great many voters who had promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden, to whom great temptations were being offered on the other side, and that unless we were prepared with money for them we should lose them.

10,746. Having come to that conclusion, what sum of money did you fix on as necessary?—We concluded that it would be better to have a reserve of 1,000*l.*

10,747. That was the conclusion at which you and Mr. Lovegrove arrived?—Yes.

10,748. Was that conclusion arrived at without any communication at all with any other person?—None at all.

10,749. You had no communication with any other person?—None whatever.

10,750. What time on the Saturday was it that you came to that conclusion?—I think it was in the evening part of Saturday; I think it was; I think it commenced by Mr. Lovegrove having asked me to go down to the Wellington, where Mr. Bernard was. I think that led to it principally.

10,751. I asked you just now whether or not that conclusion was come to without communication with any other person?—I did not communicate anything to Mr. Bernard. My interview with him amounted to nothing.

10,752. Had there not been a communication with Mr. Bernard prior to your meeting Mr. Lovegrove?—I knew of no communication with Mr. Bernard at all.

10,753. Did not Mr. Lovegrove tell you that there had been any communication with him?—No, not till he told me that Mr. Bernard was at the Wellington, and then he and I walked down together to him.

10,754. Was the first thing you heard about Mr. Bernard a statement by Mr. Lovegrove to you that Mr. Bernard was at the Wellington?—That is so.

10,755. When was that statement made?—It was late in the evening, I think; whether it was late in the evening or in the afternoon, I do not recollect. My belief is that it was in the evening or approaching the evening; at any rate it was candle-light, so it must have been in the evening.

10,756. Mr. Lovegrove having made a statement to you that Mr. Bernard was at the Wellington, you entered at once upon the subject of the money that would be required for the purposes of the election?—Not in Mr. Bernard's presence.

10,757. But you and Mr. Lovegrove came to a conclusion that it would be necessary to have 1,000*l.*?—Yes.

10,758. And after that you and Mr. Lovegrove went and saw Mr. Bernard?—Yes; I will not be positive whether it was before or after that that we came to that conclusion. It was on that day, but whether it was before or after I will not undertake to say.

10,759. Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you how it came to pass that Mr. Bernard was in Gloucester?—No; I understood he was merely passing through. He said he was going to Hereford, and I believe it was the case. I was rather surprised to see him there.

10,760. Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you that Mr. Bernard was going to Hereford?—No, I do know that he did. I do not know whether it was he who told me, or Mr. Bernard himself.

10,761. You knew Mr. Bernard before, did you not?—Yes.

10,762. He was here during the election of 1857, I believe?—He was.

10,763. Did you see Mr. Bernard with Mr. Lovegrove on that day?—Yes.

10,764. Did Mr. Bernard say for what purpose he was at Gloucester?—No; he came merely to make an inquiry how the election was going on. That seemed to me to be his principal object. He was

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passing through, and wished to know, he said, how matters stood, and how the election proceeded.

10,765. Did he tell you that he had come to inquire what money would be wanted?—He never said a word to me about money.

10,766. Did he say so in your presence?—No.

10,767. Were you and Mr. Lovegrove in his presence at the Wellington the whole time?—No; I think I was with him for a few minutes by myself.

10,768. Was Mr. Lovegrove with him when you were not present?—I think Mr. Lovegrove was out of the room for a short period and came back.

10,769. And left you with Mr. Bernard?—And left me and Mr. Bernard together. If I recollect right, that was it.

10,770. You do not think that Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Bernard were left together at any time?—No, I do not think they were. I was there but a very short time; I should not think altogether more than a quarter of an hour.

10,771. Had Mr. Lovegrove told you that he had seen Mr. Bernard before?—I should not have known that he had been there if Mr. Lovegrove had not told me.

10,772. Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you that he had seen Mr. Bernard?—He did not tell me he had seen him. He told me he was there, and I walked down with him. Very likely he might have seen him before; I cannot say.

10,773. Did you tell Mr. Bernard, or did Mr. Lovegrove tell Mr. Bernard, what money you would require?—I did not tell him anything about it.

10,774. Did Mr. Lovegrove?—Not in my presence.

10,775. Was anything said in your presence to Mr. Bernard about money being required?—No.

10,776. Was that the only occasion on which you saw Mr. Bernard previous to the election?—I think it was. I do not think I saw him at any other time. I called again on the Monday evening and he had left then; I did not see him.

10,777. You understood that he had left?—He had left then, I understood; but I had no motive in calling except merely the compliment of calling on him.

10,778. Did you write to Mr. Bernard at all?—No; yes, I have written to him, but not upon that subject.

10,779. You did not write to Mr. Bernard after you had seen him on the Saturday evening before the election?—No.

10,780. What time in the day was it when the envelope containing the half of a 500*l.* note was picked up on the table of the committee room?—I think it was about the middle of the day; it must have been, I think, because there was no one hardly in the room; almost all the clerks and messengers were gone to their dinners.

10,781. It was picked up about the middle of the day on the Wednesday?—I think it was.

10,782. Was the envelope open?—No, it laid upon the table.

10,783. Was the envelope open or was it sealed?—Sealed; not sealed, wafered.

10,784. It was addressed, I believe, to you?—It was addressed to me.

10,785. And it contained the half of a 500*l.* note?—Yes.

10,786. Had you any knowledge where that half of a 500*l.* note came from?—Not the slightest.

10,787. Had you any reason to suspect where it came from?—Not the slightest.

10,788. Have you since known that it came from Mr. Bernard?—Yes; it lay on the table in a very curious manner, and came into my hands in a very curious way. I believe it had been there some time before it was discovered. I am not sure whether or not it was Mr. Taynton, but I think it was Mr. Taynton who saw it first, and said, "Here is a note for "you." I will not be certain whether or not he opened it, but in opening it I know the note fell upon the ground, and I considered it a 5*l.* note, and stated so till I looked closely into it.

10,789. And you were agreeably surprised to find that it was the half of a 500*l.* note?—I at first thought it was the half of a 5*l.* note.

10,790. Who were present when it was found?—I think, if I recollect right, there was Mr. Taynton and his brother, and Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Lovegrove's clerk, and I am not ceatain that Mr. Brown was not there; I think he was in the room at the time.

10,791. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is Mr. Taynton's brother's name?—George; I think he was present.

10,792. Mr. Taynton is Mr. Thomas Taynton?—Mr. Thomas Taynton.

10,793. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who brought the envelope there you do not know?—I have not the slightest notion, nor do I think they knew. I do not think anybody in the room knew anything about it.

10,794. It came there in some mysterious way?—I suppose it did. I asked who brought it, and nobody could tell me.

10,795. After you had come to the conclusion with Mr. Lovegrove that 1,000*l.* should be provided, did you instruct your canvassers to purchase votes?—Well, I do not know that I gave them positive instructions; they knew their business better than I could tell them.

10,796. What did you give them to understand?—I did not give them any particular instructions upon the subject till nearly the day of the polling.

10,797. You were mysterious in your communications to the canvassers, but they understood what you meant?—I have no doubt they did: I do not want to disguise anything.

10,798. When was it that you began to make those mysterious communications?—Very near to the day of polling.

10,799. Did you begin before the Saturday?—No.

10,800. You did not begin at all before the Saturday?—No.

10,801. Did you not begin to intimate to the canvassers that they were to purchase votes?—There was no necessity for my doing that; they perfectly understood it.

10,802. They perfectly understood before the Saturday what course they were to adopt?—I have no doubt they did; I gave them no instructions how they were to proceed; they canvassed in the best way they could for themselves.

10,803. If they promised money to voters in the course of their canvass before the Saturday it would have received your approbation?—I should not have withheld it; I should not have stopped it, certainly.

10,804. In the election week you began to know that promises of money were being made to voters?—Yes; we had known that before, but it became then more formidable.

10,805. You had known before the election week that promises had been made?—Do you mean by ourselves or by the other side?

10,806. By yourselves?—I do not know that; it is very likely they may have been made, but I will not say. I have no doubt there had been promises made; whether they were positive promises or not I will not say, but I have no doubt that inducements had been held out to the voters by our canvassers.

10,807. Were not the promises and inducements which were held out to voters by your canvassers throughout the canvass made with your knowledge and approbation?—I did not give them any authority to make them; they did not tell me they had made them; I did not know any particular instance in which they had made them.

10,808. Did you not see the returns of the canvass?—Yes.

10,809. Did you not know from those returns that promises had been made?—I did not; I did not ask any questions.

10,810. Had you no conversation with the canvassers as to the promises they had made?—Very often the canvassers did not make their returns; in fact, they never made their returns to me.

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10,811. Had you no conversation with the canvassers from time to time as to the result of their canvass and as to the promises they had made?—They frequently told me that they could not get many men to promise without money.

10,812. And did they not thereupon say that they had promised to give them money?—I believe they had done so, but I do not recollect an instance in which they told me they had made promises.

10,813. Will you swear that you do not remember an instance of persons telling you they could not get persons to promise without money, and telling you that they had promised money to voters?—I would not say they did not, but they held very little communication with me with regard to promises of money one way or the other.

10,814. You were a considerable canvasser yourself, were you not?—No, I did not canvass much; I was very little out canvassing.

10,815. Did not voters come to you?—Yes.

10,816. And did they not make statements to you?—Yes, they came frequently to the committee room.

10,817. And asked you what you would give them for their votes?—Some of them did.

10,818. Were you not yourself in the habit of stating to voters what you would give them?—No, I never stated distinctly to any of them what I would give; I told them probably they would be done by quite as well by us as by the other side; I did not commit myself to anything; I do not know any instance in which I gave them a direct promise of anything; I may have done so, but I do not recollect it.

10,819. You had received previous to the election week, 197*l.* from Mr. Lovegrove, had you not?—No, 175*l.*

10,820. What did you do with that money?—The canvassers came to me repeatedly to ask for money to carry them on in canvassing, and I gave it to them; voters very frequently came to the room, and wanted something to drink, and so on.

10,821. And you gave them money for that purpose?—I did frequently; very often when they came I would give them a shilling or two; I had no mode of getting rid of them without doing so.

10,822. In what other way did you spend money?—There were some few payments that I made; I shall be able to give you the particulars of them on Monday, but I am not prepared to do so now.

10,823. There were canvassers and voters who came to you, and to whom you gave money?—Yes.

10,824. Just consider in what other way you spent that 175*l.*?—A good deal of it went daily in the way I tell you, to persons coming to the committee room; it went in small amounts, a good deal of it. It would be impossible for me to charge my memory with the different amounts paid; but with regard to that money I will tell you that I did endeavour to make out, in a rough way, how the money had gone out of my pocket, and I could, to some extent, account for it, and I did do it.

10,825. You did make out some account as to the way in which you had expended that 170*l.*?—Yes.

10,826. You did keep an account of it?—I did.

10,827. And that account you have, I suppose?—That account you shall have.

10,828. You have not got it in your pocket now?—No, I have not.

10,829. But you will produce it?—I will produce it to you.

10,830. Would that account show the money given to the canvassers?—Yes, to a shilling. You will find in that account all the money that went, except in the way I tell you, in small sums, of which I cannot give you any account; perhaps in a day 2*l.* or 3*l.*

10,831. It so happened that on some days you paid several small sums of money to voters, amounting to 2*l.* or 3*l.* a day?—Not altogether to voters.

10,832. But a good deal of it to voters?—I dare say a good deal of it was paid to voters.

10,833. Was that the whole sum of money that you received previous to the election?—Yes.

10,834. Did you receive any money from any other person besides Mr. Lovegrove?—Not a farthing.

10,835. Did you pay any money out of your own pocket?—Sometimes the account was indebted to me, but generally speaking I made no advance out of my own funds; sometimes I drew money of Mr. Lovegrove, when perhaps I might have been 2*l.* or 3*l.* out of pocket.

10,836. Having received 175*l.*, did you pay, in addition to that, any money out of your own pocket?—No, I did not.

10,837. Did you pay any money out of your own pocket at all before the receipt of the 1,000 sovereigns?—Not beyond what I tell you.

10,838. On the Friday evening you received a sum of money from Mr. Lovegrove?—I received 400*l.*

10,839. That was on the evening of the nomination?—On the evening of the nomination.

10,840. Was that in sovereigns?—In sovereigns.

10,841. And on the morning of the polling how much did you receive?—On the morning of the polling, about seven o'clock, I received 200*l.*, and I think before eight I had 400*l.* more.

10,842. Was that all in sovereigns?—All in sovereigns.

10,843. When had you agreed with Mr. Lovegrove that you should receive that money from him?—It was the day before.

10,844. The Thursday?—The Thursday.

10,845. You then told him that matters were urgent, and that you should require the whole sum?—Yes; I thought it was better to have it in my possession, to be used if it should be wanted.

10,846. When you got possession of that money, where did you locate yourself?—In one of the rooms of the committee.

10,847. Which room was that?—I can hardly describe it to you; it was a room at the end of the passage on the ground floor.

10,848. What passage?—It was a very large house, and there are many rooms in it.

10,849. It was a room at the end of the passage of what house?—The committee room.

10,850. Was that committee room opposite this hall?—We had two committee rooms; we did not go to that room till the morning of the polling day, but were at a house a door or two above it, and then we removed on the day of polling; the other was too small.

10,851. And into that room did the various persons who wanted money for the purpose of bribery come?—They were brought to me by some persons.

10,852. Tell me first of all who were the parties to whom you gave the principal sums of money?—I can give you a few.

10,853. Give them to me as far as you can.—Mr. Ward.

10,854. John Ward?—John Ward.

10,855. How much did you give him?—I think I gave him 170*l.*

10,856. £175 at once in one payment?—No, 120*l.* at one time, and 50*l.* at another; I think that was it.

10,857. What time in the day did you give him the 120*l.*?—I gave him the 120*l.* on the previous evening.

10,858. (*Mr. Welford.*) On the nomination evening?—The nomination evening, late in the evening.

10,859. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And when did you give him the 50*l.*?—On the day of the polling.

10,860. At what time?—Early; it was very soon disposed of.

10,861. Did you give him any more money?—I did not.

10,862. Who was the next person?—I gave Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck 150*l.*

10,863. He keeps an inn, does he not?—Yes.

10,864. What inn is it?—The Dolphin.

10,865. When did you give him that?—I think he had it early on the morning of the polling day.

10,866. Who was the next person?—I gave Mr. Stamper, I think, 60*l.*

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10,867. When was that?—The morning of the polling.

10,868. About what time?—I really could not tell you.

10,869. Was the poll open?—Yes.

10,870. Who was the next person?—I could not tell you accurately what I gave Mr. Maysey without referring to my papers.

10,871. What do you think you gave him?—I should think about 60*l.*, but I am not positive, therefore I would rather not give any account; I should think it was about 60*l.*, but I am not by any means clear.

10,872. If it should turn out that you are inaccurate about that, you will have an opportunity of correcting it. You think you gave Mr. Maysey 60*l.*; when was that?—On the day of the polling.

10,873. You say you gave to Mr. Ward 120*l.* on the day of the nomination?—Altogether I gave about 200*l.* on the day of the nomination.

10,874. Cannot you say to whom you gave the rest of the money?—No, I cannot without referring to my papers.

10,875. Who was the next person?—I would rather not give any further names till I have referred to my papers.

10,876. There are several other parties, we will not bind you to a few pounds?—I really cannot tell you without reference to my papers. You shall have an account accounting for every shilling that passed through my hands.

10,877. You see we have not at present got much beyond 500*l.* Do you mean to represent that you really have no knowledge as to how you disposed of the rest of the money?—Yes; I can give you the names of the parties, I dare say, who had it in smaller sums.

10,878. Just give us the names as far as you can?—I cannot recollect them now; if you will allow me time I will furnish you with all these particulars; they require some explanation. I can assure you that I have no wish to conceal a single thing; everything I know you shall hear.

10,879. Did you disburse the whole sum?—I did.

10,880. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The whole 1,000*l.*?—I did.

10,881. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you disburse any further sum than 1,000*l.*?—No.

10,882. Did you receive from any person any money, either on the day of the nomination or on the day of the polling, except the 1,000 sovereigns?—All the money I received I have stated to you.

10,883. Was all the money that you had received given to persons who were to distribute it amongst voters?—No; a good deal of it was distributed by me to voters.

10,884. It was given by you to persons who took bribes?—To persons who took bribes, and who were brought up by parties to me, for me to give the money to them.

10,885. A portion of the money was paid by you to persons who were to distribute it among voters, and the rest of the money you paid to voters themselves?—I did not quite catch the question.

10,886. A part of the money you paid to persons in order that they might distribute that money among voters for their votes, and a portion of the money you paid to the voters themselves?—Yes; in almost every instance in which the voters came they were brought to me by somebody for me to give them the money.

10,887. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Some of the voters were not personally known to you?—I knew very few of the voters by name or by their persons.

10,888. You relied on the representations of the persons who brought them to you?—Yes; I dare say that many of the men I gave money to I should not know if I saw them again.

10,889. You will be able to give us another day the names of persons to whom you gave money, will you not?—I must go over the register very carefully and depend a good deal upon memory, and I must refer to the persons who brought the voters to me. All I can say at present is, that the money did pass from me for that purpose, and I will endeavour to show to whom it passed as far as I can.

10,890. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Will you go through the register and make out a list of the various persons to whom you gave money, with their addresses, and let me have it when you come before us again to give your evidence?—Yes, I will give it you as far as I can.

10,891. (*Mr. Welford.*) You will give us the names and addresses of the voters to whom you gave money, and the names of the persons who brought them to you?—I will do so in every instance where I can; if I do not give you the names you may conclude that I gave the money myself.

10,892. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You knew all the canvassers who brought the voters, although you did not know the voters themselves?—Perfectly; some of the voters I knew, but very few of them.

10,893. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you give us a list of the canvassers?—I can give you a few; there was Mr. James Maysey, Mr. Ward, Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck, Jabez Franklin.

10,894. Walter Clutterbuck?—No; I had nothing to do with him at all, he took the out-voters; I had nothing to do with the out-voters.

10,895. But he did canvass the out-voters, did he not?—He canvassed the out-voters.

10,896. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he bring any of the voters to you in the room?—No, not one.

10,897. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you give us the name of any other canvassers?—Mr. William Parker.

10,898. What is he?—I believe he is a carpenter. Mr. Stamper; Mr. Jonah Dyer also canvassed a little.

10,899. Any other?—I am not aware of any other; there may have been persons who were not canvassers who brought voters to me.

10,900. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Give us the names of the persons who brought voters to you?—I have given you the names of the principal persons who brought them to me; any other persons who brought them would bring them accidentally.

10,901. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Hanman bring voters to you?—I do not recollect that he did.

10,902. Mr. Butt?—Certainly not.

10,903. Mr. Smart?—One of the Smarts did, I think; Mr. Smart of the Swan and Falcon; I am sure he came, because I gave him some money.

10,904. Mr. Buchanan?—No.

10,905. Were those persons whose names you have mentioned paid for their services?—I think they were.

10,906. All of them?—I think they were; they were engaged the whole of the canvass from beginning to end, and from morning till night.

10,907. There was a large number of messengers employed, was there not?—Yes; there was very great mischief in regard to the messengers.

10,908. A great number of them were voters, were they not?—I believe they were.

10,909. And friends of voters?—It is the practice for voters to send recommendations of persons to be put on as messengers; that is one of the greatest inconveniences attending an election; almost everybody has somebody, either a son or relative, that he wants to be put on the committee.

10,910. Do you concur in the opinion which has been expressed here, that payments made to voters who are employed as messengers are substantially payments made as bribes?—I do not think they can very well be called anything else; those persons do little or nothing for their money.

10,911. As regards the management of the election, that is a mode of giving bribes to voters?—I do not know what else you can call it; they come and get put on as messengers, and do nothing for it.

10,912. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where they do not get put on themselves they recommend their friends and

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H.K. Whitborn.
7 Oct. 1859.

relatives?—Yes, their sons or some one connected with them, and if you do not put them on you will lose their votes; they send you their recommendations, or come to you themselves, and if you do not put them on they go to the other side and they put them on, and then you lose their votes; that is the system that goes on, and I believe that both parties suffer very materially from it. There used to be a system, I am told, but I do not know it of my own knowledge, which gave rise to it a good deal,—a system which was carried on by a person named Hudson, who was a very active partisan here. I am told that he used to put a number of men on what was called his committee.

10,913. How long ago are you speaking of?—I am not certain whether he was engaged in the election of 1853 or not. I think he was alive then; there are many persons who can tell.

10,914. Is the system of messengers a system which has grown up since the year 1853?—No; I believe it to have been in practice for years; no doubt it has increased very much. I know we had daily applications from people, who would come and say, "If you "do not put me on I can be put on by the opposite "party."

10,915. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was this Mr. Hudson a gentleman belonging to your own party?—I think not; I think he did once.

10,916. Do you recollect him?—I do; I have heard that he had frequently as many as 100 voters upon his committee, and that they were paid 2*l.* or 3*l.* apiece. I think that began the mischief.

10,917. Who was Hudson?—He was employed by the Liberal party always.

10,918. What was he?—I do not think he had any trade at last; I believe he lived principally by his employment as electioneering agent, and a very valuable man he was.

10,919. What was he by business?—A hatter, I think; but I believe that all the last part of his life he did nothing else but attend to electioneering matters.

10,920. What was the amount that you paid to messengers?—That I cannot say; I had nothing to do with it.

10,921. How much a day were they paid?—I think it was 3*s.* 6*d.* a day; but I speak to that from report rather than from any knowledge.

10,922. Did you yourself suggest to different voters that they should be put upon the committee, and have 5*s.* or 7*s.* 6*d.* a day, if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I did not; I heard it stated here that I did so, but that statement was very incorrect.

10,923. You did not offer any persons to employ them as messengers at 5*s.* or 7*s.* 6*d.* a day, if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I heard what was said about that, and I will tell you what took place: it was with regard to a man, named Blackwell; I think I met him at the New Inn door; I believe he was repairing the street; I asked him whether he was going to give his vote, as he had given it theretofore, for Sir Robert Carden; he said he had not promised, but he thought he might be put upon the committee. I said, "If you want that, you had better "go down and see about it;" and that is all that passed between us.

10,924. You understood by what he said that he wanted to be bribed, did you not?—If the man wanted to be put upon the committee to do nothing, it could not be considered much otherwise.

10,925. That is what you understood?—It amounts to that.

10,926. When the man said to you that he wanted to be upon the Blue committee, did you understand him to mean that he wanted to be bribed?—I should not say that precisely; if you put him on the committee and he did nothing for it, it might be so; but a man may go on the committee and make himself useful for his money.

10,927. But if he was put on the committee to do nothing, would you not consider that that man was put on for the purpose of bribery?—Yes; but this man did not ask to be put on to do nothing.

10,928. I thought you said just now that they did nothing?—Many of them do nothing, but many are put on who really earn their money; others do not.

10,929. I suppose you found out that on the other side there were a number of messengers who were not voters, and who did the work?—There were a great many messengers who were not voters on the blue committee.

10,930. And they did the work?—Yes.

10,931. (*Mr. Welford.*) You put them on the committee as an inducement to them to vote, did you not?—I think it amounts very nearly to a bribe; I cannot see much difference; if men are paid to do nothing, I think that is very little short of bribery.

10,932. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Griffiths, I believe, had the management of the messengers, had he not?—Yes, he had.

10,933. That is to say, he had the return of them?—They were all under his management; he had them entirely under his control, and kept a list of them.

10,934. He put them on as he was directed?—Yes; in some instances I believe I asked him to put them on; I know I did.

10,935. Have you paid any sums of money since the election, besides the disbursement of the 170*l.* of which you have spoken and the 1,000 sovereigns?—I think I did in some small amounts; I cannot tell till I have gone through the account whether it is indebted to me or not; I will give you the particulars as far as I can.

10,936. You say you have paid some small sums to different persons since the election?—Yes.

10,937. To what amount?—Not amounting to more than 3*l.* or 4*l.* altogether.

10,938. Do you know yourself whether there are any claims outstanding?—I think there are some.

10,939. To what amount?—That I cannot tell you.

10,940. Do you know to whom those moneys are owing?—There are some outstanding accounts at some of the inns, but I do not know that I can tell who the parties are to whom they are due.

10,941. Cannot you tell me the names of the inns?—They are principally in small amounts.

10,942. Give me the names of the inns, if you please?—I cannot do that; I think I shall be able to do so on Monday; I will try and give them to you.

10,943. The Falcon was one of your places of entertainment, was it not?—Not a place of entertainment; I think Mr. Clutterbuck was pretty well paid for that; I do not think there is any account there.

10,944. You think his account is paid?—He drew money from me on the canvass, and I think he applied it in that way.

10,945. Were there any public-houses opened on your side at which voters might go and receive entertainment?—Not one that I know of; I think you will find that, except in a few cases, the principal accounts that are outstanding are for dinners to Mr. Taynton and myself, and some of the clerks and canvassers, who went there every day almost, rather than go home to our dinners most days we did that.

10,946. They were principally for your own entertainment?—Yes.

10,947. Were there no suppers or dinners ordered?—Not that I am aware of. I think that very likely the canvassers might have gone and had some dinner or supper, but not to entertain any voters; I think that is very possible. I think they drew money for that purpose, but not to entertain voters. I do not think there were any houses at which our voters could do as they pleased.

10,948. Were no suppers or dinners given at any public houses for the purpose of inducing voters to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No; I think that those who had them were safe men, but as they had to be out all day long they generally went and dined somewhere instead of going home; I think they did that during the canvass. I know, with regard to our-

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selves, if I or Mr. Taynton had gone home, and if the other persons who were engaged in canvassing had gone home, we should not have got together again perhaps. We would be as short a time as we could, to get back to the committee room, where there was much to do.

10,949. Do you remember what moneys you offered yourself to any persons for their votes?—No, I do not know that I offered them any till I actually paid them.

10,950. You paid moneys on the day of the election to different voters that were brought to you. What moneys did you offer to any other voters?—I am not aware that I offered any except when I paid them.

10,951. Did you offer any money to a person named Fletcher?—Never. What Fletcher do you mean?

10,952. William Fletcher?—No, I did not.

10,953. Did you hear that he was in an arrear for rent to the amount of 7*l.*, and did you say upon hearing that that you could do better for him?—No.

10,954. Nothing of that sort?—Nothing.

10,955. You know the person I mean?—I know him as well as possible, he was born in the same town as I was.

10,956. Do you know a person of the name of Henry Binning?—I cannot say I do. Where does he live?

10,957. Do you remember, not on the day of the election, but on some other day, putting six sovereigns into his pocket?—I do not think Binning is the name. I think I read something of it in the paper; I can tell you more about it on Monday. The very man that was named came to the committee room and wanted me to give him ten sovereigns, if it is the man I mean.

10,958. It is suggested that you slipped ten sovereigns into the man's pocket?—That is a slip altogether.

10,959. Do you remember offering Binning 10*l.*?—What Binning is it?

10,960. Robert Hazell Binning?—I do not know him. I might know him if I were to see him, but I do not know him by name.

10,961. Did you offer any money to Henry Cox?—Certainly not. Mr. Wilkes very faithfully related to you the facts as to him. I saw him as he was going by the church to the parish meeting, and I asked him if he had promised his vote. He said he had not. I said, "You had better come and call on me;" and he said he would, but I never saw him; he never did come.

10,962. Did you go through the accounts that were returned to the election auditor?—No, I never saw them.

10,963. He did not come to you for any explanation as to the mode in which you had expended the money?—No.

10,964. Neither as to the expenditure of the 170*l.* nor of the 1,000*l.*?—There was never any inquiry made of me about it.

10,965. You have made no return to any person as to that expenditure?—No, I have not.

10,966. Do you remember promising to exert yourself to obtain a spirit licence for anybody if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, never; not that I am aware of. Will you name the party, if you please?

10,967. You are a magistrate, are you not?—No, I am not.

10,968. (*Mr. Welford.*) What you received in the committee room was the half of a 500*l.* note?—It was.

10,969. Did you get the other half?—Mr. Lovegrove had the other half the following morning sent to him in a letter, and in that letter was an envelope for me enclosing me the other half.

10,970. And then did you hand the completed note to Mr. Lovegrove?—I did not immediately; he had it to get it made into sovereigns.

10,971. When did you become aware that Mr Lovegrove had provided the other half of the fund of 1,000*l.*?—I was not aware of it; how it came to him I did not know.

10,972. You knew on the Thursday evening that 1,000*l.* had been provided?—Yes, I had told him it was necessary that there should be a fund of 1,000*l.*, and he had provided it.

10,973. Did you consider yourself accountable to Mr. Lovegrove for the 1,000*l.*?—I did.

10,974. Since the election, have you made such statements to him as led him to infer that 400*l.* was left in your hands not expended?—No; he knew nothing of what the real state of the account was, nor did I myself.

10,975. Did you say anything which led him to believe that 400*l.* was left?—He might have suspected it, probably; it must have been suspicion on his part.

10,976. No definite communication had been made by you to him about it?—On the contrary, I have abstained from saying anything to him about it.

10,977. Since the election?—Yes, I have; there was a petition going on, and I thought he had better know nothing of the circumstance.

10,978. Were you examined before the committee?—I was.

10,979. Were you concerned in the previous election of 1857?—I was.

10,980. Were you treasurer then?—Yes.

10,981. Your position at the last election was that of treasurer?—Yes.

10,982. And at the former election you were also treasurer?—No.

10,983. I mean in 1857?—Yes.

10,984. Did you take part in the elections previous to 1857?—I did; but the part I took in them was very limited.

10,985. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you found within a week or nine days of the commencement of your canvass, that promises did not come in so freely as you expected?—Yes; there were a great many unreturned votes.

10,986. Was that owing at all to Sir Robert Carden having become less popular?—No, I think not; I think the reason was that there were such large promises made on the other side. It was reported to me, and I believed it to be the fact, that large promises were held out to the voters by parties on the other side of the question, and I believe the voters thought they might as well get as much as they could. I have no doubt that the difference in the number of votes polled at this and the former election arose from the difference in the price. They were paid five times as much on the last occasion as they had been before.

10,987. You think that the electors were led to expect payment for their votes on this occasion?—I think there has been scarcely an election without some bribery.

10,988. Do you attribute the expectation by the electors on your side of payment for their votes to the fact that large sums were offered on the other side?—I think that made them want so much. I have no doubt in the world that that led them to refuse to promise.

10,989. Did you make any representations to Sir Robert Carden during the canvass as to the state of the returns?—Yes; I did not do it directly; I think it was done by Mr. Lovegrove. We frequently went through the canvass; we did that several times very carefully, almost daily.

10,990. Did you represent to Sir Robert Carden, up to the last, that the returns were favourable?—We did, and we were justifind in making those representations. I think there were about 120 broken promises.

10,991. Did you represent to Sir Robert Carden that his chances of success, without having resort to bribery, were good?—Yes.

10,992. Without resorting to bribery?—Yes.

10,993. You made that representation to him when you at the same time held a different opinion?—There

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H.K. Whithorn.
[7 Oct. 1859.

are always a certain number of voters that require to be bribed.

10,994. Did you communicate that to Sir Robert Carden?—I did not.

10,995. I want to know whether that opinion of yours was communicated to Sir Robert Carden?—It was not. If they had voted as they had promised to vote, we should have been secure.

10,996. You were aware, were you not, that Sir Robert Carden was a great advocate of purity of election?—He professed to be so; I do not know that he is not so now; I believe he is.

10,997. You have said it was reported that large sums of money were being offered on the other side, and yet you took no steps at that time to counteract what they were doing?—At what time?

10,998. More than a week before the election?—What do you mean by "steps"?

10,999. I mean what you meant when you said you took no steps?—We had not parted with any money: that was my meaning.

11,000. Had you made any promises of money?—No; the canvassers may have done so. I cannot say what they had done, but I had taken no steps myself.

11,001. Were you aware that the canvassers had done so?—Very likely they may have done so.

11,002. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you taken no steps at that time to procure money to carry out the promises they might have made?—Certainly not.

11,003. You limit your answer to that?—Until we got the money I have told you of we had no funds for the purpose.

11,004. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know Mr. Bernard before the last election?—I had known him in 1857.

11,005. Did he then come down as a friend of Sir Robert Carden's?—He did.

11,006. Did he come in any way to interfere with the election?—He came more as a companion than anything else.

11,007. Was he more acquainted with what went on at the election in 1857 than Sir Robert Carden himself?—I am not aware that he was.

11,008. Do you know whether he was at all aware that money had been spent on Sir Robert Carden's behalf for illegal purposes?—I cannot say that. I do not think he was at the time.

11,009. How happened it that his coming down at the particular time he did suggested either to you or to Mr. Lovegrove the necessity that there was for obtaining money?—Mr. Lovegrove and myself, before we had seen Mr. Bernard, had talked the matter over.

11,010. You had talked about the necessity of having money before you had seen Mr. Bernard?—I think so. Our meeting him did not influence me in regard to it in any way,

11,011. Mr. Bernard's coming down did not at all suggest it to your mind?—Not in the slightest degree.

11,012. Did the conversation which you had with Mr. Lovegrove on the subject of money being provided take place before you knew of Mr. Bernard's being here?—I think it did, as far as my memory goes.

11,013. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you how he came to know that Mr. Bernard was at the station?—No, he merely told me he was there, and I walked down with him to the Wellington.

11,014. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you ever heard from Mr. Bernard where he got this money?—No.

11,015. (*Mr. Welford.*) You have mentioned that 120 promises were broken?—About 120.

11,016. Can you give us a list of them?—I believe I could; I am not certain about that.

11,017. If you can will you do so?—I will.

11,018. Mr. Lovegrove has stated to us that on the 24th of April, on the Sunday after your interview with Mr. Bernard, he wrote to Sir Robert Carden a letter in which he made him a return of the probable number of voters, placing Sir Robert Carden about eighty ahead; did you see that letter before it was sent?—I did not.

11,019. Was it written in consequence of a consultation with you?—No.

11,020. Was it written after a consultation with you?—No.

11,021. But it was on the Saturday before you had the communication you have told us of?—I do not know the date of the letter.

11,022. The date of the letter was the 24th of April, the day following the Saturday; you were not a party to that letter?—No, I did not know that the letter was written.

11,023. But on the 24th of April you and Mr. Lovegrove had talked the matter over, and it had become obvious to you that a fund of 1,000*l.* was necessary to be provided?—It was necessary in this way; that we thought we should not have a chance of winning the election unless we had a fund.

11,024. The statement was this: It was calculated that Sir Robert Carden would have 687 votes, that Mr. Price would have 642 votes, and that Mr. Monk would have 581 votes. Can you tell whether that accords with your estimate?—I really could not say that. It is possible I might have made the summing up of that myself, or that I was a party to it; I will not tell you that I was not; very likely I was.

11,025. Assuming you to have made that calculation, you made it, did you not, with the knowledge that money would be necessary for the purpose of purchasing votes?—As I have told you before, unless you are provided with money at these elections you are never safe.

11,026. And you believe that neither party could win an election in Gloucester without purchasing venal votes?—I do not believe it is possible.

11,027. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The calculation to which your attention has just been called gives a large majority to Sir Robert Carden over Mr. Monk?—Yes; there were a good many unreturned votes I think then.

11,028. It appears to be a calculation of votes that were pledged according to that letter. Supposing that to have been a proper estimate that was formed of the state of parties, 1,000*l.* could not have been required for bribery?—We were threatened with large sums on the other side, and we wished to counteract them. Our fear at that time was that the voters who had promised to vote for us might be offered large sums and be taken from us.

11,029. It was not a matter of fear, it was a matter of certainty; you had come to the conclusion that 1,000*l.* would be necessary?—We had come to the conclusion that it would be necessary to have a fund.

11,030. And after coming to that conclusion, Mr. Lovegrove writes a return, in which he makes Sir Robert Carden's majority nearly 100 over Mr. Monk; how do you account for that?—Only in the way I tell you; I do not believe that there is any certainty with regard to a great number of the voters.

11,031. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you formed any opinion as to the number of venal voters in Gloucester?—I have heard it stated here, and I do not think they are under-rated.

11,032. How many venal voters do you suppose there are?—I have heard it stated that there are 200 on each side. Mr. Herbert stated that.

11,033. That is 400 altogether?—Yes.

11,034. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) At what time did you cease paying money on the morning of the polling day?—The funds were exhausted very early.

11,035. Did you go on paying till the funds were exhausted?—Yes.

11,036. If the funds had been larger, should you have gone on paying?—I do not know about that; I did not like the appearance of the thing at the commencement.

11,037. At what time did you find the election

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was going the other way?—About half-past eight; the money was then gone.

11,038. That could not arise, could it, from the state of the poll?—I should say the election was pretty well over by nine o'clock.

11,039. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know that upon the registration of the previous years there had been a considerable increase in the number of Liberal voters?—That is a fact I cannot speak to, but I know what Mr. Taynton has told me, and I believe him to be a very good authority. I have heard him and also Mr. Brown say, that instead of there being an increase, there was rather the reverse.

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11,040. Your opinion is from what Mr. Taynton has told you, that the Conservative party have been the gainers instead of the Liberals?—That is my information, but I have no personal knowledge of it.

11,041. You derive your information from Mr. Taynton?—Yes.

11,042. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was Mr. Taynton employed to watch the registration?—Yes, he is the person who attends the Registration Court always; I should think that he and Mr. Brown would, together, form as good an opinion upon the subject as any person in Gloucester.

WALTER CLUTTERBUCK sworn and examined.

W. Clutterbuck.

11,043. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

11,044. And an active supporter of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

11,045. You were one of the solicitors retained for conducting the election?—I was.

11,046. In what way were your services engaged?—As a canvasser.

11,047. Did you principally direct your attention to the out voters?—I did.

11,048. When did you begin to canvass?—I think it was about the 6th of April.

11,049. Did you canvass in company with Mr. John Ward?—I did.

11,050. Did you make returns of your canvass to the committee room?—Not very often.

11,051. When you did, to whom did you make them?—I believe to Mr. Thomas Taynton.

11,052. What were the districts that you canvassed?—I believe pretty well the whole of the districts beyond the boundary of the city.

11,053. Did you communicate the nature of your canvass to Mr. Whithorn?—I think I did; not more than once, I think, or twice. I will not swear that positively; perhaps I may have done so more than once.

11,054. You did communicate with him sometimes?—I did.

11,055. But you are not certain whether you communicated with him more than once?—I am not.

11,056. When was that?—I should think it was very soon after I began to canvass.

11,057. As far as you remember that was the only occasion?—Yes.

11,058. Did you receive any instructions from any person to promise money or to hold out inducements to voters for their votes?—Never.

11,059. Did you consider that, being retained as a canvasser, you had the liberty and power to make promises if you thought proper to do so?—Not by authority.

11,060. But was there an understanding in your own mind? Did you conceive that it was a part of your office to promote, as far as you could, the success of your party by making promises where you thought them needful?—I intended to do so.

11,061. You were somewhat liberal in your promises, were you not?—I never made a promise, I believe; not a direct promise.

11,062. Not a direct promise of any sort?—Not a direct promise to any body; I swear that.

11,063. What do you mean by a "direct" promise?—I might have led them to believe, but I did not say, "I will promise you shall have so-and-so," or, "I will "do so-and-so."

11,064. You put it in a rather more artificial way?—I did, because I expected I was a marked man myself, and therefore I acted with as much caution as I possibly could to get clear,—to slip my head out of the halter.

11,065. Having made, at different times, indirect promises, did you communicate to the parties at the committee room that you had done so?—I do not think I did; I had no reason for doing it.

11,066. You do not think you did at any time?—No; if I did at any one time, it might be to Mr. Whithorn, as I before said.

11,067. He was the only person?—Yes, so far as I remember.

11,068. But you are not certain whether you made any such communication to Mr. Whithorn more than once?—No, I am not confident that I did.

11,069. And that was in the early part of the canvass?—Yes.

11,070. Was Mr. Ward, when he canvassed with you, the person who made the direct promises?—I never heard him make a promise.

11,071. He only made indirect promises, the same as yourself?—I do not know what he did. I avoided hearing anything he had to say all I could; that is the reason why I did not hear him.

11,072. You avoided as much as you could hearing anything that Mr. Ward said?—Yes.

11,073. Mr. Ward, I suppose you thought, would not act with so much caution as you?—He had himself to please in that. I wished to escape myself.

11,074. You know Walter Welch, do you not?—I do.

11,075. Did you promise him any money?—I really do not think I canvassed him. I knew him very well, but I do not think I did; I am almost certain I did not.

11,076. Are you quite certain you did not offer him any money?—Quite certain.

11,077. Did you tell Ward to offer him any money?—I never told Ward to offer him any money.

11,078. Did you canvass George Blackwell?—I did.

11,079. Did you tell him he could get 4*l.* by being on the Blue committee?—I never did.

11,080. Did you say anything to him about money?—I do not believe I did.

11,081. Did Mr. Ward?—Not in my presence.

11,082. Are you quite sure you did not offer any money to Blackwell?—Quite sure; I positively swear I did not.

11,083. And did you say nothing to him about money?—I believe I did not.

11,084. Do you know James Taylor?—I do not.

11,085. Do you not know him?—No.

11,086. Not James Taylor of the Pheasant Inn at Staverton?—I never saw him.

11,087. Were you never at his house?—Never; I do not know the man.

11,088. Was anything said about a dinner at his house?—I do not know the man.

11,089. But there might have been something said in your presence about a dinner at his house?—No, never to my knowledge.

11,090. Did you canvass William Coopey?—Of where?

11,091. Did you canvass any William Coopey?—I did; two William Coopeys.

11,092. Did you promise either of them money?—Never.

11,093. You made them no promise at all?—No.

11,094. Did Ward make them any promise?—Not in my hearing.

11,095. Do you know that he did?—I do not.

11,096. You know nothing at all about the bribery

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of any person of the name of Coopey?—Not of my own knowledge, I do not.

11,097. You were not present when any money was paid?—I never saw a shilling paid.

11,098. Have you heard from Ward what was paid to the Coopeys?—Never.

11,099. What do you mean by saying you do not know of your own knowledge?—I never saw any money paid.

11,100. Have you heard of any money being paid?—I believe that everybody in this Court believes that the Coopeys have been paid, but I do not know it, I tell you; I never saw them paid anything; but I will tell you what I did do with them. I come here to tell you the truth, and I will tell you all I know; I do not want to keep back anything, and I will not if I can help it. Gloucester is a very bad place; it is very corrupt; I believe it to be as bad as any place in England, and therefore I have come here with a full intention to disclose everything within my own knowledge, but that which is not within my own knowledge I will not attempt to swear to. To begin, then, with the Coopeys. I canvassed them on previous occasions; they are very jolly fellows; and when I went there I would sit down and have a pipe of tobacco and a drop of drink, for you must amuse such men as those, and on most of those occasions they would say, "We can have so and so from the "other party." I would say, "You are jolly fellows, "you tell me that, but I do not believe it;" nor did I believe it for some time, but at last I did. Well, I led them to believe that our friends would behave as well to them as the other party. There were a great number of them, some seven or eight or nine, I believe.

11,101. You have heard, perhaps, from Mr. Ward, or from some friends of Sir Robert Carden, how much was paid to them?—I never heard.

11,102. Without my going through the whole list, and asking you what you paid or promised to each person, will you tell me what you promised to any voters?—I never made a direct promise to anyone in my life.

11,103. What did you lead them to expect?—I have seen, or somehow heard, that one of the Vaile's wives swore to my having promised 5*l.* to two Vailes, James and Samuel Vaile. I do not mean to say that I did not know of it, though I am not positive that I did; I have no doubt I said that which led them to believe they should have that 5*l.*; but one of the Vailes swore here that I promised him 10*l.* All I have to say as to him is, that he is an infamous scoundrel; and I cannot go from this box without swearing that I did not promise him 10*l.* If I had, and if I was in a position to give it to him, I would have stopped with the man till now rather than Mr. Henley should have had him.

11,104. I do not think the statement was that you had offered him 10*l.*; did you offer him 7*l.*?—No, I led him to believe that he might have 7*l.*

11,105. That was William Vaile?—Yes, that was William Vaile.

11,106. (*Mr. Welford.*) You led him to believe that he might have 7*l.* for voting for Sir Robert Carden?—I did not promise him; I led him to believe it.

11,107. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) These voters are not quite so astute as you are. They do not know the difference between being led to believe and being promised?—That is very likely.

11,108. Did you promise Samuel Vaile any money?—That is the man I spoke of, Samuel James Vaile. The last man was William, who swore as I told you; but they have sworn that I promised them 5*l.* each.

11,109. You did not promise, but you led them to believe it?—Yes, I have no doubt I did.

11,110. Was it the same thing you did with Thomas Perks?—I never promised him anything.

11,111. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you lead him to believe anything?—No.

11,112. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you tell Mrs. Perks that you would do what was right, as before?—I believe I had nothing to do with him before.

11,113. Did you say to her that you would do what was right?—I may have said that to her.

11,114. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you mean by that?—What I meant was, that they would be paid the same as others were.

11,115. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And that in a corrupt city like Gloucester you would consider a bribe, I suppose?—I was only doing the same as the other party were, I considered. We were doing all alike.

11,116. Do you know John Ashmeade?—I do.

11,117. Did you offer John Ashmeade any money?—Not a farthing.

11,118. Did you tell John Ward to see John Ashmeade, and to tell him that if he would come across the Severn to you he should have 5*l.*?—Certainly not.

11,119. Were you watching anywhere to see John Ashmeade and John Ward? Do you remember one night waiting to see them?—Yes; but Ward and I were together.

11,120. At the time that Ward saw Ashmeade?—Yes.

11,121. And did Ward say that if he would come across the Severn he should have 5*l.*?—I never, as I before told you, heard John Ward promise any man any money; never upon any one occasion. I tell you I carefully avoided it.

11,122. Did you lead him to understand he should have 5*l.*?—Not Ashmeade, I did not.

11,123. John Ashmeade?—Neither of them; there is John and James; I scarcely know them apart; at least, I know them apart, but not their names.

11,124. Did you give either of them to understand they should have 5*l.*, or any money at all?—Certainly not.

11,125. Did you offer any large sum of money to Mrs. Bosley?—Not a farthing; not a shilling.

11,126. You offered her nothing?—Nothing.

11,127. Did you lead her to believe she could have some money?—Certainly not.

11,128. Do you know Job Bosley?—No, I do not know either of the Bosleys.

11,129. Do you remember showing eight sovereigns?—I did not carry them about.

11,130. Did you show, in the course of your canvass, eight sovereigns to any person?—Never.

11,131. Do you know William Hooper?—I do not.

11,132. Have you not a tenant of that name?—No.

11,133. Did you offer any tenant of yours 5*l.*?—No.

11,134. Do you know a person named William Jones?—No, I do not know any voter of that name.

11,135. Or "W." Jones?—No.

11,136. Did you receive any money for the purpose of paying any voters?—Not a farthing.

11,137. Did you never receive any money at all from either Mr. Ward or Mr. Whithorn?—I received from Mr. Whithorn for my travelling expenses some money; one sum of 5*l.*; I received that from him, and I believe Mr. Lovegrove gave me two 5*l.* afterwards. I was retained at a sum of money and my travelling expenses. I was determined that I would not lay out any of my own money, and therefore I said that before I started I would have some money, and I did have 5*l.* from Mr. Whithorn for my travelling expenses, and from Mr. Lovegrove at two other times two other 5*l.*, which I have given him credit for; but I never received a farthing from anybody yet to bribe any voter.

11,138. And you have paid no money to any voters?—I never did.

11,139. Were you active in taking up voters to the poll?—I never did; I always avoided it.

11,140. Do you know Edward Harman of the Island?—Yes.

11,141. Did you offer him any money?—No; I did not.

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11,142. Did you lead him to believe he would have some money?—I scarcely remember canvassing him. I saw him at a municipal election afterwards, but I do not much think I canvassed him for the city election.

11,143. Will you swear that you did not offer him or lead him to believe he could have 10*l.*?—I will swear I never did, nor name any such kind of sum of money to him.

11,144. Did he name any such sum to you?—Certainly not; I swear that most distinctly.

11,145. You made no returns of your canvass except on one occasion?—No; I do not think with that description of men I could. I did not feel it my duty to do it, and I do not believe I ever did, except, as I have told you, to Mr. Taynton.

11,146. You say that you believe the Gloucester constituency is about the most corrupt in England?—I swear that on my oath. *One* of the most corrupt; you understand me. I swear it, and I believe it; and I think you have had pretty good proof of it here.

11,147. Amongst which class of voters do you consider the corruption principally prevails?—If I were asked, I could scarcely tell you; for I as firmly believe, as I believe that I am standing here, that if you take the four streets of the city of Gloucester, there are not ten persons on either side of the street who are free and unbiassed.

11,148. When you say that, do you mean to make a distinction between persons who are open to bribery, and persons who are subject to corrupt influence?—I mean to say that those who are not directly bribed or who do not give bribes, have influence of some kind exercised over them, or exercise it themselves over others.

11,149. Do you mean that, if you took those four streets, there would not be found on either side of any one of those streets ten independent voters?—Yes, I do. That is my belief; I do believe it, and I have always said it.

11,150. And you express that opinion from a lengthened experience in electioneering matters in Gloucester?—I do, speaking from more than thirty years' experience.

11,151. Do you consider that the corruption has increased or decreased of late years?—I should say it has not decreased.

11,152. Do you consider that it remains in somewhere about the same state now that it was in thirty years ago?—Quite as bad.

11,153. About the same?—I do not know; it is quite as bad.

11,154. Was it very bad thirty years ago?—Yes, I believe so.

11,155. In canvassing the voters, has your canvassing always been directed to the out-voters?—No.

11,156. You say that at this election you only canvassed the out-voters?—Principally I did. There are very few others that I did, but I know a great number of voters; and if I met a man in the street, it is most likely I should speak to him and ask how he intended to vote; but it was principally the out-voters that I canvassed.

11,157. Having given your opinion with regard to the four streets of Gloucester, what should you say with regard to the out-voters? What is your opinion with regard to them?—I should say they are very much of the same character.

11,158. Are they better or worse, do you think?—They are on an equality I should think.

11,159. Are there any circumstances to which you can attribute the great corruption which you say prevails?—No; except it is the love of getting something upon every contest; that is all.

11,160. Does that arise from any system?—No, I do not believe it does; only if there happens to be an election, every man tries to make his market. We have had men who have been considered our friends turned out; Mr. Price, yonder, has been a very great favourite; occasionally he has been turned out. Our friend Mr. Hope, it was supposed, was in for life, but he has been turned out; Captain Berkeley, who was a very great favourite, has also been turned out; and it is taken as a matter of course "it is your turn to "go out this time."

11,161. You do not consider, then, that political principle goes in the elections in Gloucester for anything?—Not at all; they have got no principle at all.

11,162. Mr. Price is an exception, is he not? He has not been turned out, has he?—Has he never been beaten? I beg his pardon, I thought he had been. Then he has given up if he has not done that. He put himself forward as a candidate and gave up.

11,163. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who retained you?—Mr. Whithorn.

11,164. For Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

11,165. Have you been paid for your service?—No; I wish I was.

11,166. Have you sent in an account?—Yes.

11,167. You expect to be paid?—I do.

11,168. You hardly hold yourself as one of the incorruptible?—No; I am here to say I have taken part in the corruption.

11,169. You say that in your opinion there are not ten men who are independent on either side of the street?—Yes.

11,170. Do you consider yourself independent?—No.

11,171. A great many names were mentioned to you who you say you did not canvass; can you tell us any men you did canvass?—I have named several; the Coopeys, the Vailes, and Perks.

11,172. Any others?—No, I do not remember; the men at Longley; I saw two men.

11,173. Do you know a man named Skillern?—Yes.

11,174. Did you ever say to him that you would do the best you could for him?—No.

11,175. Or to his wife?—I did not.

11,176. Did you ever lead him to believe you would?—No; I went with Ward to canvass that man. He did not happen to be at home, but his wife was, and I was sitting down there; he is an old man, and I had a good deal of trouble with him. He came in and I solicited him for his vote. "Ah, well," says the old fellow, "I can tell you what it is, I have got "an old scythe, and I shall sell it, and the man that "will buy it I shall have two sovereigns of, and I "shall vote." I made him no answer, but walked out; upon that I believe he followed Ward out into the garden.

11,177. You were not present at their conversation?—I was not.

11,178. Do you know of any other promises of that sort?—I do not. You can ask me, and if I remember them I will tell you.

11,179. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did the scythe change hands?—I never heard that it did.

11,180. (*Mr. Welford.*) Or the two sovereigns?—I do not know that they did. The man, I believe, did not vote for us. Mr. Henley, I dare say, can tell you about that.

11,181. Had you anything to do with the election of 1857?—A little.

11,182. Did you pay any money then?—I did not.

11,183. Did you make any of these suggestions and intimations to voters then?—I dare say I did.

11,184. Pretty much in the same way?—Pretty much.

11,185. Did you know a man named Hudson?—Very well.

11,186. Do you know anything of his electioneering?—I worked with him and against him; his was a very good school. He said to me, "Now, Clutterbuck, "never promise, but if you do be sure never to pro-"mise anything you cannot perform," and I have strictly adhered to that advice.

11,187. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean that his advice was never to promise directly?—I do.

11,188. You do not consider yourself bound to perform those promises which are not made directly?—Certainly, I should.

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11,189. Are you a strong political partizan here?—At the time.

11,190. Are you in Gloucester?—Very, at the time. I do not care about it now, to-day. Just at the time I am as busy as any one.

11,191. What did you mean by saying you expected you were a marked man?—From being a busy man at an election. I have been active, I suppose I may consider, at elections.

11,192. Was that all you meant?—Yes, just so.

11,193. You did not mean that something more was implied when you visited a voter than your merely asking him for his vote?—I expected, knowing I had been about, that they would be sure to summon me, upon any occasion, before the House of Commons, or otherwise, and I wanted to avoid getting myself into any scrape as to promises.

11,194. But you said you were a marked man?—I meant nothing further than that.

11,195. You said that you knew you were a marked man, and that you took precautions when you visited voters as to what you said to them?—Just so.

11,196. What was the meaning of the expression, "a marked man"?—That if I had promised and was examined I should have to swear that I had done so.

11,197. You say, that although you had no instructions to make promises to voters, yet you intended to do so?—I did. I knew the character of the men I went to see, and that they would require it.

11,198. Did you communicate your intentions to any one at that time?—No.

11,199. Do you think that the parties who employed you knew that you would do so?—They may have supposed so.

11,200. From what you had done before, I suppose?—Just so.

11,201. Are you aware that Sir Robert Carden, when he first came to Gloucester, made professions of purity?—I have heard it said so.

11,202. Did you hear that said by him?—No, I saw very little of him.

11,203. Did you hear him address the electors?—No, I never did. I never go to such meetings.

11,204. Do you never read the speeches?—No.

11,205. You do not trouble your head about them?—Not I.

11,206. You were not aware, when you went with a determination to make promises to voters, that you were doing so in express contradiction to Sir Robert Carden's public declarations?—Certainly not. I did not give it a thought. If I had gone upon that, I should not have started at all.

11,207. (*Mr. Welford.*) You do not believe in purity in Gloucester?—Not as to electioneering, I do not.

11,208. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) If you had been aware that Sir Robert Carden intended, as far as he could, to prevent bribery, you would not have gone out?—I should have stopped at home.

11,209. You did not make these promises, then, in consequence of having heard that promises were made by the other side?—Most likely I did. They were trying to win, and so were we.

11,210. I understand you to say that you would not have gone at all on the canvass unless you had intended to make these promises?—Just so.

11,211. Then it was not in consequence of hearing that the other side were promising that you commenced the practice?—Because I took that for granted. I knew they would.

11,212. None of these voters that you canvassed had told you that they were promised on the other side?—No doubt I did hear it.

11,213. Do you recollect any instances in which promises were made to voters after you had been told that they had promised on the other side?—I believe that was the case with the Vailes.

11,214. Were you in Gloucester before the passing of the Reform Act?—Yes; what was the date of the Reform Act?

11,215. 1832?—Yes, before that.

11,216. Were you a voter yourself?—No.

11,217. Do you consider the borough was as corrupt then as it has been since?—I have never known any alteration in it.

11,218. (*Mr. Welford.*) Seriously, do you believe that no man can expect to be returned member of parliament for Gloucester without resorting to the purchase of votes?—That I firmly believe.

11,219. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always belonged to the same party that you do now?—Since I have been upon my own account. During my clerkship I was not. I was then with a gentleman who created quite a new party.

11,220. Who was that?—Mr. Chadbourne. Upon that occasion I worked with Hudson for Mr. Philpotts.

11,221. Hudson was on the other side?—Yes.

11,222. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know anything at all about the registration that preceded the last election?—No, I scarcely looked to it. I should not trouble my head with the registration.

11,223. You do not know whether the Liberal party had gained since the election of 1857 or not?—I do not.

11,224. If canvassers are intrusted with sums of money, do they, generally speaking, devote that money to purposes of bribery and treating, or to their own gratification?—I could not answer for that.

11,225. As far as you know, from what you have seen?—I do not know to whom the money was intrusted.

11,226. I am speaking now generally of canvassers. Suppose a canvassing party going out and having got a sum of money, do they, generally speaking, devote that money to treating voters or to treating themselves?—I could not tell you; I do not know to whom the money was intrusted. I only know as far as you know.

11,227. Would they spend the money in treating voters?—Do you mean what should I do myself.

11,228. I mean what persons have done with whom you have been canvassing?—I do not remember anybody who canvassed with me, especially on this occasion, having paid any money but what I paid myself. I do not remember, on any occasion, seeing money paid by any one.

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WILLIAM PHILIP PRICE called and further examined.

11,229. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some corrections in your evidence, or some explanation of the evidence we have heard from Mr. Monk?—It was stated by Mr. Monk (I am quite sure inadvertently), that Mr. Moffatt had told him that he had advanced 500*l.* to Mr. Price. I think he put it in that way. The impression which it appears to me the public might draw from that would be that I had myself received 500*l.* from Mr. Moffatt for my own purposes. I do not suppose that the Commissioners or the public of Gloucester would fancy that.

11,230. We put no such construction upon Mr. Monk's evidence?—Then I find that there is a slight discrepancy between the amount that I said Mr. Norris told me Sir Robert Carden had stated he had spent, and the amount which I stated to Mr. Monk. I wish to say that I made no memorandum of it, and Mr. Monk did; and therefore, as between Mr. Monk and myself, Mr. Monk is much more likely to be correct than I am. I quoted from memory and he from a memorandum in his possession. Then another question was, as to whether Mr. Moffatt's letter to me was dated from Ashburton or from London. I think the Chief Commissioner asked me whether I was sure it came from Ashburton, as though he thought it material at the time. I have been endeavouring to consider upon what ground I thought the letter came from Ashburton. My only reason for thinking it did was that it was addressed to me at the committee room in Gloucester; and I felt quite

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sure that had it been written from London, either from his own office or from the Reform Club, he would have had it addressed to my own address instead of at the committee room. My supposition was, that being at Ashburton, and not knowing my address, he directed it in that way. I almost think, however, that I must have been wrong in that impression.

11,231. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I gathered from Mr. Moffatt's evidence that he did write to you from Ashburton?—I think the Chief Commissioner asked me the question, which caused me to believe his impression was that the letter was written from London, and I was anxious to be correct on all points.

11,232. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe it appeared in evidence that it was written from Ashburton?—Then I was right in my impression. I was reading this morning a report in the paper of my own evidence, and I think you asked me whether I had named 500*l.*, and no other or larger sum to Mr. Moffatt, as the amount of Mr. Monk's probable expenses, and I said that I named 500*l.*, and no other sum. That was my answer to the question put to me. Now I never did suggest myself any other sum than 500*l.* I always thought that that was the sum which Mr. Monk meant to spend, but I think Mr. Moffatt did say to me, "Well, but if it has cost you 500*l.* on the average, do you not think it may cost Mr. Monk more?" and I said, "I think it will cost "him more than it cost me, because he has not the "same advantage of local connexion that I have, "and therefore it possibly may cost him 1,000*l.*" I do not wish the Commissioners, therefore, to understand that I did not contemplate 1,000*l.*, but only that I was not responsible for any further sum than 500*l.* Those are the only parts of my evidence that I would desire to correct; but perhaps, as I am now addressing the Commissioners, they will allow me to say one word with reference to a statement which has been made by the last witness. I am bound to say that that statement took me by complete surprise. I never heard so monstrous a statement in the whole course of my life, as that there are not ten men to be found on either side of the street in the four principal streets in Gloucester who are not themselves corrupt or subject to corrupt influences. I have known the constituency of Gloucester ever since I was a boy, and I am bound to say, that with the exception of two or three hundred venal voters, whom everybody knows, I do not believe that there is a more respectable or a more honest constituency in England; and I make that statement with reference to the Conservative as well as the Liberal side. I know many hundreds of Liberals and many hundreds of Conservatives, who I am quite sure are incapable of being influenced by any considerations other than their own honest and genuine feelings and convictions.

W. Matthews.

WILLIAM MATTHEWS sworn and examined.

11,233. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—Yes.

11,234. Did you take a part in the last election for this city?—I did.

11,235. Did you canvass voters?—I did in some instances.

11,236. Was that the employment which devolved upon you, canvassing voters?—Yes; partially. I was Under-Sheriff at the time, but previously to the election I canvassed some voters.

11,237. You were retained professionally, were you not?—I had no retainer for the last election.

11,238. Were your services professional, or were they gratuitous?—I considered them professional, although I had no retainer.

11,239. Was the duty imposed upon you the duty of canvassing voters?—It was partially.

11,240. While you were canvassing voters, did you take occasion to offer any inducement to voters to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—None whatever.

11,241. You offered no money to any voters?—No money whatever.

11,242. And you held out no inducement of any sort?—No inducement of any sort or kind.

11,243. Had you anything to do with the distribution of the money that came into Mr. Whithorn's hands?—Nothing whatever.

11,244. Was any money paid to you during the election for electioneering purposes?—None whatever, except as Under-Sheriff; a deposit was paid on account of the expenses.

11,245. Did you pay any money out of your pocket?—I have paid such little things as pikes and post-boys, and things of that sort, when I have been canvassing out-voters.

11,246. Travelling expenses?—Travelling expenses I have paid.

11,247. Besides travelling expenses you have paid nothing, have you?—No, nothing whatever.

11,248. Did you hear of any cases of bribery committed by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—I have heard, of course, a good deal said, but merely in general conversation.

11,249. During the election?—I have heard it said, not with reference to Sir Robert Carden. I heard it said that there was a good deal of money being offered on the Liberal side, but I am not aware that I heard anything with reference to any particular cases on Sir Robert Carden's side; we know at elections a great deal more is said about those kind of things than is really true.

11,250. Did you hear there was a great deal of money being offered on Sir Robert Carden's side?—I did not.

11,251. Did you know that there was?—I did not.

11,252. You were not informed by any person?—I was not informed by any person.

11,253. Did you know that there were Liberal promises made on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—No; I did not know it.

11,254. Do you know a voter of the name of Wellstead?—I do.

11,255. Did you canvass that voter?—He has reminded me that I did this morning; he brought it to my memory that I did do so.

11,256. You did canvass him?—Yes.

11,257. Was anything said to you about any difficulty in which he was?—I have seen Wellstead this morning outside the court; he came to me and said a person named Jeffs had spoken falsely as to what had taken place between us. I am sure I did not promise Wellstead anything.

11,258. Did you say to Wellstead that you would put everything straight?—No; I believe not. I am satisfied I did not; it was on a Sunday morning. I was driving out of town, and pulled up and spoke to him at his own door.

11,259. What was the subject of the conversation you had with him?—I believe I said to him, "Well, "Wellstead, what part of the play are you acting "this time?" or something of that sort. "I see you "about a good deal with the Liberal party, what does "it mean?" Because he had always been a Conservative before. I am sure I do not know what he said in answer to it, but I am quite sure that I did not promise him anything.

11,260. He had always been on the Conservative side before?—Yes.

11,261. He voted for Sir Robert Carden before?—Yes.

11,262. Did he not say something about any money or expenses not being paid him at the election of 1857?—I have no recollection of anything of the kind.

11,263. Will you swear he did not say so?—I could not swear it; if I remember rightly, he found fault with the fact that his son had not had the Blue school; if I remember rightly, that was his grievance.

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11,264. Upon his telling you that that was his grievance, did you not say that you would put everything straight?—No, certainly not.

11,265. Had you any conversation at all with Mr. Whithorn about money?—Not about money in any way; I believe not.

11,266. Did you make any returns of your canvass?—It occurred in this way generally; I looked at the general canvass, and any voters I saw unreturned, I went and saw, and then went back and entered the return in the book.

11,267. In the general canvass book?—Yes.

11,268. To whom did you return it?—I used to enter it myself in the book. Mr. Taynton had the canvass book generally, but it was in the hands of two or three if he was absent; he had the custody of the book.

11,269. You canvassed voters in the city, I suppose?—Yes, in the city.

11,270. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any of the voters you canvassed lead you to understand that they wanted money?—Well, they may have; at least they said it was quite time enough to promise, and all that sort of thing in many instances; but those I went to were generally people that I knew well, and to whom nothing was said of that kind; they were not a class of people likely to say so.

11,271. You had a certain degree of influence with them?—Yes, or acquaintance.

11,272. You are aware that there are a number of voters in Gloucester who are considered venal?—Yes.

11,273. Did you ever canvass any of that class?—I did so, I think. I may have met with some on the canvass; I took the books a short time one or two mornings with Sir Robert Carden; I do not think I generally canvassed that class of men.

11,274. Can you bring to your recollection the fact of any voters having intimated to you that they wanted money for their votes?—No, I am not aware that I can.

11,275. Did any of them say anything to you when declining to promise implying that they expected some money?—I believe they may; there must have been some, no doubt, who did so; that it was too long to look forward, and all that sort of thing, and that they must see more about it; they used terms one understood the meaning of.

11,276. They used terms which led you to believe that they expected some inducement?—Yes.

11,277. Did you mention the names of the voters wanting such inducement in the returns of the canvass?—I believe not; I may have probably made a memorandum of somebody being able to influence them, or something of that sort, but not to influence them with regard to money matters.

11,278. Did you give in any returns of the sort in writing to Mr. Taynton or any one who had the care of the book?—There are many original entries in the book.

11,279. Did you ever make any memorandum in figures opposite their names, or anything of that sort?—No, nothing of the sort; I never entered any sum, or anything of the sort; never at any election that I have been employed in.

11,280. I think you said you were retained professionally on behalf of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Well, it was understood; the last two or three years I have assisted in the management of the election.

11,281. There was a general understanding that you were one of the solicitors?—Yes.

11,282. Have you sent in any account?—I have not.

11,283. Do you intend to do so?—I expect to be paid.

11,284. Have you been paid anything?—No, nothing whatever.

11,285. Is any account of yours included in the election auditor's account?—No.

11,286. It has not been sent in?—No, it has not; I have made out no account.

11,287. Still you consider yours an outstanding account due from Sir Robert Carden?—I expect I shall have at some time some gratuity for my services and for the petition.

11,288. I am referring to the election?—Yes.

11,289. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know how it has come to pass that no charge on your account has been sent to the election auditor?—No; I never sent in any account.

11,290. Do you know whether there was any reason why your name should be left out?—No, none whatever.

11,291. Were you a recognized agent?—No, scarcely that; I have generally acted on the committee at elections for some time here.

11,292. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you Under-Sheriff or not?—Yes. I took no part in either of the last elections after the nomination; nor did I go to the committee room; but up to the time of the nomination I considered I was not going out of my duty in taking part in the election; but on neither occasion, after the nomination, had I any communication with or connexion with the candidates on either side.

11,293. Do you know a man named Knight?—Can you give me his Christian name?

11,294. I will ask you this: Had you any men at the Frogmill near Cheltenham? Did you entertain any voters there?—No. I recommended Frogmill as a quiet place where parties could be sent to. It was in this way: there were two or three old people whose wives were anxious that they should not be picked up by the other party, and I was asked whether I knew any quiet place where they could be sent to.

11,295. For security?—Yes, and I recommended Frogmill.

11,296. Do you know of any voters having been sent there?—I do not know it of my own knowledge. I have heard since that some man was sent there.

11,297. A voter named James Knight, who lived in St. Margaret's almshouses?—I have heard it since; I do not know the man. I believe he is a lame man.

11,298. You do not know the names of any voters that were sent there?—I do not know them; I believe there were only three or four, but I was no party to sending them there.

11,299. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who asked you for a quiet house?—I do not know, I am sure; I forget. It was somebody in the committee room. I think very likely it was Mr. Whithorn; I cannot say exactly. Somebody or other asked me; I think it was Mr. Whithorn.

11,300. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know who was sent to protect them?—I do not.

11,301. Did you entertain anybody at the Waggoner's Arms, kept by a man of the name of Withers?—I have not stopped at that house since the coaches were off the road between Gloucester and Cheltenham.

11,302. Have you paid him any money in respect of entertaining voters during the election?—None whatever.

11,303. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you become acquainted before the election with the general result of the canvass?—Yes.

11,304. Did you form an opinion as to Sir Robert Carden's chances of success?—Yes, we considered the thing certain.

11,305. Did you consider it certain?—I did indeed.

11,306. Without having resort to bribery?—Without having resort to bribery, I considered that the canvass for Sir Robert Carden must have won the election.

11,307. In that calculation you must have assumed that all the promises would be performed?—No, I allowed a per-centage for that; but contrasting that canvass with the one previous, there was a considerable improvement.

11,308. Then it was not your opinion immediately

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preceding the election that there would be any necessity to resort to bribery?—No.

11,309. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you thought Sir Robert Carden would be returned, after deducting a per-centage from the returns of the canvass?—A per-centage upon the number of votes promised. I think in making any calculation you should take off some for losses of votes promised.

11,310. By "the returns of the canvass," you mean, do you not, the number of votes that were promised?—Yes.

11,311. And making a deduction of a per-centage from the number of promises you thought Sir Robert Carden would be returned?—Yes.

11,312. Did you go over the returns yourself?—I did.

11,313. With whom?—I believe with Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn.

11,314. When did you go over them?—Sometimes in the evening.

11,315. How long before the election?—I did not see, the last three or four days, the books themselves, but I saw the numbers each night and the calculations.

11,316. I want to know when you went through the returns yourself with Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn?—Within three or four days of the election.

11,317. You went through the returns yourself?—The returns of the canvass—the canvass books.

11,318. Three or four days before the election?—That is to say, as to the number upon the canvass books promised to each party.

11,319. As to the number promised to Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; I might not have gone through the names so late as that, but I went through the returns of each person by the addition of the numbers.

11,320. Did you go through them so as to ascertain for yourself how much reliance was to be placed upon the returns made, that this man and that man had made promises for Carden?—I knew the character of the canvass book generally, and it was considered to be made up excessively well, and every vote to be entered as well as possible.

11,321. That was three or four days before the election?—Yes.

11,322. Did no person tell you what number of those persons who had promised were bribed?—No.

11,323. You only went on the general statement that a certain number of votes were promised to Sir Robert Carden, without reference to whether they were free or whether they were bribed?—Yes, I believe the amount of bribery was very much overstated.

11,324. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Lovegrove ever state to you that their opinion was different from yours?—Never. I know their opinion was that the election was safe.

11,325. But did you know their opinion was that the election was safe, provided they had money to spend?—I believe without reference to that; money was not mentioned in any shape or way.

11,326. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you know that Mr. Whithorn was the treasurer of the election for your party?—No, I did not.

11,327. Did you know who disbursed the money?—I had a strong idea that he did it; but I never knew it in any way. I never had to apply to him for money; general rumour seemed to say that he was, but I never had to apply to him for money, and I do not know that he had it; in fact, I never knew anything of the money.

11,328. You rather avoided knowing anything about it?—I should always do so at an election, if I was acting for a party.

JOHN WARD sworn and examined.

J. Ward.

11,329. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I was a builder.

11,330. What are you now?—I live on my means.

11,331. Where do you live in Gloucester?—In Westgate Street.

11,332. Were you employed to canvass voters?—I was.

11,333. On the part of Sir Robert Carden?—I was.

11,334. A paid canvasser?—No.

11,335. Not paid?—Not paid.

11,336. Have you never received any money for canvassing?—I have not.

11,337. By whom were you appointed or asked to canvass?—I was asked to canvass by Mr. Lovegrove and by Mr. Whithorn.

11,338. What districts were you to canvass in?—I was about to say that I refused at first to become a canvasser for the reason that I did not consider I had been treated fairly in 1857, when I spent a very great deal of time and had no recompence.

11,339. Because you had not been recompensed in 1857?—That was for the canvassing and the petition.

11,340. Were you recompensed the expenses of 1857 before you began to canvass in 1859?—Certainly not, not one farthing.

11,341. You have received nothing for your services for canvassing in 1859?—I have not.

11,342. Do you consider yourself badly treated still?—No, I took the word of Mr. Lovegrove that I should be satisfied for 1859.

11,343. What do you expect to receive?—I have no particular expectation; I leave it entirely to his generosity; if he thinks I am worth anything, he will give it me; if he does not, I do not expect to get it.

11,344. How many days were you canvassing?—I should think about twenty-six, backwards and forwards; I cannot say to a day.

11,345. When did you begin?—The beginning of April sometime; I cannot recollect the day of the month when I first canvassed.

11,346. What districts did you canvass?—I canvassed principally in the country; after I had done in the country, I did my best in the town. Early in the morning I canvassed in the town before I went into the country, and after I came home from the country I went round to public-houses.

11,347. All the out districts?—Yes, the whole of them I think.

11,348. What money did you receive during the time you were engaged in canvassing?—I think I received something from 16*l.* to 20*l.*; but I cannot tell exactly what I received; I will give you the particulars of it another day; the exact amount that I did receive I do not know now; it may have been as much as 20*l.*; I cannot tell.

11,349. That was during the time you were engaged in canvassing?—Yes.

11,350. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Whithorn.

11,351. To what voters did you offer money?—I offered money to the Vailes; I offered money to the Coopeys.

11,352. You offered money to all the Vailes—James?—Well, I do not think I ever offered James Vaile any money.

11,353. Samuel?—I offered Samuel Vaile money; in fact I entered into an arrangement with him to give him 5*l.*; he and his wife and George Vaile were present; we stood at the back of their house; and there was a final arrangement that he should come to Gloucester and vote for Sir Robert Carden for 5*l.* That was afterwards violated through Mr. Henley, I believe, going over and offering them 8*l.*

11,354. How long was this previous to the election?—I should think a week previous to the election.

11,355. Might it have been a fortnight before?—I should say not, because the first time I canvassed with Mr. Clutterbuck, they asked me if they would be done by as they had been done by before.

11,356. When was that?—The first time I canvassed them.

11,357. About what time would that be?—Within

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the first fortnight I should say, or a few days after; I would not swear positively when the first communication by me to them, with regard to money, was made.

11,358. You and Mr. Walter Clutterbuck were there?—We canvassed together. Mr. Walter Clutterbuck did not hear anything that I said to the Vailes.

11,359. Upon the first occasion you said that they should be done by as they had been done by before?—Yes, exactly; they represented to me that they had had 3*l.* at the previous election, and they asked me whether they should have the same; I, of course, told them they should.

11,360. At the previous election in 1857 they voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

11,361. After that you saw them again?—I saw them again; some one had been there then, and I suppose told them they would do better by them than what we would, and the price increased from the 3*l.* to 5*l.*

11,362. Did you tell Samuel and George, and the wife of Samuel, that they should have 5*l.*?—5*l.* each for their votes for Sir Robert Carden.

11,363. Did you promise anything to William Vaile?—We saw his wife, I think, when we first went there; William was away at work up the river or down the river, or somewhere about, and there were two children of his very ill at the time, dying apparently; they did die within a week or a fortnight; and I told his wife that the same thing as was done by the others should be done by William if he voted for Sir Robert Carden; and also Thomas. He was not hurt at that time I think.

11,364. That was, that they should have the sum of 5*l.* each, is that so?—That is so.

11,365. Who was the next person to whom you offered money?—I saw these people afterwards, and the old lady told me that they could not accept the offer I had made them of the 5*l.*, that their masters for whom her husband and son were employed were Yellows, and would not allow them to vote, and she came into Gloucester in a cab with me; the cab that brought me into Gloucester took her down to her sons, somewhere in the terrace; she was to have met me the next day and told me her final arrangement; but she did not do so, and my impression is that the son in the terrace settled the affair by receiving the money from Mr. Henley.

11,366. That is the only part you took in the matter; the utmost offer you made was 5*l.*?—To Samuel Vaile and George Vaile, but William I offered 7*l.* to; that, I think, was the night previous to the election; he told me that if I would give him 8*l.* he would vote for Sir Robert Carden; he thought out of gratitude for little things I had done during his children's illness he would rather vote for me than he would for the other side. I refused to give him more than the 7*l.*, and that broke it off, and he came to Gloucester, I believe, and voted for Price and Monk for 8*l.*

11,367. And James Vaile?—I did not offer him any money; I told him that the same the rest had he should have; as much, in fact, as anybody had he should have. I bought a hogshead of cider of James Vaile.

11,368. Did you pay him for it?—I paid him for it, 3*l.* 15*s.*, and he said he was a poor man, and I gave him the odd 5*s.*, making it 4*l.*; the cider, I believe, was worth the money; but I should not have bought it had it not been for my being out canvassing for Sir Robert Carden.

11,369. It was an electioneering speculation?—That was it, exactly.

11,370. Now the next, if you please? What do you say about the Coopeys?—I canvassed the Coopeys in company with Mr. Clutterbuck; the first time that I went there we certainly, I think, talked about the price of the votes, and I believe I told them it would be something similar to what it was before.

11,371. What was it before?—I do not know; I had nothing to do with the Coopeys with regard to paying them at the previous election.

11,372. For whom did they vote at the previous election?—Sir Robert Carden. You understand I had canvassed them before.

11,373. Do you know how much they received?—I do not.

11,374. How much money did you say they should receive in 1859?—I told them they should have as much as anybody else had; and they told me that some gentlemen had been over there from the other side, telling them what they would do for them; that they would give them, I think they said, 80*l.* for their votes; I am not positive as to the exact amount. I told them that I did not believe it; that I did not think Mr. Price and Mr. Monk intended to be so reckless as to spend so much money in an election. They said it was a positive fact; that Stephens had been there; and (if I remember right), I think Mr. Becks, Mr. Wilkes's clerk, was mentioned as having been over there; that he had either offered them or been in company with some one that did offer them money.

11,375. Upon your being told that that sum had been offered, did you offer them any sum?—Not then.

11,376. Afterwards?—Afterwards I did.

11,377. How much?—I told them I would give them 5*l.* each.

11,378. For how many votes?—I will not be positive whether it was ten or eleven; but if you will allow me to take the poll book, I will tell you exactly.

11,379. Will you give a list to-morrow or Monday?—I cannot swear to one man.

11,380. After you have given your evidence to-day, will you be kind enough to make out a list of the different persons to whom you offered money, and put against their names their addresses and the sums of money you offered?—I should wish to go through these Coopeys, because there are two or three respectable people who never had a bribe, and who never were offered a bribe, of whom some polled for Price and Monk, and some for us.

11,381. In that list you can just tell us those persons that were excluded from your offers, to whom your offer does not apply?—There is one man who it would be worth while to summon; I do not know whether I did offer him money or not.

11,382. Give us, if you please, the names of those persons to whom you did offer a bribe?—Benjamin Hyett Coopey, a farmer at Bentham; he is an honest man; I believe he voted for Price and Monk.

11,383. You did not offer him any money?—No.

11,384. Now the next?—Edward Coopey, labourer, Longford. I offered his daughter 10*l.*; she told me she had been offered 16*l.* by the Yellows, and that if I would give her 15*l.*, her father should vote for us. He voted for Price and Monk.

11,385. You say there are two or three of the Coopeys to whom you did not offer any money; just state their names?—Isaac Spruce Coopey, a farmer, of Brockworth.

11,386. You did not offer any money to him?—I did not, nor do I believe he was bribed. William Rayner Coopey, farmer, Bentham, I did not offer money to, nor do I believe that the man received any. Joseph Coopey, labourer, Hardwick; whether I gave him any money or not I cannot swear; I do not know.

11,387. Did you offer him money?—I do not know whether I offered him any money or paid him any money; I cannot positively swear; my impression is, from having put a certain sum of money in a purse, that it is possible he may have received some, but I will not swear I did give it; if the man says he did not receive it, of course he did not.

11,388. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Does that Edward Coopey you spoke of just now live at Longford?—Yes.

11,389. He is on the register as of Twigworth?—It is the person Mr. Monk spoke of, whose daughter said that her father would vote for the highest price.

11,390. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With the exception of those Coopeys you have named, Benjamin Hyatt Coopey, Isaac Spruce Coopey, and William Rayner Coopey, I understand you to say that all the Coopeys

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were bribed?—With the exception, also, of the one I cannot swear to.

11,391. How many are there that were bribed?—There would be ten without that one. Allow me to say that one of these Coopeys, Joseph Coopey, was dead at the time, but some one polled in his place.

11,392. Without Joseph Coopey there are ten?—Yes.

11,393. And you offered them 5*l.* each?—Yes.

11,394. You afterwards increased that sum, did you not?—I did, to 7*l.*

11,395. What was the ultimate sum?—In fact, the last time I was over there, they left it entirely to me; I was to do entirely as I chose; they left it in my hands; and on the day of the election I was informed, when I got into Gloucester, that the election was over, and I gave to the nine of them 7*l.* each, and the dead man 3*l.*

11,396. Then you knew that one of them was dead at the time?—I heard that one of them was dead. I believe he polled the election before, and I believe he was dead then.

11,397. For whom did the dead man poll?—For Sir Robert Carden.

11,398. (*Mr. Welford.*) You knew at the time you paid him he was a man personating the dead Coopey?—I believe he was a Coopey, and he represented himself as a Coopey, and I gave him the 3*l.* after he had polled; he came and said he had polled for, I think, Joseph Coopey, and I gave him 3*l.*

11,399. He told you he had polled for a man who was actually dead?—Yes.

11,400. That was 66*l.* in all that you paid to the Coopeys, was it?—63*l.* and 3*l.*; and I gave William Coopey to give me any information with regard to offers that were made to them, and to look after these people, an extra 5*l.* note, making his 12*l.*

11,401. I suppose the one to whom you gave the extra 5*l.* informed you that one of the Coopey's was dead?—No, I cannot say who informed me; I will not fix that on any one.

11,402. Now the next?—I gave William Coopey also 1*l.* to spend among the Coopeys on the day of the election. I did not give it him on the day, I gave it him afterwards; he was to spend 1*l.*, and I said I would give it him.

11,403. He was to spend it in the entertainment of the Coopey family?—The fact was that they wanted something to drink, and I said, "You may spend 1*l.*, "and I will give it you." On the morning of the election, previous to leaving Coopey's house, I paid the old lady, I think, 4*l.* 10*s.* for cider and other things that had been had there.

11,404. Who do you call the old lady?—The mother of some of them; but I do not know of what portion of the family she is the mother; and previous to that I believe I paid her 2*l.* I would not swear positively to it, but I believe I did.

11,405. Is that the account of the Coopeys?—Yes, that is the whole account of the Coopeys; I remember nothing more; I may have given a few shillings.

11,406. But no large sums?—No, nothing more than that.

11,407. That comes to about 77*l.* 10*s.*?—I think I paid a man of the name of Rowles, who votes generally with the Coopeys, 7*l.* for his vote.

11,408. He is a neighbour, is he?—He lives somewhere in the neighbourhood; I never was at his house, to my knowledge.

11,409. But for the purposes of voting and payment he is considered as one of the family?—He always goes to their house, I believe, to come into Gloucester; the twice that I have been into Gloucester with the Coopeys he has come with them.

11,410. And he has been paid the same price?—Yes; this time he was paid by me; what he was paid in 1857 I do not know.

11,411. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where does he live?—At Westbury-on-Severn; in fact, I gave the money to his wife, but that amounts to the same thing.

11,412. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You gave it to his wife for his vote?—Yes.

11,413. And you gave these different sums that you have mentioned to these people for their votes for Sir Robert Carden?—Certainly.

11,414. The sums which you state you offered to the Vailes, you offered to them, also, for their votes?—Yes.

11,415. Now go on to the next?—I gave Cornelius Vaile 7*l.*; I paid his wife for his vote. It is not the Cornelius Vaile who gave evidence; this man keeps the Bird-in-Hand, at, I think it is called, the Flat.

11,416. You gave him that money for his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, I did.

11,417. Who was the next?—I gave 5*l.* to Charles Roberts, a man who did not vote; I paid him 5*l.* for his vote.

11,418. For Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; and I have been given to understand that he received money from the other party to vote for Price and Monk, but he did not vote for either.

11,419. He did not vote at all?—No, he did not.

11,420. You do not know yourself that he received money from the other side?—I do not, but I believe he did.

11,421. Is that Charles Roberts a freeman?—Yes.

11,422. Who is the next?—Samuel Roberts, 5*l.*

11,423. Is he a brother?—I think he is a brother; he is a relation if he is not a brother.

11,424. Is he a freeman?—Yes.

11,425. You paid him 5*l.* for his vote for Carden?—For his vote for Carden.

11,426. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He voted for Carden?—He did.

11,427. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next?—I paid two Davis's in the neighbourhood of Hardwick. Joseph Davis of Hardwick; I paid him for his vote for Sir Robert Carden.

11,428. How much?—I cannot swear whether it was 3*l.* or 4*l.*

11,429. For his vote for Carden?—Yes; the fact was the man complained to me that his father had lately died and put him to very great trouble. He said he did not wish any money for his vote, but if they would assist him in any form afterwards, he should be very much obliged; and he went up and polled without receiving anything, and I afterwards gave him 3*l.* or 4*l.*, I cannot say which.

11,430. Did you give him to understand before polling that you would give him some money?—I told him I would do something for him; that was after he had made this representation to me about his father dying.

11,431. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who was the other Davis?—I think it must be George Davis, of Longley.

11,432. What did you give him?—That I could not swear, whether it was 4*l.* less or more; I cannot swear; something about 4*l.*

11,433. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did you give it him?—After he had voted.

11,434. You gave it him for his vote?—Of course; in fact, now I remember it, I was to have given him 2*l.* for his expenses, and I asked him to endeavour to get a man named Matthew Davis to vote for us; I believe he is a relation of his; and I said that if he could succeed in getting him to vote for us, I would make him a present. He went up to the poll without seeing me, and he saw me some hours after he had polled, and I gave him the money because I had promised him.

11,435. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he get Matthew Davis to vote?—I believe not.

11,436. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You would not have given him the money if he had not been a voter?—Certainly not.

11,437. Now the next?—A man of the name of Barker.

11,438. What Christian name?—Isaac Barker, of Norton, labourer.

11,439. How much did you offer to him?—5*l.*

11,440. For his vote?—Yes.

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11,441. For Sir Robert Carden ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

11,442. Now the next ?—I gave, after he had polled, Joseph Clarke 5*l.*, a man who is blind. After he had polled some time, he came and represented what difficulties he was in and how badly off he was. I had not seen him previous to his polling, and knowing how badly the man was off, I gave him 5*l.*; I did not give it him for his vote, because he had polled, and I had not seen him before he polled.

11,443. (*Mr. Welford.*) If he had not been a voter you would not have given him the 5*l.* ?—I should not have given it out of my own pocket.

11,444. You considered this money was given to you to give to the voters ?—I did, but still I did not buy his vote.

11,445. Had any person said anything to him before the election about it ?—I do not know; no one told me to give him 5*l.*

11,446. You paid him the money because he was badly off, but you would not have paid him if he had not been a voter ?—I should not, certainly.

11,447. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next ?—Those are the whole of the parties that I bribed that I can remember, but I believe I expended in bribery something like 20*l.* besides. I am not able to give you the names at present, but I believe I expended about 20*l.* more besides what I have named to you.

11,448. You have given an account as far as you are able of all the persons to whom you gave bribes ?—As far as I can recollect.

11,449. But you believe you spent 20*l.* more in bribery ?—I believe I did; that is to say, I gave 20*l.* more, I believe; but I cannot remember the parties to whom I gave it; it might be a pound or two more or a pound or two less, I will not swear.

11,450. When were these sums of money paid by you ? Were they paid before the polling day ?—Certainly not, not one.

11,451. Were they paid on the polling day ?—All of them, I believe.

11,452. You got the money for this purpose from Mr. Whithorn ?—I did.

11,453. How much money did you receive from him ?—170*l.*

11,454. That was the total sum, was it ?—No; I had money from him during the canvass, but not for bribery. I received 170*l.* from him; that is, 120*l.* the night before the election, and 50*l.* in the morning.

11,455. How much did you receive during the canvass ?—I cannot tell within 5*l.*; it may be 15*l.* or it may be 20*l.*; I will endeavour to let you have the exact particulars.

11,456. To whom did you make offers of money ?—I offered almost every one that I canvassed; I cannot call to mind exactly who; I offered old Skillern money; he asked me to buy his scythe of him, and I went out into his garden and agreed to do so; and there was a man named Perks, his wife and daughter came to the New Inn in Gloucester on the day previous to the election.

11,457. What did you offer to him ?—Previous to his coming to Gloucester I believe I told his wife I would give her 5*l.* for her husband's vote; that was previous to my seeing them at the New Inn; when I saw them at the New Inn, Perks and his wife were near the gateway, and she asked me what I meant to do; she said that they had some offers made to them, and she began to count on her fingers, and she counted till she got to twelve. I said, "Speak plainer, and "tell me what you mean." She said she had been offered 12*l.*

11,458. That was in the inn, was it ?—In the inn yard, just within the gateway.

11,459. You asked her to speak plainer ?—Yes; she told me that she wanted 12*l.*, and that her husband should not vote unless he had 12*l.* I asked her if they would have anything to take, and they went in and had some bread and cheese, and meat and ale, and six glasses of brandy and water, and then they went down to our committee room.

11,460. You treated them to that brandy and water, and bread and cheese and ale, I suppose, with reference to the vote of Perks ?—Exactly so.

11,461. And did you secure his vote ?—I saw them afterwards on the same day at our committee room, and then I told his wife that I would give 5*l.* for the vote, and no more.

11,462. Was this on the day of polling ?—No; I do not know on what day it was.

11,463. What other voters did you offer money to? Did you offer money to James Ashmeade ?—I offered money to John Ashmeade.

11,464. Did you offer any money to James Ashmeade ?—I did not.

11,465. No money at all ?—No money whatever; the one Ashmeade I did offer money to, the other I did not.

11,466. Did you hold out any inducement to him, or say that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden, he should have money ?—No; I did not.

11,467. Did you offer any money to Walter Welch? —No.

11,468. Did you make him no offer of money or promise of any money ?—No.

11,469. You offered no inducement of any sort to him ?—Not at all; the principle that I went on was this,—if I saw a man inclined to hang off in promising, of course I took it for granted that he wanted money, and I then entered into conversation with him; if he did not do so, I of course had very little to do with him.

11,470. You did not tell him he would have any money if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did not; that is Walter Welch you are speaking of.

11,471. Yes, I am speaking of Walter Welch ?—I did not.

11,472. Did you offer James Taylor any money ?—I was at James Taylor's house on three separate occasions, I think; and the first time that I went there he told me that Mr. Maysey (if I remember rightly), had promised him a dinner. I told him I thought that was not much good to him; that he had better have something instead of having a party there to dine, that there was not much profit attached to a dinner party.

11,473. You told him he had better have something else ?—Yes, I meant that he had better have some money.

11,474. Did you tell him so ?—Not in plain English; I did not say anything to him about money; I led him to undertand what I meant—he understood me.

11,475. He understood you to mean money?—Certainly.

11,476. Did you mention any specific sum of money ?—No.

11,477. You did not mention 10*l.* ?—I did not. I came to Gloucester and asked Maysey how he came to order a dinner at this man's (Taylor's), and he said he had done it for the purpose, as he thought, of securing his vote. He also led me to believe that he should vote for Sir Robert Carden.

11,478. And you led him to believe he should be paid for it ?—Yes, and at the same time that he led me to believe that he should vote for Sir Robert Carden, I believe he was in treaty with Jacobs for his vote, and to do the best he could for Price and Monk's interests.

11,479. You offered some money to John Ashmeade, I believe ?—I cannot swear what I did offer him exactly, but I believe I offered him 5*l.*

11,480. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes, for Sir Robert Carden; he told me that he could not vote for Sir Robert Carden, because on the last occasion that he did vote for him his potato ground was taken from him, that his children were turned out of the school there, that no one would employ him in the parish, and that he had lost the gifts from the big house.

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11,481. Did he say that nobody would employ him?—Yes, that nobody in the parish would employ him.

11,482. Was he living in the same place when you canvassed him in 1859, as he was living in when you canvassed him in 1857?—Yes, in the same place; the statement with regard to the potato ground, I believe to have been correct, and also his statement as to not getting employment; but as to what he said about his children being turned out of the school, and the other statement which he made, I believe them to have had no foundation whatever.

11,483. Did you canvass a person of the name of Bosley?—Yes.

11,484. Did you offer Bosley any money?—I did not see Bosley, I saw Bosley's wife.

11,485. What did you offer her?—She told me that she had been offered 6*l.* by Mr. Henley for her husband's vote, and also said that Mr. Henley would decorate her parlour with pictures.

11,486. And what did you offer?—I told her that I could manage the 6*l.*, but that I could not do the decorating business.

11,487. You offered her the 6*l.*?—Yes, and she promised to communicate with her husband, and let me know if he would poll for Carden for the 6*l.*, and I was to send a fly down to Gloucester for her to come and let me know, which I did, and she came to the Bell Hotel to me.

11,488. You offered her 6*l.* for her husband's vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I did. When she came to Gloucester I gave her a few shillings.

11,489. Is she the wife of Job Bosley?—I heard Mr. Henley say he had bribed her with 4*l.* Her husband is a waterman, I think; in fact they told me he was down at Newport.

11,490. Do you know a man of the name of Job Bosley?—I do not know the Christian name of either of the Bosleys; I only knew the wife of one of them; a little woman, the daughter of a man named Bundy. I do not know either of the men.

11,491. Did you offer William Hooper 5*l.*?—I do not know such a person.

11,492. When you offered 5*l.* to John Ashmeade, did you tell him you would put his brother upon the Blue committee?—I never did; I might just as well have given him the 5*l.* 10*s.*, if there was 10*s.* to be added.

11,493. You did not say that if you put his brother and himself upon the Blue committee, and gave him 5*l.*, that would make 5*l.* 10*s.* for him?—No, I offered him 5*l.*, I believe, if he would remain at home and not vote at all.

11,494. What other persons are there to whom you offered money that you recollect? You say you offered money to nearly every person that you canvassed?—I cannot remember now.

11,495. Will you look over your list again, and give us at another time the names of those you did canvass?—I will do so.

11,496. Do you remember a man of the name of Wadley going to the Nelson?—No, I know nothing about the circumstance.

11,497. Did you hear of a person named Wadley going to the Nelson?—Not till after the election; I know nothing of the circumstance.

11,498. You had nothing to do with Clements, or people of that class going there?—No, in fact I did not know that the man was there till I heard it when the petition was talked about.

11,499. Do you know a man of the name of Wathen, who was an inmate of St. Margaret's Hospital?—I cannot say I do. I remember offering money to a man of the name of Woog, now you mention the hospital, the son of a man in one of those hospitals; I agreed with him, as I supposed, for the purchase of himself and his father.

11,500. You offered him, for his and his father's vote, how much?—I think it was 6*l.* for the two; I said I thought the old gentleman ought to vote for Sir Robert Carden without a farthing, as Sir Robert Carden had done him a great deal of good, that was obtaining an annuity for him; he said that his father was of that class that he would have money, and that gratitude was not anything.

11,501. That was what the son said of the father?—That is what the son told me. I saw the son one day afterwards, and gave him half-a-crown to go into a public-house and spend.

11,502. What annuity was it that Sir Robert Carden had obtained for him?—I do not know; I know there was a something.

11,503. Was that after the last election?—I believe so; I do not know.

11,504. After the election of 1857?—I do not know, but I should suppose it was after the 1857 election.

11,505. You had nothing to do, had you, with taking away Wathen?—I had not.

11,506. Do you know a man named Clements, a sweep?—I know him by sight.

11,507. Do you know a person called Curly Bick?—Yes.

11,508. Were those persons employed by you?—Not by me.

11,509. Were they employed by any person you know for the purpose of going round to insult the electors?—No, I had nothing to do with the employment of any person. I engaged no person to my knowledge, and I do not think I recommended anybody.

11,510. Did you hear the evidence of Mr. Walter Clutterbuck, the last witness but one?—I heard a portion of it.

11,511. Did you begin your canvass in the same spirit that he did, with a belief that it would be necessary to offer bribes to the voters you canvassed? I knew it was utterly impossible to bring many of the voters to the poll unless they were paid. I knew that neither party could do it.

11,512. You having that knowledge, from your experience of former elections, thought it necessary at once to tell the electors that if they would vote for Carden they should receive so much money?—That they should be served the same as they had been previously. I did not offer money in the beginning of the canvass.

11,513. But you told them that if they would vote for Carden, they should be served the same as they had been served before?—Yes.

11,514. That was the same as they had been served in 1857?—I presumed so.

11,515. Later on in the contest you found it was necessary to offer the voters larger sums?—I did, because I heard that the other party were offering money, and were determined to win if it was possible with money.

11,516. Did you make returns of your canvass at all?—I had nothing to do with making any returns. If I had found any difficulty with a voter, and arranged with him, I told Mr. Clutterbuck it was all right, and of course it was his duty to make a return if any return was made.

11,517. You made no returns to the committee yourself?—No; but if I arranged with a voter, I would say to Mr. Clutterbuck, "Well, Walter, it is "all right;" or something of that kind.

11,518. (*Mr. Welford.*) And he entered it as a promise?—Yes; without knowing the real circumstances. Of course he must have suspected, but he did not actually know. I was not aware that he had ever offered a single individual any money, or that he knew that I had until I heard him say to day that he did in one case.

11,519. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You told Mr. Clutterbuck when you had arranged with a voter that it was all right, and then he made a return of it?—That was how I understood it was.

11,520. Then so far as you and Mr. Clutterbuck were concerned, he kept in the background; he did not do the bribery himself, but you did?—That is it.

11,521. Did you go to see James Ashmeade on

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last Good Friday ?—I cannot swear. If I was down in that country, I saw him no doubt.

11,522. What took place between you and him on that day ?—I really cannot swear to what took place. I am not positive that I saw him, but if I was down that road, I have no doubt I did.

11,523. Did you see him ?—I do not know.

11,524. Do you swear you did not see him ?—No, I will not.

11,525. You will not swear that you did not see him ?—I will not.

11,526. (*Mr. Welford.*) You said just now that you did not offer anything to Walter Welch, did you offer anything to any other man of the name of Welch ?—Certainly not. If I remember rightly, Mr. Clutterbuck will bear out my statement that we went to a man named George Welch and asked him for his vote, and he said he would give it for Sir Robert Carden, and afterwards he said that he was obliged by his landlord to retract that promise which he had made.

11,527. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Which George Welch is that ?—The one who gave evidence here yesterday. His landlord's name is Jones ; and he has told me since the petition that he has had notice to quit his house.

11,528. (*Mr. Welford.*) He promised you without making any difficulty ?—Yes ; the man said he would give his vote for Sir Robert Carden.

11,529. And you did not consider it necessary to make him any offer of money ?—No, I did not make an offer unless I saw there was hesitation.

11,530. Did you know before the polling that the man who polled for the dead man was personating another man ?—I knew it. At least I was told that he was not the real man ; I was told so.

11,531. You knew that he was personating a dead man ?—I was told so.

11,532. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the name of the man who was personated ?—I do not know ; John Coopey I am informed by Mr. Brown.

11,533. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I make your account of expenditure only to amount to 130*l.* ?—At the termination of the contest I had 15*l.* balance in hand.

11,534. I make out that you spent 130*l.*, which would give you a balance of 40*l.* ?—I spent on the canvass 130*l.* altogether, and I received, I believe, from 15*l.* to 20*l.* from Mr. Whithorn previous to receiving the 170*l.*, and lumping it altogether, I had a balance in hand of something like 15*l.* ; that is, allowing about 20*l.* for bribery to parties I cannot remember at the present moment, though it is possible I may remember them.

11,535. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay for the carriages you used ?—I did not.

11,536. Where had you the carriages from ?—I believe the carriages I rode in came from the Bell, or else from Robinson's, at the Spa ; the Bell, I think. I had nothing to do with that department.

11,537. You had one when you wanted one for the purpose of conveying voters ?—Yes ; I paid no bills for them myself whatever, nor did I make any debts. My rule was to pay for everything I ordered. If I went into a public-house and gave a man any refreshment, I paid for what he had or gave him money to spend.

11,538. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much money did you spend in that way ?—About 30*l.*

11,539. In treating ?—In treating, and giving half-a-crown to this man, and half-a-crown to that man, and a shilling to somebody else.

11,540. In treating and small payments ?—In treating and small payments.

11,541. And those small payments were generally made to voters ?—They were generally made to voters. I treated indiscriminately previous to the election, because the better I treated to them, the better chance I thought I should have with them.

11,542. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you commenced your canvass without any authority to spend this money in bribery. Supposing there had been no money forthcoming for bribery, what would you have done ?—Gone home.

11,543. You did not get the money till quite at last ?—I should have known of it the night previous to the election, and if there had been no money I should not have gone to fetch the Coopeys in, for instance. I should not have gone out at all. I should have remained out of sight if I could not have fulfilled the promises I had made.

11,544. The promises were all conditional on your having the money ?—Yes, on my having the money.

11,545. Did you know that Sir Robert Carden had publicly expressed his disapprobation of bribery ?—I understood so at St. Albans.

11,546. Did you know that he had done so in Gloucester ?—I fancy I remember something of it, but I could not positively swear to it ; I did not attend the public meetings at the Shire Hall ; I was engaged with the voters endeavouring to obtain their promises, and that was my sole business.

11,547. Was it your intention and your wish to carry the day, regardless of the wishes of the candidate upon that point ?—I did not know what his wishes might be, but I knew from my own experience that it was utterly impossible for any man to win an election at Gloucester unless he spent a great deal of money. It is a very rare occurrence, I think, for any member to be returned for Gloucester without a considerable sum of money being expended ; there may have been some exceptions. I believe the Coopeys have voted without being paid any money ; and I think there are many men in a much better position in life than they are, who would be bribed if they had an opportunity of getting the money.

11,548. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you consider that the return of a member to represent Gloucester is more a question of money than a question of principle ?—With regard to a great number of voters, I should think some 400 or 500, I have no doubt it is so.

11,549. Should you consider that there are as many as 500 venal voters ?—I should think the number would be between 400 and 500. There is some direct or indirect influence that forces some of them to vote against their principles, and others yield to the bribe.

11,550. From what you know of elections in this city, do you believe that intimidation is practised to a large extent ?—I should be very sorry to say that ; I cannot, from my own personal knowledge, say that I know of any case of the kind ; and I should not like to say that it is practised, because I could not prove it.

11,551. But as many as from 400 to 500 voters, you think, are not governed by any principle, but are either directly or indirectly subject to some influence ?—I have no doubt of it.

11,552. Is that the influence of money, or is it the influence of power ?—The influence of both, I should say.

11,553. And is it exercised, do you think, on both sides ?—Yes, it is exercised, no doubt, on both sides.

11,554. Can you give any case ?—I cannot at this moment; I may think of some case before the Commission is over, and if I do, I will mention it.

11,555. And that opinion is the result of your experience ?—It is. I understand it has been said by some witness that I had offered 4*l.* to a Mrs. Blackwell for her husband's vote, I never did so.

11,556. Did you say that George Blackwell could get 4*l.* by being on the Blue committee ?—I did not.

11,557. Nothing of the sort ?—Nothing of the sort.

11,558. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you canvass Blackwell ?—I did not canvass him, I saw him in company with Walter Clutterbuck, but I did not canvass him myself; his wife represented to me, after the election, that Mr. Wilton had promised her 5*l.*, provided her husband would vote for Price and Monk.

11,559. How did he vote ?—For Price and Monk ; in fact I accompanied her to near the residence of Mr. Wilton, where she went for the purpose of receiving the 5*l.* after the election, just previous to the petition.

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She went into Mr. Wilton's surgery, and remained there something near half an hour, twenty minutes or half an hour. She came to me at the top of Queen Street, and said she had seen Mr. Wilton, and that Mr. Wilton refused to pay the 5*l.*; that he had told her he had not examined the return of the poll; that there were three or four others in the same position as herself, and that when he had seen the return of the poll he would call upon her within three weeks, if what she represented was true; she said she had asked him to give her something in part, and that he refused.

11,560. That was after the election, was it?—It was after the election.

F. Stamper

FRANCIS STAMPER sworn and examined.

11,561. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Hempstead.

11,562. Is that near Gloucester?—Yes.

11,563. What are you?—Foreman to Messrs. Barkworth and Spaldin, the timber merchants.

11,564. You were employed at the last election, were you not?—Yes.

11,565. To canvass?—Yes.

11,566. Were you a paid canvasser?—I have not been paid.

11,567. What were you to receive?—There was no agreement whatever.

11,568. What do you expect to receive?—I do not know, I am sure.

11,569. How long were you employed?—About 18 days altogether.

11,570. What districts did you canvass?—Chiefly all round the town, as near as possible.

11,571. Who did you bribe?—Four or five.

11,572. What were their names?—Charles Newth, for one, through another party.

11,573. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live?—In the Bristol Road.

11,574. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say through another party; who was the other party?—Mrs. Gainey.

11,575. Who is she?—The landlady of the Pilot.

11,576. You gave that money to her for the vote of Charles Newth?—Yes.

11,577. For Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

11,578. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much?—£10.

11,579. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the next?—John Richards, in the same way.

11,580. Through Mrs. Gainey?—Yes.

11,581. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live?—In the same street, the Bristol Road.

11,582. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much to him?—£10.

11,583. For his vote for Carden?—Yes.

11,584. Who was the next?—Daniel Jeffs.

11,585. Where does he live?—He had his vote for St. John's Lane, but he lives in Southampton Street at the present time.

11,586. What is he?—A clerk.

11,587. Whom is he clerk to?—I do not know who he is clerk to at the present time, I am sure.

11,588. What did you give him?—£10 in the same way.

11,589. Who is the next?—John Edwards; the same as to him.

11,590. Who is John Edwards?—He lives in Longsmith Street.

11,591. What is he?—A man that attends to the water, he belongs to the waterworks.

11,592. How much did you give him?—£10.

11,593. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that through Mrs. Gainey?—Yes.

11,594. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If he would vote for Carden?—Yes.

11,595. Who is the next?—Thomas Jeynes.

11,596. Where does he live?—In Southgate Street.

11,597. What is he?—A fruiterer.

11,598. How much did you give him?—£5, through Mr. John Hanman.

11,599. Who is Mr. John Hanman?—A grocer.

11,600. Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes.

11,601. Who was the next?—John Lewis.

11,602. Where does he live?—In Sudbrook.

11,603. What is he?—A tailor.

11,604. How much did you give to him?—£2.

11,605. Did you give that yourself?—Yes.

11,606. For his vote for Carden?—Yes.

11,607. Who was the next?—That is all.

11,608. Where did you get that money from?—From Alderman Whithorn.

11,609. When?—On the morning of the election.

11,610. When you gave these different sums of money to Mrs. Gainey, did you tell her to whom she was to pay the money?—I did not.

11,611. How did she know then to whom to give it?—She said that there was some parties that was waiting there, and that she would give them the money, and I was going somewhere else, and so I left it in her charge.

11,612. She told you there were some parties waiting in a room there?—Yes.

11,613. In a room in her house?—Yes.

11,614. In the same room in which you were?—No.

11,615. Who were the parties?—I do not know; it was in the bar that I was.

11,616. Where were they?—In the kitchen.

11,617. Did you say to her, "There are some parties waiting"?—No; she said, "There is so-and-so here, and they want so much money."

11,618. Did she mention their names?—She mentioned their names.

11,619. When she said they wanted so much money, did she say for what they wanted the money?—For their votes.

11,620. And did you know beforehand that they wanted that money for their votes?—I did not; I knew there were two of them that wanted that money before, and the others I had not seen.

11,621. You received this money from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

11,622. On the morning of the polling day?—Yes.

11,623. How came Mr. Whithorn to give you that money?—For the purpose of securing votes.

11,624. For the purpose of bribery?—Yes.

11,625. Had you not secured those votes before you got the money from Mr. Whithorn?—Two of them I had, but I had not secured the others.

11,626. Had you not had any talk with them before about it?—With two of them I had, but not the other two.

11,627. Which two had you had any talk with?—It was Newth and Edwards that I spoke to.

11,628. You had arranged with them for their votes?—I had not arranged for the amount then.

11,629. But you had arranged that you would give them money for their votes?—Yes.

11,630. How came you to leave 40*l.* with Mrs. Gainey?—I left 40*l.* for these four parties who wanted 10*l.* each.

11,631. You left that money because Mrs. Gainey told you they wanted the money?—Yes.

11,632. That money?—She said they had agreed to go for 10*l.* each.

11,633. You had agreed with two of them beforehand for some money, and you knew the names of the other two, I suppose?—No; I did not know their names till I went down there, and when I went down there she told me who the parties were.

11,634. You knew the names of all the four before you gave the money to Mrs. Gainey?—Yes.

11,635. Did you give 5*l.* to Mr. John Hanman?—Yes.

11,636. For Thomas Jeynes's vote?—Yes.

11,637. Did you tell Mr. Hanman to give that money to Thomas Jeynes?—No, Mr. Hanman had

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F. Stamper.

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given it before I saw him, and I gave it him back again.

11,638. John Lewis you gave the money to yourself, did you not?—Yes.

11,639. Did you offer money to any other person?—Not that I am aware of.

11,640. Do you think you did?—I do not know that I did.

11,641. Did you make any promise to any person, if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Not that I remember.

11,642. Did you canvass a good many persons?—A good many.

11,643. During the 18 days?—Yes.

11,644. Were they canvassed by yourself, or were you in company with other people?—Sometimes I was in company with other people, and sometimes by myself.

11,645. Did you canvass a man of the name of Cooper?—Yes, at times.

11,646. Who is he?—He lives in Parliament Street.

11,647. What is he?—I think he is independent.

11,648. You were pretty active, were you not, as a canvasser?—Pretty well.

11,649. Did you ever offer William Murrell any money?—Not to my knowledge, I did not. They throw the blame on me of doing it, but I never remember any such thing; when I went there to canvass him, Mr. and Mrs. Murrell both told me they were under obligations to Mr. Wilkes, and therefore that he should be obliged to vote on the other side. I called in once or twice afterwards, but I am not aware that I offered them any money.

11,650. If you did offer it you have no recollection of it?—If I did I have not the least recollection of it, but my real impression is that I did not.

11,651. Did you offer a person named Wright any money?—No, I offered him a price for a big jug that he had got there, more for a joke than anything else.

11,652. He kept a china shop?—Yes.

11,653. In what street?—He used to live in the Southgate Street; I do not know in what street he lives now.

11,654. What did you offer him for the jug?—I think it was 4*l.*

11,655. Was it an earthenware jug?—Yes, a very large one.

11,656. I suppose you really intended that as a bribe, did you not?—I did, if I could have got it.

11,657. Do you know a person of the name of Wathen?—I do not.

11,658. Charles Wathen?—I do not.

11,659. Do you remember going to the Lion, kept by Mr. Orpin, with a body of people, and getting an old man and putting him in a fly and taking him off?—I never was in that house since Mr. Orpin went there. I went to lodge there one night, but the lodging is detached from the house, and I have never been in the house since, and that was before the election.

11,660. You did not take any part in the capture of an old man who was at the Lion?—I did not.

11,661. Were you acquainted during the election with Clements, the sweep?—I was not. I have seen him in many places, but I had nothing to do with him.

11,662. You did not go round with him, did you, and a party of people?—I did not.

11,663. Nor with a man we have heard of, called "Curly Bick"?—I have been in company with him as other people may have been, but not to go with him in bands.

11,664. You did not go in a band or body for the purpose of intimidating voters?—I did not.

11,665. Or to get hold of voters with a view to take them away?—I did not.

11,666. Did you take any voters to any quiet places during the election?—I did not. The place I took them to was not very quiet, I assure you.

11,667. Do you know a place called the Frog Mill?—I do not.

11,668. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You received 60*l.*?—Yes.

11,669. And you spent 47*l.*?—When I saw that the election was lost, I took the 13*l.* for my own expenses.

11,670. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You took 13*l.*?—Yes, towards my own expenses.

11,671. When did you arrive at the conclusion that the election was lost?—At half-past nine o'clock in the morning.

11,672. You then saw that the election was lost, and appropriated the remainder of the money to pay yourself for your own expenses. I suppose you were not sorry to be able to arrive at the conclusion that the election was lost?—If it had gone on longer perhaps I could have had a fresh stock to begin with again.

11,673. I suppose you would have gone to Mr. Whithorn for it, would you not?—Yes, I should.

11,674. Did you give a sum of 5*l.* to a person named Fletcher?—I did not.

11,675. Were you at the Swan and Falcon on the polling day?—I was.

11,676. Did you see a man named Fletcher there?—I have seen him there several times.

11,677. Did you give him 5*l.*?—I did not, nor a penny.

11,678. Did you offer him any money?—I did not.

11,679. Are you quite certain that all the money you received was the 60*l.* which you got from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes, and I account for it, and the way in which it was spent.

11,680. Have you given any account to Mr. Whithorn since?—Of my expenses?

11,681. Yes.—I have not, I told him what money I had left.

11,682. Did you tell Mr. Whithorn, when you got the money from him, that you wanted that money for bribery?—Yes.

11,683. (*Mr. Welford.*) Beyond the 13*l.* you have retained, do you consider that you have a claim against Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; I consider myself to have a claim for travelling expenses, cab hire, and refreshments for the canvassers, and treating.

11,684. And for your own loss of time?—No, I have made no claim for that at all.

11,685. That exceeds the 13*l.* you have retained?—I consider that about 3*l.* more would pay me.

11,686. Without your time?—Yes.

11,687. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you active in the election of 1857?—Yes.

11,688. Were you employed in the same way as you were employed at the last election?—I was employed to help and canvass.

11,689. Were you employed then in the same way in 1857 as you were in 1859?—Not to do any bribery; I was employed to canvass, but I had no money.

11,690. You did not offer any money?—I did no bribery whatever.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

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Twelfth Day.—8th October 1859.

THOMAS TAYNTON sworn and examined.

T. Taynton.

8 Oct. 1859.

11,691. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor?—I am.

11,692. You assisted, I believe, in the management of Sir Robert Carden's election?—I assisted Mr. Lovegrove in the conduct of the election.

11,693. You assisted Mr. Lovegrove professionally?—I did.

11,694. And I suppose you were to be paid a fee?—Yes.

11,695. How much?—Fifty guineas.

11,696. What part did you take upon yourself during the election?—The indoor part; the management of the committee-room; the committee-room, as it was called, but there was no committee.

11,697. What does the management of the committee-room include?—The superintendence of the clerks who were employed there in the mechanical part of the canvass, making out canvass books and that kind of thing, receiving the returns made by the canvassers from day to day, and so on.

11,698. At what time did you commence to render your services?—I forget the day of the month, but it was a day or so before Sir Robert Carden commenced his canvass, which he did immediately it was known that a dissolution would take place. I think I was engaged altogether some twenty-seven or twenty-eight days.

11,699. That would be, then, from the early part of April?—It was.

11,700. Did you enter the returns that were made to you by the canvassers in a book?—I did.

11,701. Have you that book?—I have not; it has not been in my possession since.

11,702. To whom did you give it?—Mr. Lovegrove received all the books connected with the election.

11,703. Had you taken part in the election in 1857?—In 1857 I was managing clerk to Mr. Lovegrove, and assisted him in pretty much the same way then as I did in 1859.

11,704. Did you make any comparisons between the returns which were made in 1859, and the returns which were made in 1857?—I did.

11,705. What was the result of the comparison that you made?—I cannot remember the figures, but the result of it was that the canvass was very near; the number of promises came up very near to those in 1857.

11,706. Are you speaking now of the total number of promises that were made before the election?—Before the election.

11,707. Did that include promises of every nature, whether they were obtained by means of promises of money or in any other way?—I knew nothing whatever of any promises of money; the calculations were based upon the entries made in the return canvass book.

11,708. When returns were made to you by the canvassers were any memoranda attached to the names of particular persons, from which memoranda you could infer that it was necessary to give money for their votes?—None whatever.

11,709. So far, then, as your knowledge extended, the promises were supposed by you to be made independently, and without any promise of money?—Entirely so.

11,710. And you remained under that impression down to the time of the election?—Certainly.

11,711. Are you the gentleman who superintends the revision of the lists on the part of the Conservative party?—I do not superintend the registration; I have appeared in the revision court for several years past.

11,712. You have appeared as an advocate there?—Yes; and I have been from time to time consulted on matters connected with the registration and revision.

11,713. Has your advocacy in the registration court enabled you to form an opinion as to the relative gain or loss to the Conservative party since the election of 1857?—Yes.

11,714. Was there a loss or a gain to the Conservative party since the election of 1857?—I think a gain, decidedly.

11,715. A gain of about how many?—I cannot give the numbers. I have never gone into it with great minuteness. I am speaking now of the general impression I have, having looked into the matter each year to see, as far as I could, how things really stood without going into it with any great particularity; because, as to many of the persons who had gone on and gone off the register each year, there was a good deal of speculation as to how they would vote, their politics not being known with certainty.

11,716. That being the case, were you able to arrive at any accurate conclusion as to whether you gained or sustained a loss?—I cannot say it would be strictly accurate; it would be merely a matter of comparison with reference to the new names that had come on and the old ones that had gone off.

11,717. You formed an opinion upon the subject, but whether that opinion was accurate or not you are not prepared to state?—I believe it to have been accurate; I have no doubt whatever that the Conservative party did gain by the register in 1857 and in 1858. I do not say that so much with reference to the mere proceedings in the Revising Barrister's court, because those proceedings would afford a very indifferent criterion; I am speaking more from a comparison between the new and the old registers.

11,718. Those registers are made up in the Revising Barrister's court, are they not?—No; the lists would be revised there; we compared the old and the new registers together, showing those who had gone off and those who had come on, whether they had come on by the insertion of their names in the overseers' list or by claim before the Revising Barrister.

11,719. So far as regards the revision of the lists in the Revising Barrister's court, do you consider that on that revision you gained, or that you sustained a loss?—I think that on the revision the result would be pretty nearly equal.

11,720. Then, if there was a gain to the Conservative party, that would arise, would it not, from a number of Liberal supporters having left?—Having left, and Conservatives having come on to the register.

11,721. I thought you said that in the revision of the list in the Revising Barrister's court the result would be about equal?—Yes; but many parties would come on upon the lists irrespective of the claims made before the Revising Barrister.

11,722. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean that the overseers placed upon the register for the first time new voters the majority of whom, in your opinion, were Conservatives?—The majority of whom I think were Conservatives, and have omitted the names of many Liberals who had gone away, or who had removed, and so on.

11,723. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That admits of an accurate calculation, does it not?—An approximation, but not an accurate calculation, at the present moment, because it is very probable that some of those parties did not vote even at the last election, and therefore it would be a matter of speculation, even now, to some extent.

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T. Taynton.
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11,724. You are not prepared at present to state what you suppose the gain would have been?—I think I could give you a close approximation to the actual state of things.

11,725. You were the gentleman who first, I believe, communicated to Mr. Whithorn and to Mr. Lovegrove the envelope containing the half of a 500*l.* note?—I handed to Mr. Whithorn the envelope which was addressed to him, and of the contents of which I had not the slightest knowledge.

11,726. Was the envelope open, or was it sealed?—Sealed.

11,727. Where did you find it?—I am not quite sure whether I found it on my table in the committee-room on going into the room, or whether it was handed to me by the messenger from the door; but I know it first came into my hands in the committee-room.

11,728. Was it the first thing in the morning?—No; I think it was in the after part of the day; I am not quite sure, but I think it was after the middle of the day; I think it was in the afternoon.

11,729. You had received no information at that time as to where that envelope had come from?—Not the slightest; in fact, it lay for some time on my table among other letters and papers, and was taken no care of beyond that which would have been taken of any ordinary note left there for any person who was in the habit of coming there.

11,730. I thought you said you were not sure whether it was found on the table or whether it was given to you by a messenger?—No; but it remained in my charge after that.

11,731. How long did it remain in your charge?—Perhaps for an hour or a little more. I handed it to Mr. Whithorn when he came in. I cannot remember how long that was afterwards.

11,732. In addition to what you have told us respecting your management in the committee-room, did you take any part in the election?—No; none whatever besides the management of the committee-room. I have not, of course, given you all the details of the committee work. We had to make preparations for taking the poll, and all that kind of thing.

11,733. The ordinary routine work of a committee-room?—Yes.

11,734. Did you do anything outside the committee-room?—Nothing whatever. I did not canvass any voter.

11,735. Did you offer any bribe to any voter?—Not a farthing to anybody.

11,736. Or any inducement to any person to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Certainly not.

11,737. Did you write to anybody?—I have written to persons to ask them to canvass voters, but not with reference to any offer of money for votes.

11,738. Did you write to a person of the name of Curtis?—I believe I did; a man named Curtis, who was living in Birmingham.

11,739. Did you write to him, and ask him to come to Gloucester and vote?—I believe that was the purport of the letter.

11,740. And did you tell him that it should be all right with him if he came?—I do not remember making use of any such expression as that; it may have been so; I may have used that expression. I kept no copy of any letter that I wrote, and have nothing to refresh my memory.

11,741. Did you hold out anything by way of inducement to him to come to Gloucester and vote?—Not that I am aware of. My impression is that he had written to say he was in Birmingham, and that if he came down his expenses must be paid, and my impression is that I wrote to him upon the subject, and that in that letter I made use of the expression that it would be all right.

11,742. He has a father, has he not, who is also a freeman?—He has.

11,743. Did you say that his father also would be all right?—I may have said that; I really do not remember what the contents were.

11,744. Whatever it was that was said by you, did you not intend that it should be regarded by him as a promise that he should receive something for his vote?—Certainly not any more than his travelling expenses.

11,745. Did you write to any persons besides that William Curtis?—I cannot remember any other person that I wrote to. I exchanged a letter or two with a person named Taylor, a voter.

11,746. What Taylor was that?—I think his Christian name is William.

11,747. Did you promise him any money?—I should say that he had consulted me, before the election was thought of, on his affairs, and had applied to me for an advance of a sum of money to enable him to make a composition with his creditors, and he had afterwards informed me that there was an execution against his body.

11,748. That a writ was out against him?—Yes. He was a commercial traveller, and was away from Gloucester at the time. I had not seen him or heard from him, I think for two or three weeks, and did not know where he was. I received a letter from him, I think written from Chester, I am not quite sure whether the first was from Chester or not, but he expressed in that letter his wish to come to Gloucester to vote at the election, and render all the assistance he could to Sir Robert Carden. He had always been since I had known him, an active supporter of the Conservative party, and had rendered assistance in the elections. He was unable to come on account of the execution, and he told me that the execution creditor was willing to accept a composition of 5*s.* in the pound for his debt, the costs being paid to the attorneys in the action. I communicated with the attorneys in the action and found that his statement was correct, that they were willing to take 5*s.* in the pound and their costs. Taylor afterwards came to Gloucester, some week or nine days before the election; he came on a Saturday night late (he was obliged to come here covertly), and called upon me. I do not think I told him then, positively, that I would make the advance, but he was to let me know where he should be in the course of a few days. He afterwards wrote me a letter stating that he should be in Birmingham on a certain day, and I then sent my brother to Birmingham with the necessary amount to pay the composition and the costs.

11,749. How much was that?—I think the composition and costs together amounted to 13*l.* 9*s.*, I believe that was the amount, nearly 5*l.* of which I think was for costs to the attorneys. Taylor had told me that he should have the means of repayment from his salary as a commercial traveller, and I consented to make the advance upon his giving me a promissory note for it.

11,750. It was a loan to him?—It was strictly a loan.

11,751. A loan made to him in order that he might come and vote for Sir Robert Carden?—In order more especially that he might come and render assistance at the election and vote also. It was not lent as an inducement to him to vote, because he needed no inducement whatever.

11,752. Was that the whole sum that was paid to him?—Yes, I never paid him myself a farthing. The whole amount was paid to the attorneys for the plaintiffs in the action.

11,753. Is that the transaction referred to by Mr. Lovegrove yesterday?—It is.

11,754. I think it was stated by Mr. Lovegrove to be about 19*l.*?—The sum paid to me by Mr. Lovegrove afterwards amounted to about 19*l.*, but that included one or two other sums.

11,755. In the account furnished by Mr. Lovegrove, it is put down "Balance to Taylor," 19*l.* 11*s.*?—That is an inaccuracy of Mr. Lovegrove's; I think the amount was 13*l.* 9*s.*; the sum that Mr. Lovegrove paid me included the expenses of my brother going to Birmingham, to canvass two or three voters who were there, and Taylor's travelling expenses, and

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also one or two small sums that I had disbursed during the election.

11,756. How much was paid to Taylor in addition to the 13*l.* 9*s.*, or how much was paid for him. You say the sum you received included travelling expenses which you paid to Taylor?—Not that I paid travelling expenses to Taylor, but that my brother paid his railway expenses from Birmingham to Gloucester.

11,757. How long before the election had Taylor consulted you about his affairs?—At least two months before the election, and I think even more than that.

11,758. And nothing was done towards paying the composition until the week before the election?—I think it was the week of the election, or the week before the election; I am not quite certain whether I communicated with the attorneys for the plaintiff the week before the election, or the week of the election; I think it was the week before.

11,759. Would you have taken any steps to have made that composition, if it had not been that the election was coming on at which Taylor would be required to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I should not have taken any steps to make the composition if he had not applied to me to make him an advance, but I cannot say that if he made the application to me when there was no election, I should not have advanced him the money to make the composition.

11,760. You have told us that he had applied to you to make him an advance previously?—That was for a larger sum for the purpose of making a composition with all his creditors; this was with reference to one creditor only; I found that to effect a composition with all his creditors he would require an advance of something like 50*l.*

11,761. Would you have advanced that money to him had he not been a voter, and had not his vote been required at the election?—I think it very probable that I might have advanced him that amount.

11,762. Do you think it probable that you might not?—No; I think it is very probable that I should have advanced him that sum, though not the larger sum; his wife and himself came to me once or twice with reference to the execution, and I found it was injuring him very much in his business, and he could not come home freely; his wife keeps a little shop; I had every confidence in him, and I think I might have advanced him that sum quite irrespective of the election.

11,763. When did you make the return to Mr. Lovegrove of that payment?—I think it was a week or two after the election.

11,764. That payment is entered in a supplemental account which we received yesterday from Mr. Lovegrove?—That I know nothing about; I know nothing about Mr. Lovegrove's accounts.

11,765. (*Mr. Welford.*) Taylor had the benefit of the repayment of the loan to you?—No; I held Taylor's note for the amount, and when I was repaid by Mr. Lovegrove, I indorsed that note over to Mr. Lovegrove.

11,766. Therefore that note, if it is in existence, is in the hands of Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; as against Taylor, and Taylor fully expects to be called on to pay the money.

11,767. Has he told you so?—He told me at the time that he would repay the money in the course of a few months.

11,768. At that time you had not received the money from Mr. Lovegrove?—No; that was before the advance.

11,769. Does Taylor know now that you have received the money from Mr. Lovegrove?—Not unless he knows it from what has appeared in this court.

11,770. You have never informed him of it?—No.

11,771. Have you seen him since?—I have.

11,772. Have you had any business communications with him?—No; not business communications.

11,773. Has he ever offered to repay you any of that money?—No; I did not expect it to be repaid so soon as this, for I knew that he had some other creditors whom he would have to arrange with, and when he spoke to me about the advance he led me to believe that he should not be in a position to repay the money for something like six or twelve months; I never had any doubt whatever that he would repay me.

11,774. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Part of the motive you had was that you might have the advantage of his vote and services at the election?—That was part of my motive.

11,775. Did you communicate that to Taylor?—Certainly not; he had written to me and expressed to me his wish to come and vote, saying, at the same time, that he could make himself useful if he was here, and I believed he could; he resided near some almshouses where several voters were living. He had on a former occasion assisted in bringing those men to the poll, and I thought it would be very serviceable to us if we brought him here to look after those men, many of whom I had heard had been tampered with on the other side.

11,776. Did you communicate to Taylor that your motive for letting him have the money was that you might avail yourself of his services and his vote at the election?—I did not communicate that to him.

11,777. Was anything said in your correspondence with him respecting the election?—Not in my correspondence with him, but he had referred to the election in his letters to me, and said he wished he could come here and help us, and that, if he were here, he could look after some votes.

11,778. (*Mr. Welford.*) And he gave that as a reason why he should have accommodation from you?—Not as a reason; he used it as an argument, certainly.

11,779. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Nothing was said as to his own vote?—Nothing at all.

11,780. You knew that he would vote on the Conservative side if he came?—Perfectly well; I was quite sure, as sure as I could be of any man, that nothing would induce him to vote in any other way.

11,781. Had you ever read the case of Cooper *v.* Slade?—Yes.

11,782. Were you not aware that a promise of payment of expenses made to a voter had been decided by the House of Lords to be such an inducement as to amount to bribery?—I was aware of that case, but I was also aware that the question as to the payment of travelling expenses was a very difficult one to deal with.

11,783. But that would not be so after the decision of the House of Lords in the case of Cooper *v.* Slade?—The House of Lords, I believe, considered it illegal to pay voters their travelling expenses.

11,784. That case decided that a promise to pay travelling expenses was an illegal inducement?—My impression was that the decision was that it was illegal to hold out the payment of travelling expenses as an inducement to a voter to come and poll, but I did not conceive that it was held to be illegal when the voter said, "I will come and poll," to give him to understand that his travelling expenses would be paid; perhaps I was wrong, but that was my impression; it is a question upon which, I believe, lawyers differ very much to this day.

11,785. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you see Mr. Whithorn open the envelope which contained the 500*l.* note?—I did.

11,786. Did you see its contents?—I did.

11,787. And you knew at the time what the contents were?—I knew nothing of the contents till Mr. Whithorn opened it; and I do not think he himself had any idea of what the envelope contained, for when he opened it the half note dropped on the table. I saw then that it was the half of a 500*l.* bank note. Mr. Whithorn himself appeared to be very much surprised; and, I suppose his sight not being so good as mine (he was standing up, and I was sitting at a table), he said, "It is the half of a 5*l.* note." I said, "It is "a 500*l.* note." He said, "It is very extraordinary "for it to come in such a way. How long has it been "here?" He seemed surprised at such a note being sent carelessly in that way, and so the matter ended.

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T. Taynton.

8 Oct. 1859.

He took the envelope and the half note away with him, and I saw no more of it.

11,788. And you made no observation about the purposes to which it was to be applied?—No.

11,789. You had your suspicions, I suppose?—Of course my suspicions were excited.

11,790. You had no idea where it came from?—Not the slightest idea.

11,791. And you made no inquiry?—No; I asked Mr. Whithorn a day or two afterwards whether the other half note had arrived. I asked him that question, I believe, but I did not inquire where the note had come from.

11,792. When the canvassers made their returns to you, did they make any observations upon any of the votes?—Yes, they would sometimes make observations upon the votes, such, for instance, as "That man must "be looked after;" "The other party have been trying "him very hard," and so on.

11,793. Were you informed in any cases that certain voters had intimated an intention not to vote unless money was given to them, or that they required money for their votes?—Yes, I heard that many times in the course of the canvass.

11,794. Did the canvassers give you in slips of paper, or anything of that kind, or how did they make their returns to you?—They made their returns orally, some of them, having slips of paper, perhaps with two or three names written down, and others having canvassing books.

11,795. Did they in any case show you sums of money or figures which had been put opposite to the names of voters?—Never; the returns were made to me simply that such a man had promised to vote in such and such a way.

11,796. Or that he would not promise?—Yes.

11,797. And in some such cases that the voters expected money?—No, not in cases where the return was made; but they would say sometimes that such a man would not promise without understanding that he was to have money.

11,798. When a voter was returned as a promise for Sir Robert Carden you made no further inquiry?—No; if he was given me as a promise I entered him accordingly.

11,799. And then it would not appear at all from your book in which you entered the returns, whether the promise was free and voluntary, or whether it was obtained by a promise of money?—Certainly not; the only information afforded by the book was, that when I took a return I placed against the return the initials of the person who gave me the information, in order that I might know to whom to apply, because a man would come in and say, "So-and-so has promised "to vote for Sir Robert Carden," and perhaps I would turn to the return book and find that he was not so reported; and then I wanted to know to whom to apply for certain information upon the subject, and therefore placed the initials of the person making the return upon the canvass book. I do not think you will find many cases in the book in which the initials of some person or other do not appear opposite the name of the voter. I should say that the whole of the returns were not received by me; Mr. Lovegrove, in my absence, may have received them, or he may have made entries as to the result of his own canvass.

11,800. Was Mr. Whithorn in communication with you?—He was in and out of the committee.

11,801. Do you know the room in which Mr. Whithorn himself sat during the election day?—I know all the rooms in the committee-room.

11,802. Do you know Mr. Whithorn's room?—I know the room in which Mr. Whithorn was the early part of the day; afterwards he was in other rooms where clerks and other persons were.

11,803. Did you go into Mr. Whithorn's room in the early part of the day?—Yes.

11,804. Did you see him make any payments?—No.

11,805. Did you hear any persons make applications to him for money?—No; there were several persons about, but I did not hear any applications made to him for money.

11,806. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you were engaged in the election in 1857?—Yes.

11,807. Have you ever heard since that election that the return of Sir Robert Carden was obtained by bribery?—I have heard it so rumoured, certainly, but I have heard it in no authoritative way.

11,808. Do you agree in the opinion which has been expressed in this court, that a very large portion of the constituency of Gloucester are venal?—I should be sorry to say that a very large portion are venal; I certainly agree with the opinion, that a portion of the constituency are venal.

11,809. Do you believe that the return of Sir Robert Carden in 1857 was obtained by means of bribery?—No, I do not. Sir Robert Carden became very popular, and the feeling was strongly in his favour.

11,810. You say the number of promises on this occasion was nearly as great as at the election in 1857?—I do.

11,811. Did that show that Sir Robert Carden had become more or less popular?—I should say that perhaps he was not so popular in 1859 as he was in 1857.

C. H. Hawkins.

CHARLES HENRY HAWKINS sworn and examined.

11,812. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A draper.

11,813. Where do you live?—In the Westgate Street.

11,814. You were a supporter of Sir Robert Carden at the last election, were you not?—I was.

11,815. And took an active part?—I canvassed, and took an active part, I may say.

11,816. Did you offer bribes to any persons?—Yes, I did.

11,817. To whom?—I can tell you the parties I paid, and the parties from whom I had the money. I paid a man named Charles White, of Longsmith Street.

11,818. How much?—6*l.*

11,819. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—For his vote for Sir Robert Carden. I did not promise him until the night before the election. I did not intend to give him anything, but he said that so many of the other parties had been after him, that he must expect something.

11,820. And therefore you gave him 6*l.*?—I agreed to give him 5*l.*, and on the morning of the election he would not come unless I gave him 6*l.*, and I gave it to him.

11,821. Who is the next person to whom you gave money?—William Fletcher, of Longsmith Street.

11,822. How much did you give him?—I paid him 5*l.*

11,823. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, at least I paid his wife, and he came and polled with me. But about this man Fletcher, I should wish to state, that a person named Fletcher, a few days ago stated here that he was paid 5*l.* on the day of the election by a man named Stamper, which I do not believe a word of, because I went before he was up and took him out of his bedroom, and took him down to the poll and polled him, and never lost sight of him; so that I cannot believe that that man was paid by Stamper.

11,824. You paid him 5*l.*?—I paid him 5*l.* in the morning; at least I paid his wife.

11,825. Who was the next?—The next is James Carwardine.

11,826. Where does he live?—In Longsmith Street.

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11,827. How much did you give him ?—I gave him 7*l.*

11,828. Are the three persons you have mentioned householders or freemen ?—They are householders.

11,829. You paid him 7*l.* for his vote for Carden ?—Yes, he said he had been offered a bribe by the other party, and that was the reason why I paid him.

11,830. Well ?—He said Mr. Bryon had offered him 7*l.*

11,831. Jefferson Bryon ?—Yes; he said that Mr. Jefferson Bryon had offered him 7*l.*, and many others, and that he hoped I should do the same.

11,832. Who was the next ?—I man named Phelps, I think it was John Phelps.

11,833. Does he live in the same street ?—Yes.

11,834. How much did you give him ?—I paid him 7*l.* 10*s.*

11,835. For his vote ?—For his vote. Those are the whole of the voters I paid. I paid 10*s.* to two men named Wadley and Lane.

11,836. What Lane was that ?—Old Henry Lane. He brought this Wadley to me, and said that the other party wanted to take him off, and if I could furnish him with a few shillings to take him somewhere quiet, and to keep him by himself, he would take care of him. I gave them 5*s.* each, that made 10*s.*, and in the course of a few days I heard that he had taken him over to Rudford.

11,837. He was to keep him quiet in order that he might come and vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes. Wadley said they were tampering with him on the other side, and if they had a few shillings they could go and keep him quiet.

11,838. From whom did you get the money ?—Mr. Whithorn.

11,839. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) £26 ?—£26 exactly.

11,840. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On what day was that ?—The night before the polling day.

11,841. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) On the evening of the nomination day ?—On the evening of the nomination day. I should wish to state that these four men I paid money to, I have had to do with for two or three elections, but I never paid them a shilling before, and I do not think they would have expected it this time had they not been offered large sums from the other party, and they thought they were in duty bound to have what other people had.

11,842. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What other parties did you offer money ?—There was a man named Miles or Mills, I am not certain which, of St. Catherine's.

11,843. What is his christian name ?—I do not know; I never saw him but once or twice, and have never seen him since.

11,844. What did you offer that man ?—I was asked to go and see him, and when I saw him he said he could not promise, for he was at work at Jefferson Bryon's as a tailor, and that if he voted against his employer he would give him the sack directly.

11,845. When he made that statement, did you make him any offer ?—I said, "If you will vote our "way I can make it worth your while, and I will "pay you your day's expenses." He said he could not promise, for most likely he should go the other way, and that he could have any money from Mr. Bryon he thought proper to ask for. I called to see him again on the nomination day, but I could not see him.

11,846. Did you offer him any sum of money ?—No; but it has been stated by Mr. Wilton, the surgeon, that I offered him a large sum; I beg to contradict that most emphatically.

11,847. Who is the next person to whom you offered money ?—A man named Parry of Longsmith Street. I told his wife that I would pay his expenses home; he is a boatman, but he told me, and his wife after, that he was the captain of a boat for a gentleman named Letcher down in the Forest, and that by that means he should be obliged to vote that way.

11,848. Did you offer him any money ?—Only his expenses.

11,849. Was anything said about the amount of his expenses ?—No, not at all. I told him I could pay him his expenses, I was allowed to do that; and I believe he had a letter from his employer to tell him to vote that way.

11,850. Who is the next person ?—No one at all.

11,851. Did you ever offer any money to a person named Tinkler ?—Never; certainly not.

11,852. Do you remember having any conversation with him on the subject of his vote ?—I never spoke to him on the subject. I remember Sir Robert Carden canvassing him in the street when I was going along. He was a curious sort of man; he made some abrupt sort of answer to Sir Robert Carden, and turned his back and walked off. I never spoke to Mr. Tinkler at all during the election.

11,853. Did you not tell him what you would do for him, and did you not ask him how he was situated, and say he had better take care of his family ?—No, certainly not; I never spoke to the man, to the best of my belief. I do not believe I ever exchanged six words with the man in my life.

11,854. Do you remember going into the Pelican during the election ?—I do not believe I went into the Pelican during the election, but I will swear I never saw him there. When I went into the Pelican it was after the election was pretty well over, on the day of the polling.

11,855. Did you go into the Pelican either on the nomination day or any day during the election ?—I went into the Pelican on the polling day, I am sure, but I do not recollect ever going in there before.

11,856. Did you go into the Pelican on the day on which you were canvassing with Sir Robert Carden ?—Certainly not; I was nowhere in the neighbourhood canvassing with Sir Robert Carden at all.

11,857. Do you remember seeing a person named Clements, a sweep ?—I saw him many times about in the streets.

11,858. Did you see him on one occasion when you were canvassing with Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I do not think I did. I was not with Sir Robert Carden much, only in the Westgate Street. I am almost sure I did not see Clements.

11,859. Are you sure that Clements did not come to you on one occasion and tell you there was a person of the name of Tinkler in the Pelican ?—He is a busy sort of man, and he came and told me many things, I dare say.

11,860. Do you mean to represent that Clements did not come to you and tell you that Tinkler was in the Pelican, and did he not ask you to go and speak to him ?—I cannot recollect his asking me to do so; but if he did ask me, I will swear that I did not go into the Pelican at all to speak to him. Clements is a busy sort of man; he is a customer of mine, and he came and asked me to speak to the committee to get his son on, which I did. He came with his tale to me; I did not take much notice of him; he may have said that Tinkler was there or not, but if he did, I never spoke to Tinkler or went to the Pelican to see him.

11,861. Having brought that circumstance to your recollection of Clements having come to you, do you undertake to swear that you did not see Tinkler at all ?—I never went there to see a voter or with the intention to canvass one.

11,862. Do you remember pressing Tinkler to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I am sure I never pressed him or spoke to him about his vote. He was a man I never wished to have much to do with. I remember his making Sir Robert Carden a very abrupt answer when he spoke to him. What the language that he made use of was I do not know, but it was nothing very creditable.

11,863. You are certain you did not ask him how he was situated, and that you did not say what you meant to do for him, and that he had better take care of his family ?—I am quite sure I did not. What I have stated is perfectly correct. I do not believe that I ever spoke to the man six words in my life. I

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C. H. Hawkins. 8 Oct. 1859.

do not believe I spoke to him during the election at all. I heard him speak to Sir Robert Carden, as I have told you.

11,864. Do you know a man named Bowkett?—Yes; I had forgotten that man. I did canvass him. He is in the Reform Club.

11,865. Did you ever promise anything to him?—I told him he would get paid if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden, and in the first onset he said he would rather vote our way, but that he was in the Reform Club, and if he did they would turn him out, and he was having pay then, being on the sick list.

11,866. What did you say about that?—I said that most likely our party would take him on to the Conservative Club, but that I would inquire about it.

11,867. Did you say that you would do something better for him than both the clubs could do?—I told him I would ask if they would take him on the Conservative Club, and I told him afterwards that they could not take him on, so as to have pay, till he had been in the club twelve months, and that by that means I would recommend him not to leave his Reform Club. I said I should not persuade him nor anybody else to vote against his own interest, which I never did.

11,868. Did you say to him that you would do something better for him than both clubs could do, if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I led him to believe I would pay him something if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden; but I found he said he would rather not, and I did not press him.

11,869. Did you lead him to believe you would pay him something more than he would receive from either the Reform or Conservative Club?—Yes, because he had only 10*s.* a week. I led him to believe that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden I would pay him something, but I never mentioned any sum to him. He said he would not vote for the other party, at all events.

11,870. Did you mention any sum of money to him?—Never at all; and when I found he was like that, I persuaded him not to vote at all, and then they could not turn him out of the club, and he said he would not.

11,871. Did he vote?—I went down early in the morning to see if I could induce him to vote, and found that he had voted.

11,872. At the time you received the money which you say you received from Mr. Whithorn, did you tell him that you wanted it for the purpose of bribery?—Yes; it was to pay these men.

11,873. Did you mention their names to him?—Yes, I think I did.

11,874. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did you first canvass these men you speak of having bribed?—They live in the parish in which I reside, and I was asked to canvass them. Perhaps I asked them directly I thought an election was coming on.

11,875. Did you then lead them to understand that they would have money?—Certainly not.

11,876. Did you lead them to understand that you would do as well by them as the other party did?—They had always voted on the same side, and had never received anything but on this occasion, one and all, I believe. I did not promise them anything until a day or two before the election.

11,877. Did they intimate to you before the election that they expected money?—They said they had been offered it on the other side, and they hoped I should get them something.

11,878. How long was this before the election?—Perhaps three or four days, but it was a common occurrence for people to say that they had got a man now with plenty of money, and that they should make use of it and win, in every way they thought proper. That was in every man's mouth.

11,879. Did you make any returns to the committee-room of these men?—I did.

11,880. Did you make a return of these men as promises to Mr. Taynton, or to whoever had charge of the returns?—I told them they would vote for us.

11,881. Did you give any explanation of the conditions on which they would vote?—No, not till the day of the nomination or so. I then said to Mr. Whithorn, "I cannot poll these men without they are "paid." He told me to come at night, and then when I came he said, "What shall you want for "those men?" I said, "I do not know exactly." He said, "Will 20*l.* do for them, do you think?" I said, "No, I do not think it will;" and so he gave me the 26*l.*; and when I had spent that I never asked a man to vote afterwards, for I was disgusted with the election.

11,882. Do the sums you have mentioned make up the 26*l.*?—They do. I spent more out of my own pocket, a few shillings perhaps.

11,883. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you treat anybody?—No more than to give sixpence or a shilling to men that I knew. There is one thing that regards 1857: I do not know whether you will go into that now. There was a statement made in London, but I went to rebut it. Mr. Wilton has stated here that he should wish to have parties brought up and prosecuted for perjury on that occasion; I beg to tell Mr. Wilton that I am prepared to defend myself in any way that is thought proper.

J. A. Griffiths.

JOHN AUSTIN GRIFFITHS sworn and examined.

11,884. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are clerk to Mr. Lovegrove?—I am.

11,885. We hear that you were appointed to look after the canvass returns in the committee-room?—I was superintendent of the clerks, and also I had to take an account of the messengers.

11,886. Were the appointments of clerks and messengers made by yourself?—No.

11,887. By whom were they made?—By different parties; I do not know who the clerks were appointed by.

11,888. How did you know that the persons who were down as messengers were properly appointed by the different parties you speak of?—Some one would recommend; one would send a note and another would send a note; different parties would send a note for the employment of messengers, to have them put on.

11,889. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) To whom?—To me or Mr. Whithorn, or Mr. Taynton. I do not know that Mr. Taynton had anything to do with it.

11,890. What was the number of messengers?—Fourteen; on the 6th of April there was a meeting, and I had six messengers on then.

11,891. What was the number of messengers employed altogether?—Up to the close of the poll, 122.

11,892. How many of those were voters?—I should think about 40.

11,893. Not more than 40 of them were voters?—Not more than 40.

11,894. Have you got a list prepared?—No; I have got my book that I kept my account in.

11,895. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Lovegrove.*) Have you brought a list of the messengers employed at the last election?—(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) My clerk is making it out; you shall have it on Monday.

(*The Witness.*) After the election I paid 99 other persons who claimed to be messengers and partly night watchers, and so on; there were 99 more who came to me to be paid.

11,896. In your list do you comprehend that 99?—Yes.

11,897. Besides superintending the clerks and the messengers, what did you do in the committee room?—Nothing at all.

11,898. Did you canvass voters?—I made no canvass; I might have asked one or two persons when I met them, or when they came to the committee-room,

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whether they intended to vote for us; I never made a canvass at all. I was in the committee-room every day from morning to night, except, perhaps, running out now and then to have something to eat; and I might have asked some one then.

11,899. Did you bribe any voters?—Not to my knowledge.

11,900. If you did you would have known it, I suppose?—I dare say I should.

11,901. You say you did not bribe any persons?—No; I did not.

11,902. Did you give no money at all?—Not any.

11,903. Do you know a person named Reece?—I do.

11,904. Did you offer him 5*l.*?—No; I did not.

11,905. What is his Christian name?—Frederick.

11,906. You will swear that you did not offer him 5*l.*?—I will swear that positively.

11,907. Did you offer him any money at all?—I paid him 1*l.* as a messenger; it was 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* that I gave him; he demanded that. He came to me and told me he was put on as a messenger, and he wanted to be paid as the others. He came to the committee-room drunk, and I gave him his 2*s.* 6*d.* to get rid of him, that he should not come any more.

11,908. Was that the Saturday before the election?—I think it was. The election took place on a Saturday, and it was the Saturday before the election.

11,909. Did you pay him 1*l.* on the Saturday before the election?—Yes.

11,910. Did you know at that time that he had been there as a messenger?—I had got him on my book as a messenger.

11,911. Had you ever seen him there before?—He came to the committee-rooms once or twice, and he was very drunk each time; he came there drunk up in the room, and I believed he was on as a messenger at that time.

11,912. And for those services you paid him 1*l.*?—I paid him 1*l.*, and I gave him 2*s.* 6*d.* to go out of the room.

11,913. Besides that, I understand you to say you paid him nothing; did you offer him any money at any other time?—No.

11,914. Do you know a person named William Harris?—Yes, very well.

11,915. Did you offer William Harris any money?—I did not.

11,916. Did you hold out any inducement to him if he would vote?—I went to Birmingham to see Mr. Harris, and I held out no inducement more than this:—he said if he came to Gloucester he should require his expenses paid, and a glass of brandy and water well sweetened.

11,917. What did you understand by that?—I understood that he wanted some money put into a glass of brandy and water.

11,918. Did you understand that he wanted a bribe?—No.

11,919. Not when he said he wanted a glass of brandy and water well sweetened?—That is what I understood him to mean; he said, "A glass of "brandy and water well sweetened."

11,920. Did you say, "Come on our side and I will "do something for you"?—No, I did not. Those are not the words. I have seen Harris since, and told him those were not the words that I made use of.

11,921. Do you know a person of the name of Gillespie?—Yes.

11,922. Did you make him any offer?—He came to me during the election, to my house; but as to seeing him in the street, I did not. On a Sunday he would come down and see if he could get anything out of me; and I used to give him a glass of beer and a bit of bread and cheese, and that is all I did give him; but that was not for his vote, for he still continues to come.

11,923. Do you remember his coming to your house one day and measuring your son for some trousers?—Yes.

11,924. Did you send out for some drink?—I did, for a quart of ale.

11,925. Did you, upon that occasion, press him to vote for Carden?—I might have asked him to vote for Carden, but I did not hold out any inducement to him.

11,926. But you did send out for drink?—Yes, as I often do. I did not think more of it then than I should at another time; I have often done so.

11,927. Did you say to him, "I can do more for "you than anybody on the other side; name your "price, and there is your money, all right"?—I did not; he was drunk; and he did not know what he was saying, perhaps; he is always drunk, from morning to night.

11,928. And you wished to make him more drunk, by sending out for more beer?—I often treated him; but I have never treated him since the election, and never intend to do so again.

11,929. Do you deny that you said anything of the sort to him?—I do.

11,930. You are secretary of the Conservative Association, are you not?—I was three months ago.

11,931. And you were at the time of the election, were you not?—Yes.

11,932. How many members are there in that association?—About 126.

11,933. When was it established?—In the year 1851 or 1852; it has been established now going on for six or seven years.

11,934. Was it established for the purpose of giving force to the Conservative party in Gloucester?—Certainly; and as a benefit society.

11,935. Were any members turned out of that association after the last election?—Not one.

11,936. Do you know a man named James Nicholls?—Very well.

11,937. Was there a question made as to whether he should be turned out?—There was; it was as to his entering the club over the age of 40; and they required a certificate of his birth to be produced.

11,938. He was a member of that club, was he not, at the last election?—Yes.

11,939. And he voted for Price and Monk?—He did.

11,940. After that there was a discussion whether he should be turned out or not?—Yes, there was; I would not receive his money, by order of the committee.

11,941. Was he turned out?—No.

11,942. Was there any reason given in connexion with Henry Lane, why he was not turned out?—No.

11,943. You know a man named Henry Lane?—Yes.

11,944. Is he a member of your club also?—Yes.

11,945. Was there no reason assigned, in connection with Henry Lane, why he was not turned out?—No, there was not.

11,946. Henry Lane voted for Price and Monk, did he not?—Yes.

11,947. Was Henry Lane looked upon by the members of the association as a spy of the Conservative party?—No, not at all.

11,948. You are quite sure that that was not given as a reason, when the matter was discussed, as to the other man being turned out?—That was no reason whatever.

11,949. Do you know a person of the name of Wathen, who is in St. Margaret's Hospital?—Yes.

11,950. Were you present at the White Lion, at Orpin's, when he was taken away?—I have never been at Orpin's house since he kept it.

11,951. (*Mr. Welford.*) How is this Conservative Association you speak of supported?—By the subscriptions of members and honorary members.

11,952. What proportion of honorary members have you?—I think about a dozen.

11,953. They pay any sum they please?—Yes.

11,954. Are their donations considerable?—No, very small.

11,955. How did you put on the messengers?—Mr. Lovegrove told me, in the first place, to be very par-

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J. A. Griffiths.
8 Oct. 1859.

ticular who I did take on, and I was not to put them on without a recommendation by some party, and I can show you by a book that in the first place there were very few messengers employed, and there was not one voter among the whole lot for a week.

11,956. Was that after the 5th of April?—After the 5th April; we first began on the 6th, and there were one or two voters employed in delivering circulars; they came on after that.

11,957. After that you employed more?—Yes.

11,958. Can you tell by looking at your book by whom each man was recommended?—Yes, I think so.

11,959. Did you require a written recommendation?—Either a written recommendation, or the parties spoke for them themselves.

11,960. Would any voter coming to you and recommending another person get him put on?—No; I refused several; I would not put on any one myself without a recommendation from some one else.

11,961. Did you go to Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Lovegrove?—I spoke to Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Taynton; I do not know that I did to Mr. Joseph Lovegrove.

11,962. Supposing a respectable voter came and asked you to put on a messenger, you would put him on?—I dare say I should.

11,963. How many of these voters were actually employed on the business of the committee-room?—About twenty or thirty; I cannot say how many; I did not take an account of where they went to; most of them were employed upstairs.

11,964. Then the rest of the messengers were employed merely as a favour?—No; I do not say as a favour, because they were liable to be called on every morning; we used to call their names out every morning for a week or nine days, and then they got so numerous that we left off calling their names over.

11,965. When did you leave off calling their names over?—Perhaps it might be the week before the election; a great many were put on then.

11,966. You did not call them over then?—No; they got so numerous that we could not find time to do it.

11,967. But they were paid, whether they were called over or not?—Yes.

11,968. Or whether they were there or not?—Yes.

11,969. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Does your list of messengers include the inspectors?—I paid a few inspectors.

11,970. Were there door-keepers besides?—Yes.

11,971. Were the inspectors and door-keepers voters?—No, the door-keepers were not voters——Yes, there was one, Mr. James; he was a door-keeper, and I believe a voter.

11,972. There are seven door-keepers charged in this account; is that right? How many door-keepers were there?—There might be seven, but I cannot recollect.

11,973. And how many inspectors?—Six.

11,974. (*Mr. Welford.*) You paid them up to the end of the polling?—Yes.

11,975. Did you settle the accounts of all the clerks and all the messengers?—No, not all the clerks; all the messengers I think I did.

11,976. And the door-keepers?—Yes.

11,977. And the inspectors?—Yes.

11,978. And sixteen of the clerks?—Yes; I am not certain.

11,979. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you anything to do with making out this account which was sent in to the election auditor?—Yes, for the first part of it, and then I was taken ill.

11,980. Who made out the rest of it?—I do not know.

11,981. Did you make out the account of extra payments which did not go into that account?—Yes.

11,982. What is the meaning of the entry "Bundle "of receipts, 92*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*"?—A bundle of receipts that were mislaid.

11,983. Then 92*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* for messengers is to be added to the sum appearing in the account which went in to the auditor?—I do not know anything of that account which was sent in to the auditor. I was taken ill when that account was made out; I went home and went to bed for three or four days, and I had nothing to do with making it up, except the first part of it.

11,984. There is another entry, "James Maysey "53*l.* 10*s.*;" do you know anything about that?—No.

11,985. Can you tell me what was the question made with reference to the Conservative Club?—I knew that the man had voted against us, and I believe it was mentioned to me not to take any money from him till the committee had decided whether the second rule in our society would exclude him or not. I did not consider, as he voted Liberal against us, he was a Conservative.

11,986. I thought you said the objection to him was solely on account of his age?—No, it was not solely that.

11,987. I understood you to say so?—No; the committee had ordered me not to take any money from him, and I took it, that was in consequence of his voting against us; and then arose the question as to his age.

11,988. I distinctly understood you to say, in answer to a question from the Chief Commissioner, that the question was with respect to his age?—In the first place, and his having voted against us into the bargain.

11,989. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the messengers, was a large number appointed during the last eight or nine days of the canvass?—About the 20th there were seven or eight or nine a day.

11,990. How many were appointed during the last week before the polling?—Perhaps there might have been 60, that is only a guess.

11,991. How many should you think were appointed during the fortnight before the polling?—I could tell by this book, but it would take some time to find out.

11,992. When you are making out your list, just put against the name of each person the day when he first attended as a messenger?—I will do so.

11,993. With regard to those persons (you say about 60) who were appointed the week before the polling, when they were appointed were not their appointments dated back to the commencement of the canvass, and were they not paid as though they had been serving the whole time?—There might have been one or two that came to me and said they had been employed, and not hearing their names called over in the morning, they might have come and said, "I did not hear of my name being called, "and I was appointed messenger three or four days "before."

11,994. When you received notice or communications from different persons to put messengers on the list, were you not told at the same time that their appointments were to date back from the commencement of the canvass, and that they were to be paid accordingly?—No, certainly not.

11,995. That you undertake to swear?—Yes.

11,996. As to such as were appointed the last week, were not their appointments dated back from the commencent of the canvass?—No, and I had no instructions to that effect.

11,997. Do you mean to represent that the messengers that were appointed in the last week were only paid for their services during the week they were there?—Yes, I believe that every one of them who was appointed during the week only had their week's pay; and after the election was over several came to me and said they were employed as messengers, and that they should expect to be paid the same as the rest. Then I asked them how long they had been on, and they said from the beginning, and I directly paid them, and might have kept on paying till now.

11,998. How much was paid to each messenger per day?—3*s.* 6*d.*

11,999. Had you any means of telling how long the different messengers had served or had been on your list?—A great many of them.

12,000. Did you make an entry of the days when

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they first of all came to the committee-room ?—When they were first called as messengers I did.

12,001. You made an entry of the days on which they first came to the committee-room ?—No, they might have come three or four days before I employed them, and I might not have employed them; and they might have come on the Monday following, or something like that.

12,002. You say about 60 came in the last week ?—There might have been 60, or perhaps more.

12,003. Did they receive as their wages at the rate of 3*s.* 6*d.* a day for the whole time from the commencement of the canvass?—No, they did not.

12,004. Will you undertake to say that they only received their wages for the week ?—For the week.

12,005. (*Mr. Welford.*) Will you furnish us with an account which will show the amount you paid to each messenger?—Yes.

12,006. And to the inspectors and door-keepers ?—Yes.

JAMES MAYSEY sworn and examined.

12,007. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A hairdresser, and I keep a general shop.

12,008. Where ?—In Northgate Street.

12,009. You were one of those appointed as canvassers at the last election for Sir Robert Carden ?—I took the part.

12,010. Were you paid for your services ?—I was not.

12,011. Do you expect to be paid ?—I never asked and never expect it.

12,012. What district or districts did you canvass ?—Everywhere that I could think of, town and country.

12,013. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not confine yourself to one district ?—Not at all.

12,014. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What persons did you bribe ?—I will give you as nearly as I can recollect, since this inquiry, the names.

12,015. Give me the names, if you please ?—Arthur Evans.

12,016. Where does he live ?—In Hare Lane.

12,017. How much ?—7*l.*

12,018. Did he vote for Carden ?—He voted for Carden.

12,019. Now the next ?—John Evans, John Horatio Evans, I think his name is.

12,020. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live?—In Park Street.

12,021. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much ?—12*l.* There is a great deal of difference in that; the reason why John Evans had 12*l.* was, that our canvass was going on as I thought well, and in a few days I found a great deal of alteration with the men that had promised us, and that bribery was going on to any extent; and I employed John Evans, knowing that he was aware of all the men, almost all the voters, that would be bribed; and therefore I asked him if he would go and look out, which you will find he did at different houses. I said he was worth 20*l.*; that was my observation, for I thought he had saved me a great deal of money; I thought he was worth 20*l.*

12,022. As a voter and also as a spy ?—As a spy, you may term it.

12,023. What had you agreed to give Evans before you raised the sum ?—I did not ask him; I never asked him to vote; when I gave him the 12*l.*, it was all over, you may term it.

12,024. But that was for his vote for Carden ?—Yes, and services.

12,025. Now the next ?—Fletcher, of Columbia Street.

12,026. What is his christian name?—I cannot say; Thomas, I understand.

12,027. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he?—I believe he is a fisherman.

12,028. Is he a freeman ?—No.

12,029. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him ?—10*l.*

12,030. For his vote?—Yes.

12,031. For Carden ?—For Carden.

12,032. Now the next ?—Giles Taylor, a butcher.

12,033. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live ?—Whether it is in Sweet Briar Street or Columbia Street I do not know; one side is in the county, and the other is in the city.

12,034. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him ?—10*l.*

12,035. To vote for Carden ?—To vote for Carden. He said he had been offered that by the other side, and that if I did not give it, he could go and get it, as Dr. Fletcher would give him the stuff.

12,036. Who would give him the stuff ?—Dr. Fletcher, they call him; he is a greengrocer, or something of that kind, but he goes by the name of Dr. Fletcher.

12,037. Who is the next ?—Robert Craddock,—that I should make a little remark upon.

12,038. How much did you give him ?—I gave him 6*l.*

12,039. Where does he live ?—St. John's Lane; he was engaged as a billsticker.

12,040. Was that to vote for Carden ?—Yes; he was engaged as a billsticker, and spoke to me about having the bills, and I told him he should have his part, and he did some of the work, and he stated to me that he and his boy had been out of employment through these bills, and therefore he charged this money, as he said, for his time and his boy, and I gave it to him. He never polled at all; when he went up the street he found it was all over and of no use, and he did not poll.

12,041. You really gave him the money for his vote, did you not ?—I considered he could not have wasted 6*l.* worth of time.

12,042. Now, the next ?—William Cole.

12,043. How much did you give him ?—7*l.*

12,044. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live, or where is his qualification ?—St. Aldate's, I believe. He was on the committee the other side a bit; he promised me, I think, the very first day we were out canvassing; but after a few days, when this money tree came to bear that every one was talking so much about, he went to the other committee and was put on it; I saw him, and said, "How is it you are there ?" He says, "Well, I am got on; there is plenty of "money on that side, and I of course intend to vote "on that side." My object in giving him the money was to keep him.

12,045. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You gave him 7*l.* ?—Yes; he told me he could go over to Rudford and plant potatoes, but that he was not going to plant potatoes at this time when he could live better in Gloucester.

12,046. Is he a freeman ?—He is a freeman.

12,047. Who is the next ?—Benjamin Harrison.

12,048. Where does he live ?—In Westgate Street.

12,049. How much did you give him ?—10*l.*; I agreed with him for 5*l.* On the day of the election he came to me, and I said, "Well, Ben, I suppose I "must give you this 5*l.* I have agreed for." He said, "I shall not go for 5*l.*; I can have 10*l.* on the "other side." I said, "Well, but the last time they "promised you more than that, and you did not get "it; I am no Jew. You shall have what I promise." He said he would not go under 10*l.*, and therefore I gave him the 10*l.* to poll for Carden.

12,050. (*Mr. Welford.*) What time in the day was that ?—I could not tell the time, to swear to half an hour; I should think about nine o'clock, or it may be a little better; I should fancy that must be about it.

12,051. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the next ?—The next is John Brookes, a shoemaker, a freeman.

12,052. Where does he live ?—In Pitt Street.

12,053. How much did you give him ?—5*l.*

12,054. To vote for Carden ?—To vote for Carden.

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J. Maysey.

8 Oct. 1859.

12,055. Who is the next ?—Michael May, a freeman.

12,056. Where does he live ?—St. Aldate's Square, it is called on the register.

12,057. How much did you give him ?—5*l.*

12,058. For his vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,059. The next ?—A man of the name of Barber, he was a stranger to me, but I have got his name since I wanted to make this list out.

12,060. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know his Christian name ?—I do not know it.

12,061. Where does he live ?—In Barton Street; he is a freeman, he works in the docks.

12,062. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you give him ?—5*l.*

12,063. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) To vote for Carden ?—Yes; he had also been on the committee, and said he could have money the other way.

12,064. He had been on the Liberal committee ?—Yes, he had been on the Liberal committee, but he had got some work at the docks for Mr. Nix; he said to me, he should like to vote for the Blues, but unless he could have money on the other side he would not, and therefore I indulged him with his wishes.

12,065. Now the next ?—George Hunt.

12,066. Where does he live ?—St. John's Lane.

12,067. Is he a freeman ?—No, he is not.

12,068. How much did you give him ?—2*l.*; that he stated was for his work; he had been sent two or three errands or something of the kind, and he thought he should have 2*l.* I did not give it to him, not till after the election; I did not see him on the day of the election.

12,069. But you paid him that money to vote for Carden ?—Of course I must consider it was something like that; he told me he had been at work and took out letters and something of that sort, and I gave him the 2*l.* some time after the election.

12,070. You were not very particular to inquire what he had done ?—No, I was not.

12,071. You considered it was for his vote ?—Of course I should put it down for that.

12,072. Who is the next ?—Samuel Best; he lives in the same house; he is a lodger there, and is a freeman.

12,073. Does he live in the same house as Hunt does ?—In the same house.

12,074. How much did you give him ?—2*l.*

12,075. For his vote for Carden ?—Yes; he was in the same pail as the other.

12,076. Who is the next ?—Michael Jennings of St. Mary's Square; a freeman.

12,077. How much money did you give him ?—2*l.*

12,078. To vote for Carden ?—Yes; he had been also employed as messenger. Two Bests, freemen, of Alvin Street.

12,079. Is one of them Decimus Best ?—One of them is on the register for Alvin Street, and the other in Suffolk Street.

12,080. How much did you give to them ?—8*l.* for the two.

12,081. Four pounds each ?—Yes.

12,082. To vote for Carden ?—To vote for Carden.

12,083. Who is the next ?—William Green, London Road.

12,084. What is he ?—I gave him 5*l.*

12,085. Is he a freeman ?—He is not a freeman.

12,086. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,087. Who is the next ?—A person named Mann; I do not know his Christian name.

12,088. Where does he live ?—In Catherine Street; he lodges, I think, with his brother.

12,089. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman ?—A freeman.

12,090. You say he lives in St. Catherine Street ?—Yes; I think it is Thomas Taylor Mann, of St. John's Lane. I know them all very well when I see them.

12,091. Did he afterwards vote ?—He did.

12,092. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him ?—I believe 6*l.*, I will not swear positively.

12,093. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,094. Now the next ?—No one else, not to my knowledge.

12,095. What other persons did you offer any money to ?—I do not know; if you can remind me of anyone else I will say whether I did or not; but I might have done so to several.

12,096. Can you recollect any other persons to whom you offered money ?—I cannot charge my memory with one.

12,097. From whom did you receive this money that you paid away in the manner you have mentioned ?—On the day of the election I received from Mr. Whithorn 67*l.*, that is, to the best of my knowledge.

12,098. Did you receive any other money from him ?—I received from Mr. Whithorn during the canvass in sums of 2*l.* and 3*l.* and sometimes 1*l.* according as I wanted it, 28*l.* or thereabouts.

12,099. During the canvass in small sums about 28*l.* ?—Yes.

12,100. Was that all the money that you got from Mr. Whithorn ?—That is all the money that I got from Mr. Whithorn.

12,101. What other parties had you money from ?—I had some money from Mr. Lovegrove.

12,102. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much ?—About 50*l.*

12,103. In one payment ?—No; I think it was in three payments; I am not positive; there was 42*l.*, in one payment; I am not certain; that was after the election.

12,104. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) After the election you received 42*l.* ?—Yes.

12,105. Was the remaining 8*l.* given you in small sums ?—I think it was given me at twice.

12,106. That was before the election ?—I believe it was before the election.

12,107. From whom did you receive any other money ?—From no one.

12,108. Do those different sums you have given us make up the amount you received either from Mr. Lovegrove or Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes, they will nearly balance it.

12,109. You say you do not remember that you paid away any other money and you do not remember that you offered any money ?—I know I did offer, but I cannot say any name unless my memory is refreshed; I know there was a man of the name of Pegler I had a conversation with two or three times; I knew in my own mind that he was always bribed.

12,110. A man named Pegler ?—Yes, of Suffolk Street or Brother's Place; that street goes by two names; I do not believe I offered him money, for at the time he was in bad company; I knew he was to be bought, but he went off with the others.

12,111. Did you offer William Cook any money ?—I did not.

12,112. You did not offer him 10*l.* ?—I did not.

12,113. Do you know who I mean by William Cook ?—William Cook of Alvin Street.

12,114. Did you offer Samuel Wilkes any money ?—I do not know that I did; I do not remember offering him any money.

12,115. You would not swear that you did not offer him money ?—I think I could undertake to say that I never offered him any money; I went twice to his house, and he was out.

12,116. Do you know a man named Owen Harris ?—Very well.

12,117. Did you offer him any money ?—I never offered him any money.

12,118. Did you offer him any inducement ?—I never offered him any inducement; I thought him as tidy a man as any in Gloucester, and I would not have asked him; I should have been ashamed to have asked him.

12,119. Were you ever security for him to any society in Cheltenham ?—No; I do not know what it is; I should think that would be known by sending to Cheltenham.

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12,120. Did you offer to cancel any debt which he owed?—I did not know that he owed a debt; I should have thought from his position that he was not in debt. He called me and I went across to him, and I said, "How are you going to poll?" He says, "I "can give Carden one, but I must give the other the "other way." I says, "Can't you give us two." He says, "No." I says, "Your governor is too respect- "able to interfere with you for voting." He says, "It is not that; he is a connection, and I can't do more "than that;" and I says, "Thank you for that," and I left him, and never saw him again till the day of the polling, and did not ask him even on the day of polling because I thought he would keep his word; I always thought him a very respectable man.

12,121. Did you offer William Field any money?—I do not know a person of the name of William Field.

12,122. Do you not know a person of the name of Field at all?—I do not know a person named Field at all, not to my recollection; if you can tell me where he lives, or anything of that sort, I may bring it to mind.

12,123. Did you offer any money to Wright who keeps a china shop?—We had a little talk about money; he wanted to know the figure of me.

12,124. Did you offer him 5*l.*?—I did not offer him anything; I said we would do as much as the others.

12,125. Had any sum been mentioned by Wright to you?—I do not recollect that it had; he said there was plenty of money on the other side. I said, "Well, "there is money on both sides; we can do as well as "they can for you;" but I was cautious, because I knew his brother-in-law was the other way, and I was a little bit cautious in what I said, expecting it might go.

12,126. Do you know a person named Arthur Peters?—I do.

12,127. Did you offer him any money?—Yes, he had promised Sir Robert Carden, and I saw him come from Mr. Hall's house. I thought something was up the morning of the polling, and I said, "What are "you going to do, Arthur; not going to keep your "promise? you are sticking out for money, I suppose." He said, "It is done; it is done through my wife, and "I cannot help it; it is done now."

12,128. How much did you offer him?—There was no occasion to offer him anything, for he told me candidly that it was done.

12,129. Did he say to you he had got 6*l.* 10*s.* to pay his rent?—I will not swear whether he did or not; he might have said it, and he might not.

12,130. Did you say upon that, "Never mind that, "let your wife keep that, and I will find money to "pay your rent"?—I do not know anything at all of that; I might have said it.

12,131. Might you have said what I have asked you?—I might have said it; I was surprised that he was going away from us.

12,132. Do you know a person of the name of Edwin Matthews?—I cannot call Edwin Matthews to my memory now; is he a flyman?

12,133. Yes.—I do. I remember Edwin Matthews meeting me one night, and I said, "I must not ask you "for a vote, I suppose, seeing where you are?" He "said, "I shall have some money; it will make no "odds to me this time where it comes from."

12,134. Did you say to him, "You have only to "name your own price, and go to Frederick Evans, "the landlord of the Barley Mow, for the money"?—No; I think I took it all on my own account.

12,135. What did you offer him?—I do not think I offered a sum.

12,136. Are you quite sure you did not?—I am quite sure I did not offer a sum. He told me that he should have some money, poll for which he would; and I never named a sum at all, for I was a little bit cautious, as he worked for Mr. Churchill, and I saw him, and asked him how he was going to vote; and he said, "I shall vote the other way;" but I know no sum was mentioned.

12,137. Did you say you would give him as much as the other party would?—Something tantamount to that I might have said, but I do not recollect the words.

12,138. Did you offer any money to William Merritt?—No; I gave him shillings during the canvass, but I never spoke to him much. He was a man I did not like to have much to say to; I might see him one day with one party, and another day with another, getting sixpences and shillings anywhere he could.

12,139. Are you quite sure that you did not put any sovereigns down on the table for him?—I am quite positive of that.

12,140. No sovereigns?—No sovereigns at all: I should have been afraid to try him; he would have had them.

12,141. Are you quite sure you did not make him any offer?—I am quite sure I did not make him any offer.

12,142. James Bridgett, did you offer him any money?—Not him. I do not recollect ever offering him any money at all; he was at Cirencester, I think. I do not think he had anything. He asked me afterwards for some money, and I said I could not give him any money, it was not my business.

12,143. Did you not promise him 3*l.* 10*s.* if he would vote for Carden?—I do not remember promising him that money.

12,144. Do you remember promising him that or any other sum, and referring him to Obadiah Clutterbuck for the money?—I do not; the thing may have slipped my memory.

12,145. Do you know an old man of the name of Wathen, of St. Margaret's Hospital?—I know him very well.

12,146. Do you remember going to the White Lion kept by Orpin when Wathen was there?—Yes, I remember it perfectly well.

12,147. And do you remember going on that occasion in company with a mob of persons?—No, I do not.

12,148. Do you remember whether Clements the sweep was with you?—I am sure he was not with me.

12,149. When you went to the White Lion at Orpin's, where Wathen was, were you alone?—No, I was not.

12,150. Was a man named "Curly Bick" with you?—He was not to my knowledge.

12,151. Who went with you?—Mr. Clutterbuck.

12,152. Which Mr. Clutterbuck?—Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck, and a man of the name of Leach.

12,153. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is he?—A labourer.

12,154. Is he a fighting man?—He has fought twice or three times, I think.

12,155. Who else?—I believe the man to be Summerell, a very tall stout man.

12,156. Is he a fighting man?—No.

12,157. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who else?—I had nothing to do with any one else.

12,158. You went to that house?—I did.

12,159. Did you see Wathen?—I did; and I said, going along, I had heard of Wathen being there. Wathen had always polled on our side; he had polled for Sir Robert Carden twice, and before that he had always polled our way. I heard he was taken to this house, and was kept there drunk all night. They also told me that if the trustees knew it, he would lose the almshouse, and I said, "Well, I "will go and see the old man, and if we can get him "out, we will." We went there and saw him, and carried him out; I did not carry him myself, I was not strong enough, but Mr. Clutterbuck and Summerell carried him out; and there was a man there of the name of John Stratford taking care of him, and he came out with me and Mr. Clutterbuck, and we went away together and took the old man to a house just above, and Stratford and Clutterbuck went along the street together, and we went to the Black Dog, and we said to Stratford, "We are not

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" going to quarrel about a vote; will you have a " glass of ale with us?" and we had a glass of ale at the Black Dog.

12,160. Is that all you know about that transaction?—That is all I know about that transaction.

12,161. That you swear?—That I swear.

12,162. Do you mean to represent that besides the persons you have mentioned, Clements the sweep was not there?—I do not know. I can swear that I had no connexion with him, nor spoke to any one else about it.

12,163. Will you swear that Clements was not there?—I will not swear he was not there.

12,164. What time in the day was it?—It was about one o'clock, I should think, and the nomination was on.

12,165. Will you swear that there was not a mob there?—No, I would not.

12,166. How many persons were there there?—I should think six or eight persons; but I do not believe any one touched Wathen but the names I have mentioned, otherwise I must have seen them.

12,167. Will you swear that young Collins was not there?—I met young Collins, and asked him in the street to go and fetch a fly.

12,168. Was Collins there?—He was in the street, just above, I believe. I do not know whether he was in the house or not.

12,169. Will you swear that Collins did not go with you to the White Lion?—I do not believe that Collins went with me.

12,170. You will not swear that he was not there?—He was there, but he did not go with me. It brings persons together when there is anything of the sort.

12,171. Was a man called Bristol Jack there?—I do not know him.

12,172. Do you know a man called Bill Brown?—I know ever so many Bill Browns.

12,173. Was there a man named Bill Brown there?—Not to my knowledge. I saw no one of the name of Brown to my knowledge.

12,174. Altogether, there were about six or eight people there?—Yes, I should say there were. There were some females there.

12,175. Did you take Wathen by force out of the White Lion?—I do not call it by force at all. I did not carry him at all, as I told you. Those two men put their arms under him, and said, "Come along " with us, Wathen," and Mrs. Orpin ran to the front door and locked it; and I said, "This is the way " out," and went the back way; and some said to Wathen, "You are in good company now," and others said, "Oh, you rascals!" and so on.

12,176. Will you swear that those six or eight people who were there were not there under your instructions?—Not under my instructions; I went with the two men, Clutterbuck and Leach. I called Leach out of the nomination room; on the road I went to Clutterbuck's house, and then we met with the other man somewhere, and I thought him a strong man to carry Wathen out and take him away; I could not do it myself.

12,177. You called Clutterbuck and Leach?—Some more wanted to come, and I said, "I only want " one." I gave instructions in the street, and said, " Mind you do not have any row over this. If we " cannot get the old man out of this, do not let us " have a row."

12,178. Do you mean to say you did not go to the house to take away Wathen, either quietly or by force?—I was determined not to have a row, and cautioned them against it.

12,179. Do you not know that the man resisted?—No; he was too helpless to resist. He was very helpless, and we considered him drunk.

12,180. He is a very old man, is he not?—Old and blind.

12,181. Do you not know that the man was carried off to the house of Joseph Lane?—I heard so after. I left, as I told you, and went up with Stratford, and while I was up there Wathen was put into the fly.

12,182. Do you not know that you gave instructions that that man should be taken to Lane's house?—I did not give instructions.

12,183. Did you not know he was to be carried to Lane's house?—I did not at the time.

12,184. Before you went to the White Lion had you not the intention of carrying that man off so that he should not give his vote?—No; I will swear positively my intention was that he should be back to vote if he thought proper; and I thought if he was brought to his own house he would have an opportunity of voting, and he was brought at twelve o'clock to his own house and left there.

12,185. Twelve o'clock on what day?—On the polling day.

12,186. Do you mean to swear that?—I mean to swear he was in town.

12,187. Take care what you are about. Do you swear that you do not know that that man was prevented from voting?—I can swear that that was not in my thoughts.

12,188. Do you not know he was prevented from voting?—I mean to say he was brought back in time to vote if any one had went after him, plenty of time.

12,189. Do you not know that the man was prevented from voting?—He did not vote, I heard after.

12,190. I ask you if you do not know he was prevented from voting; do not prevaricate?—If I understood your question correctly I should give you an answer.

12,191. You can understand my question very easily; I ask if you do not know that that man was prevented from voting?—I know he did not vote.

12,192. Answer the question?—He must have been prevented, but he had plenty of time to have voted. He was early at home; that is my meaning, and another party that was with him did vote.

12,193. Do you not know it was the intention that that man should be carried to the house of Lane and there kept, so that he might not vote?—I will declare I thought him more likely to vote for us than for the other side if he was brought and put up for that purpose at the proper time; he always had done so, and had talked to me upon the subject times and times.

12,194. Did you see at the canvass on that occasion a person of the name of Mrs. Frederick Bower?—I do not recollect it. I know her very well.

12,195. Will you swear she did not say to you, " You ought to know better than serve an old man " like that"?—I will not.

12,196. Will you swear you did not put your hands in her face and say you would take her husband's coat off his back?—I will swear I never mentioned his name to her.

12,197. How far is the house of Joseph Lane from Gloucester?—About a mile and a half, as near as possible.

12,198. Do you not know that the old man's coat was torn to pieces in your endeavour to remove him from the White Lion?—I do not believe it was.

12,199. Will you swear it was not?—I will not swear it was or was not. I did not see the old man hurt at all. I cried out "Do not hurt him," and they stopped to rest in the street.

12,200. Did you not hear the old man cry out "murder"?—I do not know. He halloaed out something and made use of bad words, "Oh, damn it what " is it; what are you about?" I never heard the word "murder;" that I swear distinctly. I should also state that I asked a policeman, when we were going up for the old man, to walk up that way and see that there was nothing wrong about it.

12,201. Give the name of the policeman?—It has only just struck my mind. It was one of the county police.

12,202. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was his number?—I do not know. I should know the policeman if I were to see him.

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12,203. (*Mr. Vaughan*). You never thought of that before?—No, I did not.

12,204. You were at a good many houses, were you not, where there were dinners and entertainments given?—I went to many houses during the canvass, but not where entertainments were given. I went into White's.

12,205. Is that the Beaufort Arms?—The Beaufort Arms. I went to Axton's.

12,206. Was a dinner given at this house?—I went to his house and said, "Jem, what have you got for "dinner?" I said, "Can you manage a leg of "mutton at such a time? There will be six or "eight here. We want a dinner."

12,207. And did six or eight or more go and dine?—Yes.

12,208. What did you pay?—It cost me 1*l.* something for dinner and some cider.

12,209. How many went altogether? I should think about eight or ten.

12,210. Who were the parties who dined; were they messengers, or what were they?—What we term the working men, that is, those who were doing what they could for the election.

12,211. James White is a voter, is he not?—James White is a voter.

12,212. Was there any other dinner at James White's during the election?—Not to my knowledge. I never asked him for his vote, for I was told by John Hillier that he would vote one and one; one for Carden and one for Monk.

12,213. What were the working men? Were they people who were canvassing?—Yes, canvassing and going anywhere we asked them. Those that I thought wanted something to eat, as they were hard at work.

12,214. Was there a dinner at the Horse and Groom?—Yes.

12,215. Who keeps that?—Morton is his name.

12,216. What is his Christian name?—I cannot tell his christian name now.

12,217. How many dined?—I should think about the same number.

12,218. Who were they?—The same class of men. There may have been one or two different either way. I am not prepared to say.

12,219. Did you pay for that dinner?—No, I did not.

12,220. You paid for the dinner at White's?—I paid for the dinner at White's.

12,221. Had you a dinner at the Worcester Arms?—Yes.

12,222. Who keeps that?—Giles is the name—Robert Giles.

12,223. How many dined?—I think there were more that day. I think there were twelve or thirteen dined, but I am not prepared to say how many.

12,224. Who were they?—About the same; only in different districts it would be different men.

12,225. Did you pay for that?—No.

12,226. Was there a dinner at the Prince Albert?—I have forgotten it if there was.

12,227. Who keeps the Prince Albert?—Skinner; I know him very well. I do not think there was one there.

12,228. You have forgotten if there was?—I have. There might have been; I was not there.

12,229. Was there a dinner at the Talbot Inn?—Yes.

12,230. Who keeps that?—Mr. James.

12,231. Isaac James?—Yes.

12,232. How many dined?—About the same number, I suppose. They generally run about the same number.

12,233. The same class of people?—The same class of people.

12,234. Did you pay for that?—No.

12,235. Was there a dinner at the Three Cocks?—I do not know. I was not there to my knowledge.

12,236. Is that kept by Jonah Dyer?—Yes; I know him well and the house.

12,237. Did you treat any people?—During the canvass?

12,238. Yes?—Yes.

12,239. Voters?—Voters and non-voters.

12,240. Principally voters?—Just as it happened who was in the house when I went in; for they must have something to drink, and sometimes if you do not give it to a non-voter you do more mischief than not.

12,241. Can you give me the names of the voters you treated?—I would not undertake to do that. I could think of a good many. They were a class of voters that you would not take notice of their names unless you thought to be called on.

12,242. How much did you spend in treating?—During the whole time I spent about 25*l.*, I reckoned it. I put it all down as near as I could; and in shillings and sixpences and what not. Perhaps a voter would stop and ask me for sixpence or a shilling, and I would give it him.

12,243. You spent in treating about 25*l.*, and in shillings and so on, of which you can give no account?—No, I cannot give you an account of them.

12,244. I suppose you do not give shillings to voters except at election times?—I give a great many in the course of a year.

12,245. (*Mr. Welford.*) I think you said that at the time when old Wathen was carried away the landlady locked the front door?—Yes, she did, and stood by.

12,246. And you said, "Bring him out this way"?—"This is the way." It was a shorter way; the back way.

12,247. Then the men who carried him away were acting under your directions?—They were as willing as I was.

12,248. Were you not the leader of them?—You may term it so.

12,249. And you took the men down there for the purpose?—I took the men down there for the purpose if we could get him out quietly.

12,250. And they carried him under your directions?—I never told them to carry him out, but they knew what we went for.

12,251. Did you assault a Mr. Barham on any occasion?—I did not. I can tell you the words I said to him. He went to the magistrate. I said, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself to go and "swear as you have done on a book you do not be-"lieve in; a man who does not believe in God or "devil, and who calls people the names you do, ought "not to be allowed to go and swear as you have "done."

12,252. He swore that you had been concerned in bribery?—I heard that he went further than that, and spoke of me as to things that I had nothing at all to do with at that time.

12,253. And you referred to the evidence which he gave before this Court?—I heard what he stated, that I had made money out of the elections from Mr. Hope, and built a row of houses, or something of that sort, which it is very annoying for a tradesman to be charged with when he knows nothing about it. I never touched him.

12,254. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You spent in direct bribery I think bout 102*l.*?—It would run about that.

12,255. Was all that disbursed on the morning of the polling?—It was not.

12,256. Some of it was paid before?—No, some of it was paid after.

12,257. Was any paid before?—Not any to my knowledge—not a shilling.

12,258. You received 67*l.* on the morning of the polling day from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

12,259. When did you receive the balance—the 40*l.*?—I received it of Mr. Lovegrove afterwards.

12,260. That balance would come out of the balance of 50*l.* you received of Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes.

12,261. Had you advanced the money out of your

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own pocket?—I had promised the men the money, and they took my word.

12,262. During the canvass you received 28*l.* from Mr. Whithorn?—About that.

12,263. You disbursed that money in treating, I suppose?—Yes.

12,264. That leaves still about 20*l.* unaccounted or?—I received 148*l.* altogether, I reckon.

12,265. Look at this account of extra payments made up by Mr. Lovegrove. "Mr. Maysey, 53*l.* 10*s.*"?—That may be what I received; I do not know exactly. Here is the account (*referring to a paper*),—"Paid after the election, Mr. Probert, 9*l.*"

12,266. Who is Mr. Probert?—Mr. Probert of the Odd Fellows Arms. "Paid Mr. Hughes of the "Berkeley Arms, 1*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*" "Paid Mr. Axton" (that is a cook's shop), "1*l.* 19." (that was for refreshments on different days). "Paid Mr. White of "Beaufort Arms, 1*l.* 2*s.*," and 7*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* balance in hand. That is small sums spent, I believe, in bribery; but I do not recollect what it was.

12,267. For what purpose did you pay 9*l.* to Mr. Probert?—That was for eating and drinking.

12,268. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you engage Leach during the election?—I did not.

12,269. Who did?—I do not know.

12,270. Did you pay him?—Not to my knowledge.

12,271. Did you treat him?—He might have been with the rest; not direct.

12,272. You do not know whether he has been paid anything by any person?—I do not; I do not remember.

12,273. Did you engage any person to act as a bully during the election?—No, I never engaged any one as I know of.

12,274. Did you not pay anybody for such a service?—No, I did not pay anybody for such a service a shilling.

12,275. (*Mr. Welford.*) In carrying away Wathen?—I did not employ him. I saw him on the nomination day, and asked him if he would go with us. I said, "There is poor old Wathen being kept at "Jem Orton's, and if we could go and get him away "it would be a famous thing." I had been told that he would lose his almshouse if it was known that he had been drunk in a public-house all night; and I thought that if he was got away home he would be likely to vote for us.

12,276. (*Mr. Vaughan*). You thought that if you could get him home he would be likely to vote for you, and that he would lose his almshouse if it was known that he had been all night in a public house, and so you took him to Henry Lane's public house, where he was kept all night?—I thought he had better go there till he was sober; I really believed that if the man was sober, and in his senses, he would have polled for Carden.

12,277. (*Mr. Welford*). Was not what was done done by your direction?—It was partly so; I think we were all there.

12,278. You began it?—I began it.

12,279. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You do not think that the part which you took in the abduction of that man was justifiable?—I do not mean to say it was right, but it was done on the spur of the moment. In addition to my statement, I wish to say that John Michael Butt sent for me one day to his house,—a week, or two or three, it may be, after the election, and gave me something in a paper to give (he told me) to a stout woman who would call for it; I believe the wife of George Woodward. I never opened the paper, and cannot say what it was, but I supposed it was money for a vote.

12,280. And you gave it to her?—I gave it to a stout woman who did call.

12,281. Who gave it you?—John Michael Butt.

12,282. And you gave it to the stout woman who called for it?—Yes.

12,283. But you do not know her name?—I believe it to have been George Woodward's wife; it was wrapped up in paper, but I never opened it.

12,284. This was about a week after the election?—Yes.

12,285. Who is John Michael Butt?—A gentleman who was in court just now.

12,286. Where does he live?—At Kingsholm; I went to his house, he sent for me.

12,287. Had you any dinner at the Barley Mow?—I went to a dinner at the Barley Mow; that was the day of the nomination.

12,288. Did you pay for the dinner?—I did not.

12,289. How many people were there there?—There were more there than I had seen before, I think.

12,290. Twenty?—I should think there were as many; I am not positive; it was the nomination day. I went and had my dinner, and did not stop a long time.

JABEZ FRANKLIN sworn and examined.

J. Franklin.

12,291. (*Mr. Vaughan*). Where do you live?—In Northgate Street.

12,292. You were one of the canvassers, I believe, for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

12,293. What did you receive for your services?—9*l.*, for my services and expenses.

12,294. What district did you canvass?—Anywhere; I was in general with Mr. Maysey.

12,295. Who did you bribe?—No one.

12,296. You paid no money to any one?—No.

12,297. Did you offer any money to any one?—I might have done that. I think there was one Manfred Haines that I offered a sum of money to, but he is since dead.

12,298. How much did you offer to him?—I think it was 5*l.*

12,299. Was he a freeman at that time?—Yes.

12,300. Did he accept the money?—No.

12,301. Did you offer any money to any one else?—Not to my knowledge.

12,302. Did you offer any inducement to any person to vote?—No, not to my knowledge.

12,303. You did not make any promise to anyone?—No, I think not.

12,304. You were principally engaged in canvassing with Mr. Maysey, were you?—Yes.

12,305. Do you know any persons that were bribed?—Yes, some of them that Mr. Maysey mentioned.

12,306. Do you know of any others?—No.

12,307. None besides those that he mentioned?—I think not.

12,308. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay any money?—No, nothing more than sixpence or a shilling which I may have given to a voter, or something like that, during the canvass.

12,309. Did you receive any more money than the 9*l.*?—No.

12,310. Can you give the Commissioners any information respecting the bribery that was practised at the last election?—No, nothing more than I have heard Mr. Maysey state.

OBADIAH CLUTTERBUCK sworn and examined.

O. Clutterbuck.

12,311. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are an inn-keeper, are you not?—Yes.

12,312. What house do you keep?—The Dolphin, in Northgate Street.

12,313. Is the Dolphin a house that was a good deal frequented by Sir Robert Carden's party?—Yes.

12,314. Had you a good many dinners and suppers at your house?—One dinner on the polling day, after the polling.

12,315. Was there any account opened at your

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house on the part of Sir Robert Carden ?—Only what I opened myself.

12,316. You opened the account ?—Yes, on my own account.

12,317. What do you mean by opening it on your own account ?—I opened it without any orders.

12,318. What was the amount of the account ?—24*l.* and 10*l.* This (*referring to a paper*) is my account for refreshments for voters and canvassers in three weeks,—24*l.*, refreshments supplied to voters from the 6th of April to the day of the election.

12,319. That amounts to 24*l.* ?—Yes, and for dinners provided on the day of the election to canvassers, 10*l.*; three weeks' canvassing myself, six guineas; and I spent during the canvass 8*l.* in the three weeks.

12,320. Has that sum been paid to you ?—No, I paid myself out of what I received for bribing.

12,321. How much did you receive ?—I received 10*l.* in various sums from Mr. Whithorn in three weeks, and on the morning of the polling I received 150*l.*

12,322. Was that all the money you received from any one ?—Yes.

12,323. Out of the sums you so received, you paid yourself the sums you have mentioned, of 24*l.*, 10*l.*, 6*l.* and 8*l.* ?—Yes, and the rest was spent in bribing, and here are the names.

12,324. Was that 10*l.* which was expended in dinners for canvassers spent upon canvassers who were voters ?—The 10*l.* was for dinners on the day of the election, for canvassers, for the working men.

12,325. The working men on the committee ?—Yes.

12,326. You say you spent for refreshments for voters and canvassers 24*l.* ?—Yes.

12,327. Was that at your own house ?—Yes, most of it was at my house.

12,328. And was the 8*l.* that you spent during your canvass also spent in treating voters—Yes, we treated sometimes persons when we were out canvassing.

12,329. I suppose you gave the preference to voters ?—Certainly, we should prefer them to others, but we did not confine it to them.

12,330. Who did you bribe ?—William Jones.

12,331. How much did you give him ?—£10; I believe he lives in Cambridge Street.

12,332. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what parish ?—Barton Saint Mary.

12,333. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next ?—James Brown, of Barton Street, 10*l.*

12,334. You gave William Jones 10*l.* for his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes, for his vote for Sir Robert Carden.

12,335. Did you give Brown 10*l.* ?—Yes.

12,336. For his vote ?—Yes.

12,337. For Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

12,338. Who is the next ?—William Beard; I think he lives in Worcester Street.

12,339. How much did you give him ?—10*l.*

12,340. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

12,341. The next ?—William Andrews, 10*l.*

12,342. Where does he live ?—In Alvin Street.

12,343. Did you give him that to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

12,344. The next ?—John Townsend, Westgate Street.

12,345. How much ?—10*l.*

12,346. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,347. The next ?—Joseph Williams.

12,348. Where does he live ?—In Cambridge Street.

12,349. How much did you give him ?—Ten guineas.

12,350. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,351. The next ?—John Day, of Hampden Place, 8*l.*

12,352. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,353. Who was the next ?—James Bartlett, of Bolt Lane, 9*l.* I gave to a man of the name of Gray, I cannot tell his other name, he lives in Market Street, 9*l.* 10*s.*

12,354. The next ?—Thomas Smith, I do not know where he lives, 5*l.*

12,355. Is he a freeman ?—Yes, he is a freeman.

12,356. How much did you give to him ?—5*l.*

12,357. To vote for Carden ?—Yes.

12,358. And Gray, of Market Street, the same ?—Yes.

12,359. Now, the next ?—James Ireland 5*l.*, of Mitre Street.

12,360. To vote for Carden ?—Yes, all of them.

12,361. Now, the next ?—A man named Bishop, a milkman in Barton Terrace, 9*l.*; and there is a man I gave 2*l.* to, that I do not know the name of. I gave it to him to vote for Carden about three o'clock. I knew him to be a voter, but I do not know his name; I only gave him 2*l.*

12,362. You gave him 2*l.* on speculation ?—Almost, for it was of no use.

12,363. You do not know his name ?—I do not.

12,364. Should you know the man ?—I do not. I knew he was a voter, but as to knowing his name I do not; he voted for Sir Robert Carden.

12,365. He voted after you gave him the money ?—After I gave him the money, I watched him go up the steps.

12,366. We must put that down an unknown man ?—Yes.

12,367. Are those all the sums that you paid away ?—Yes, every farthing to my knowledge.

12,368. Were all those sums paid away on the day of the polling ?—Yes.

12,369. All the sums you have mentioned ?—Yes, soon after nine o'clock.

12,370. Was the man to whom you gave the 2*l.* the only person you paid as late as two or three o'clock ?—He was the last man that I paid or that I polled.

12,371. To whom did you offer money ?—I offered money to one man of the name of Hooper, in Prince's Street.

12,372. What is his Christian name ?—I do not know, I think his name is William.

12,373. How much did you offer him ?—I offered him 5*l.* I offered it to him, and he said he could go to a better market; he said that Moss, the builder, had been along with him.

12,374. You seem to have kept the "better "market," because the great majority of the people you bribed received 10*l.* ?—He told me that he had a better market.

12,375. When did you offer Hooper 5*l.* ?—Three or four days before the election.

12,376. What other person did you offer money to ?—Not one, unless it was those that I paid.

12,377. Did you offer any money to Richard Harris ?—No; that I will swear.

12,378. You are quite certain about it ?—Yes; I never spoke to the man about money at all, I never spoke to him about his vote even.

12,379. You were present, were you not, at the White Lion when Wathen was taken away ?—Maysey called on me at the Dolphin, and I went along with him to the White Lion.

12,380. What did he call on you for ?—To go along with him as far as the White Lion; he said there was a man named Wathen there.

12,381. What were you to do when you got there ?—We were to bring him out of there and take him where he came from, St. Margaret's Hospital; and they brought him out and took him into Fred. Hamman's public-house close by, the King William.

12,382. Instead of taking him to the hospital they took him to the King William ?—Yes, close by.

12,383. There were a great many of you there for that purpose, were there not ?—No, only three of us went up, me and Maysey, and Leach, a labouring man.

12,384. A fighting man ?—He pretends to be, you know.

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O. Clutterbuck.
8 Oct. 1859.

12,385. Maysey says he is a fighting man?—Not to my knowledge.

12,386. Were there not as many as six or eight persons there?—When we got there they did not go up with us, I did not know they would be there; I had not the least thought in the world of their being there.

12,387. Do you not know a man named Clements, a sweep?—I know him, but he was not there.

12,388. You swear that?—I have sworn it now on that book.

12,389. You swear that he was not there?—I swear that if he was there I did not see him.

12,390. You got hold of the old man, did you not, called Wathen?—We carried him out.

12,391. You carried him off his legs?—Yes.

12,392. Did not the old man resist as far as he could?—No, not in the least, no more than I am now; he said, "Do not hurt me!" and cursed and swore.

12,393. He did not resist at all?—No.

12,394. Did he not cry out?—No more than "Do not hurt me!" There was two or three women there, and they said, "You are in good hands now, "Mr. Wathen; depend upon it you will not be "hurt."

12,395. Did you notice that his coat was torn nearly off his back?—Not a thread of it was hurt.

12,396. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is he living?—Yes.

12,397. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You took him to the public house?—Yes; I did not take him, but the party did. They carried him out of the house; I helped carry him out of Orpin's into the street at the back, and then we took him into the front, and he was carried from there to the King William; it is very likely I helped carry him all the way.

12,398. Is the King William a house in the interest of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

12,399. Did Maysey tell you he had taken him to Joseph Lane's afterwards?—Not a word was mentioned to me about it; but I know he did go there, because when we went into Orpin's and took him to Hamman's he went along with a man named Stratford, that was along with Wathen protecting him; there was a fly came there, and took him away.

12,400. Who was in the fly when it came up?—There was Leach and a man of the name of Bick. I think there were three or four of them.

12,401. Leach and Bick and some others were in the fly?—Yes.

12,402. You knew what the fly went there for?—I did.

12,403. What?—To fetch old Wathen away, to take him from there; but I did not know they were going to take him up to Lane's at the time. I heard of it afterwards.

12,404. Did Maysey tell you?—No, he did not.

12,405. Did not Maysey tell you or ask you to go up to the White Lion for the purpose of getting Wathen, to take him home, and prevent him voting?—Not to prevent him from voting. He said we was to take him away from that house, but not a word was said about his not voting.

12,406. All that Maysey said was, "Come up and "take old Wathen away from the White Lion"?—From Orpin's.

12,407. Did you talk to the old man about his vote?—Not a word, because he had promised his vote for Sir Robert Carden.

12,408. I suppose you have heard that he did not vote at all, have you not?—Yes; but he was brought back from Lane's on the day of polling.

12,409. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have not accounted for the whole sum you received?—No; I am indebted to the committee 3*l.* 4*s.*

12,410. Did you spend any money in treating besides what you have charged?—No; I am indebted to that amount.

12,411. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you ask Mr. Whithorn for the money, or did he give it you without your asking for it?—I asked him.

12,412. Did you tell him the names of the persons you wanted the money for?—No, only that I wanted the money for bribes.

12,413. What did Leach get for going to take away the old man Wathen?—Not a farthing to my knowledge; only a glass of beer.

12,414. Did any of the other men get anything?—It is unknown to me if they had anything except a glass of beer.

J. M. Butt.

JOHN MICHAEL BUTT sworn and examined.

12,415. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are an ironfounder?—Yes.

12,416. You were a supporter of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Yes.

12,417. Did you canvass for him?—Yes.

12,418. Did you bribe any one?—Yes; I bribed a man named Woodward.

12,419. George Woodward?—I do not know his Christian name.

12,420. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live?—In Sweetbriar Street.

12,421. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you give him?—I promised him 5*l.*, and I sent it to him.

12,422. (*Mr. Welford.*) You promised him 5*l.*?—He left it to me, and I gave him 5*l.* afterwards.

12,423. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you send it to him by Maysey?—After the election.

12,424. Did you give a paper to Maysey?—I did.

12,425. He was to give it to a stout woman, was he not?—Yes.

12,426. You gave that direction to him?—I did.

12,427. And that paper contained 5*l.*?—Yes.

12,428. In sovereigns?—In shillings.

12,429. To whom else did you give any money?—Not anybody.

12,430. Was that 5*l.* your own money?—It was.

12,431. Has it been repaid to you?—No, I was ashamed to ask for it.

12,432. Did you promise any money?—Not a shilling.

12,433. Not to any other person?—I did not.

12,434. Did you promise any money to Walter Welch?—I do not know him.

12,435. Did you bring any person into Gloucester on the day of the polling?—No.

12,436. You did not bring any one?—I did not.

12,437. Did you take any person to the poll?—No, I did not.

12,438. Do you know a person of the name of Thomas Taylor?—No, I do not.

12,439. You did not bribe him?—No, I never canvassed him.

12,440. You know who I mean, do you?—Yes; he is a freeman.

12,441. Did you make him a promise of any sort?—Not the least.

12,442. Nathaniel Brown?—I do not know him.

12,443. Are you quite certain that you have not offered Nathaniel Brown 10*l.*?—Decidedly.

12,444. Not at any time?—Not at any time, I will take my oath of it. I do not think I know the man. I will swear I did not do it to him or to any person during the election at all.

12,445. Did you take part in procuring the vote of Giles Taylor?—I saw him with Dr. Fletcher. I asked him where he was off to, and I called him back. He told me he was offered 10*l.*, and I said, "You had "better go and fetch it, then," and I left him in his own house and never saw him afterwards.

12,446. You were with him on the day of polling, were you not?—On the polling morning, not after that.

12,447. On the morning of the polling you were with him?—I met him on the morning of the polling in the street.

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12,448. Did you go to his house?—I went to his door.

12,449. And you swear that you did not offer him any money?—Not a shilling.

12,450. Although you did not offer any money to any person except the man whose name you have mentioned, did you direct any person to offer money to voters?—I did not.

12,451. Do you know of any persons that were bribed on the part of Sir Robert Carden, except the person whose name you have mentioned?—No, I do not.

12,452. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) Did you expect to receive back the 5*l.* which you paid to Woodward?—I was ashamed to ask for it.

12,453. How came you to bribe Woodward?—It was the morning of the election. He said he had been offered money by the other side, and I said, "You go and vote and I will see it all right." I left him there. I did not take him to poll. I would not swear that he did vote for Sir Robert Carden; in fact I do not know that I have looked at the poll-book since; I was so disgusted with the election. He lives opposite my foundry, and that was the reason I canvassed him.

12,454. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not make any offer to a person named Henry Cox, did you?—I do not know who he is; there are lots of Coxes.

12,455. A man who is an out-voter?—I do not know him at all. There is one circumstance I should wish to mention, I have seen in the paper a statement that Mr. Innell did not go into Hutton's shop; now I can mention many people who saw Mr. Innell in that shop.

12,456. You say you saw Mr. Innell go into Hutton's shop?—Yes, it has been put in the papers that I did not see him go into Hutton's shop, and I tell you I did see him.

12,457. (*Mr. Welford.*) When?—In the election week.

12,458. Can you fix a day?—In the election week, it was before the nomination.

12,459. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is there more than one entrance into Hutton's house?—I am sure I do not know. *J. M. Butt.* 8 Oct. 1859.

12,460. You cannot remember whether there is a private entrance?—No.

12,461. Were you sufficiently near to be able to say with certainty that you saw Mr. Innell there?—Yes, three or four people besides remarked it.

12,462. How far were you off?—Perhaps a hundred yards off at another shop-door opposite.

12,463. Across the street?—Yes.

12,464. In what street?—Northgate Street.

12,465. (*Mr. Welford.*) How came you to remark it?—Because we were on the alert making our arrangements for the canvassing.

12,466. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Will you undertake to say that he went up into the committee room?—No; I cannot do that, there were four of us together; there was John Ward and Mr. Maysey (it was Maysey's shop we saw him from), and Webb.

12,467. What Webb?—Alfred Webb.

12,468. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) As far as I remember the evidence, the statement made by Mr. Innell was, that he was never in the committee room?—I do not know what the evidence was, but I know I saw him go into the shop door.

(*Mr. Innell.*) I feel bound most positively to contradict the statement which the witness has just made. I never was in Hutton's shop once during the election, nor within about eight or nine days afterwards. I believe it was on the following Tuesday week, on a municipal election. I was asked by Mr. Wilton to meet a few friends there. I inquired where Hutton lived, and Mr. Webb (at whose door I was standing) told me where he lived.

(*The Witness.*) I have volunteered the statement, because seeing my name in the paper, I have the same desire to put myself straight with the world that any other gentleman has.

(*Mr. Vaughan.*) It is not a matter that we can inquire into; there is a statement made on one side and a denial of it on the other, that is all.

JOHN SMART sworn and examined. *J. Smart.*

12,469. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A licensed victualler.

12,470. Do you keep the Swan and Falcon?—Yes.

12,471. That house was frequented by the partisans of Sir Robert Carden at the last election, was it not?—It was.

12,472. Who did you bribe?—I bribed a man named Williams.

12,473. Where does he live?—I do not know in what part of the town he lives.

12,474. Is he a freeman?—I do not know whether he is a freeman or householder.

12,475. What is he?—A cabinet-maker.

12,476. The next?—William Brown.

12,477. Where does he live?—I think he lives in Mitre Street.

12,478. How much did you give to him?—3*l.*

12,479. To vote for Carden?—Yes.

12,480. The next?—Those are the only persons I know anything about.

12,481. Those are the only persons you bribed?—Yes.

12,482. Have you a father?—Yes.

12,483. Is he living?—Yes.

12,484. What is his name?—William Smart.

12,485. Did you give him any money?—No, he has no vote for the city.

12,486. Did you get any money yourself for your vote?—Nothing at all.

12,487. Did you offer money to any person?—No one but the two I have named.

12,488. Is there any account still due to you for refreshments supplied to voters?—There is one bill, I believe, that has been returned by Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove.

12,489. Not paid?—Unpaid.

12,490. For refreshments?—Yes.

12,491. Supplied at your house?—Yes.

12,492. To voters?—To voters.

12,493. How much is that?—64*l.* I think it is.

12,494. Has part of that bill been paid?—Nothing.

12,495. Nothing at all?—No.

12,496. You have received nothing?—Nothing.

12,497. Who told you to supply refreshments to voters?—Mr. Whithorn gave me the orders at the first commencement of the canvass.

12,498. What was the order that he gave you?—To supply a few of the men with beer and refreshment.

12,499. To let voters have it?—Yes.

12,500. That refreshment included spirits, I suppose?—Yes.

12,501. Beer, spirits, and tobacco?—Yes.

12,502. You had your house, I suppose, pretty constantly full, had you not?—At different times.

12,503. Was it a house to which voters were brought, and where they were kept?—They were never kept there.

12,504. Were they kept and treated?—They came backwards and forwards as they liked pretty well; they were never kept there at nights, or anything of the sort.

12,505. Were voters brought there and supplied with liquors?—They were brought sometimes.

12,506. And when they were brought, I suppose they had a pretty good quantity of liquor supplied to them?—Sometimes they would have a good drop, but generally a glass apiece.

12,507. They generally had a good drop, I suppose?—No, not generally.

12,508. Who were the persons that brought them?—Mr. Stamper, sometimes.

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J. Smart.
8 Oct. 1859.

12,509. Who else?—Mr. Maysey might bring in one or two, or something like that.

12,510. Who else?—I do not know that there was anybody else, not that I am aware of. I was not always at home, and I could not say who might come; I do not remember anybody else.

12,511. Mr. Stamper brought some in sometimes, and Mr. Maysey sometimes?—Yes.

12,512. Who else?—I do not know anyone else.

12,513. And when did this bringing voters to your house begin?—The early part of April.

12,514. Were voters brought to your house in the early part of April by Stamper, Maysey, and others?—Yes.

12,515. Did any of them come with recommendations or orders from Mr. Whithorn or anybody else?—No.

12,516. General orders were given to open the house by Mr. Whithorn?—He gave me orders at the first commencement.

12,517. Was your house very full on the night of the nomination?—There might be twenty in.

12,518. And there might be more, I suppose?—I do not think there were over twenty.

12,519. I suppose they had quite enough to drink, had they not?—I suppose they were all pretty well sober.

12,520. Did some stop all night?—Some stopped all night.

12,521. They were all voters, as far as you know, I suppose?—I could not say whether they were voters or not, for I am not much acquainted with electioneering.

12,522. But were they persons who were brought by your old customers, Stamper and Maysey?—Stamper was there the early part of the evening; he did not stop.

12,523. But he brought people there?—Yes.

12,524. Did some of the voters who were brought there by Stamper remain there all night?—Some of them did.

12,525. Did some of those brought by Maysey?—Maysey was not there. I think those that were brought were brought by Stamper; others came in of their own accord.

12,526 How many did Stamper bring?—Four or five, I think. I could not say, not to be certain, what number there were.

12,527. Seven or eight, perhaps?—No, not so many as that; four or five, perhaps, or something like that.

12,528. Did the jollification go on the next day, the polling day?—Very little.

12,529. Do you know the names of any other persons that were bribed?—No others besides those I have mentioned.

12,530. You say that that bill of 64*l.* has not been paid; it has been sent in, has it not?—Yes.

12,531. Has any reason been given to you why it has not been paid?—No.

12,532. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you applied for the payment of it?—Yes, two or three times; but I never got any answer.

12,533. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Lovegrove has not refused to pay it, has he?—No; I do not think he did. I took the bill to him, and he said he knew nothing at all of it.

12,534. Did you take it to Mr. Whithorn?—I took it to him first, and he told me to take it to Mr. Lovegrove, and I took it to Mr. Lovegrove, and he said he knew nothing at all about it.

12,535. Have you told Mr. Whithorn that your bill has not been paid?—No; I have never spoken to him since about it.

12,536. I suppose you expect to have your bill paid, do you not?—I hope I shall.

12,537. What is your expectation about it?—I hope I shall get the money.

12,538. From Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Lovegrove?—I do not care much who I get it from.

12,539. Mr. Whithorn gave you the order?—He was the man who gave me the order in the first place.

12,540. (*Mr. Welford.*) From whom did you get the 6*l.* you paid to the voters?—Mr. Whithorn.

12,541. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When Mr. Whithorn gave you the order to supply voters with beer and refreshments, on whose behalf did you understand he gave you the order?—I took it that he gave it on behalf of himself.

12,542. Do you recollect what he said?—He said that if a few voters came, I was to let them have some beer.

12,543. Was that all he said?—Yes.

12,544. And you took that as an order?—I took it as an order.

12,545. As an order to run up a bill of 64*l.*?—I rather overstepped the mark by going so far as that.

J. Dyer.

JONAH DYER sworn and examined.

12,546. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—An innkeeper.

12,547. What is the name of your house?—The Three Cocks.

12,548. You were employed to canvass at the last election?—Yes.

12,549. On behalf of Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

12,550. Who employed you?—I had a note sent to me from Mr. Lovegrove's office.

12,551. Were you paid for your services?—Yes.

12,552. What were you paid?—6*l.*

12,553. Did that include expenses?—That was my charge for 24 days.

12,554. And you have been paid that?—Yes.

12,555. Did you pay any money?—Yes.

12,556–7. Did you bribe anybody?—Yes.

12,558. What money did you pay?—£3.

12,559. To whom did you pay it?—To Mr. Dadd, of the Leather Bottle.

12,560. What did you pay it him for?—For treating.

12,561. For treating at his house?—Yes.

12,562. From whom did you receive that money?—Mr. Whithorn.

12,563. For that particular purpose?—Yes.

12,564. Where does Dadd live?—In Leather Bottle Lane.

12,565. He keeps a public house?—Yes.

12,566. Had you any dinner at your house?—No.

12,567. Or supper?—No.

12,568. Did you furnish any refreshments to voters?—Yes.

12,569. Did you do so by order of any one?—No; I did it on my own account.

12,570. Have you been paid for it?—Yes.

12,571. By whom?—Mr. Whithorn.

12,572. Since the election?—Yes, 3*l.* 10*s.* my bill was.

12,573. And is that all you have received in addition to the 6*l.* you have been paid for your services?—Yes.

12,574. Did you offer any bribe to anybody?—No.

12,575. Do you know of anybody being bribed?—No.

12,576. Was the 6*l.* paid to you for your services as canvasser or for your vote?—For my services—twenty-four days canvassing.

12,577. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was your house a place at which the voters in the interest of Sir Robert Carden used to assemble?—Yes, sometimes they did.

12,578. Were voters brought there by other people?—Not that I am aware of. I heard that there was one voter brought there, but I was not at home.

12,579. Who did you hear was brought?—Henry Hancock.

12,580. Who brought him?—I do not know; I was not at home at the time.

12,581. When was he brought there?—I think it

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J. Dyer.

8 Oct. 1859.

was about the night before the nomination, or else on the nomination night.

12,582. And he was kept at your house?—Not long.

12,583. What was he brought there for?—I do not know; I was not at home. My mistress told me when I came home that he had been there.

12,584. Was Stamper in the habit of coming to your house?—Very seldom; he had been there.

12,585. Had he been there with voters?—No.

12,586. What did he come to your house for?—Merely to give me a call; perhaps he wanted to see me.

12,587. He came to pay you a friendly visit?—Yes.

12,588. Not at all connected with the election?—It was on the canvassing days.

12,589. And did Maysey come to your house?—Very often.

12,590. Did he bring voters there?—No.

12,591. He never brought voters at all?—No.

12,592. What did he come for?—Just the same as Stamper.

12,593. Merely to pay you a friendly visit?—He called me out.

12,594. Have the visits of Mr. Maysey and Mr. Stamper to you been so frequent since the election was over?—No.

12,595. Where is the Three Cocks?—In Three Cocks Lane, Westgate Street.

12,596. When Stamper and Maysey came into your house, did they not go there about voters?—They only came to ask me if I would go round to see some parties.

12,597. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know how many paid canvassers there were besides yourself?—No, I do not; I know there was one besides myself.

12,598. Who was that?—Franklin.

12,599. Do you know what he got?—I do not; I believe he got the same amount.

12,600. £6?—£6.

W. Greening.

WILLIAM GREENING sworn and examined.

12,601. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

12,602. Where do you live?—In Deacon Street.

12,603. What did you get for your vote at the last election?—I received no money for my vote.

12,604. Were you offered any money?—No.

12,605. Not by any person?—No; there was 1*l.* 16*s.* paid for me—settled for me for a debt to save me going to prison for 28 days.

12,606. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Monk.

12,607. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who paid the money for you?—Mr. Payne. I did not see the money paid; he gave a note for the money.

12,608. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that all the money you received?—Yes, except what I had as a messenger. I was a messenger on the committee.

12,609. This 1*l.* 16*s.* was settled as a debt for you by Mr. Payne?—Yes.

12,610. How much did you receive for being a messenger?—I think it was something about 3*l.* 10*s.*

12,611. As a messenger on whose committee?—Mr. Price and Monk's.

12,612. What did you do for it?—I went out when I was called upon. I attended the committee room.

12,613. Was that money paid you by Brewer Monk?—Mr. Probert paid me what I had the first week, and Mr. Monk paid me the remainder.

12,614. (*Mr. Welford.*) How long were you employed?—I cannot say exactly. I think it was nearly twenty days altogether. I do not know to a day.

12,615. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were generally speaking employed in drinking; that was your principal employment, was it not?—No.

12,616. Have you any doubt about it?—I took my share as far as it went.

12,617. And a pretty large share it was, was it not?—I can always do my part.

12,618. Do you swear that you did not receive any money at all from any person on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—No, I never did.

12,619. You never did at all?—No.

12,620. Do you mean to swear that you did not receive any sum of money besides the 3*l.* 10*s.* and the 1*l.* 16*s.*?—That is all.

12,621. That is all you got from any person at all?—Yes. I was up at London, and had my expenses for that; but that was from the other party. I had nothing but my expenses for that.

12,622. You were examined in London, were you not?—Yes.

12,623. And you were asked this question: "You "got 13*l.* altogether," and your answer was "Yes"?—In London.

12.624. Before the Election Committee?—I should like to know who I got it from.

12,625. You were examined, and the question put to you was, "You got 13*l.* altogether?" That was what the counsel said to you, and your answer was "Yes"?—I do not know what you mean. I had my expenses for being in London. I had no money given me except what I had for being on the committee.

12,626. If you swore in London that you had had 13*l.* altogether, you swore what was not true?—No.

12,627. It was not true if you swore that?—I did not have 13*l.*, I had no money from either party except what I have told you, and my expenses going up to London, the same as the rest.

12,628. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where did you sleep the night before the election?—At Mr. John Phelps's, at Barber's Bridge.

12,629. Who took you there?—William Probert asked me to go there from the Nelson, and I said I had no objection, and I went.

12,630. What were you taken there for?—To be out of the way of the other party.

12,631. When did you go over to Phelps's?—The Tuesday before the election, and I went from there on the Friday up to Barber's Bridge.

12,632. And when did you come into Gloucester to give your vote?—On the Saturday morning.

12,633. Where were you on the Tuesday and Wednesday night?—At Mount Pleasant, at another Mr. Phelps's.

12,634. When was the 1*l.* 16*s.* paid for you?—I did not see it paid; Mr. Payne gave a note of hand for it—he gave an I.O.U. for it.

12,635. How did you know it was paid?—Because I was told so after the election. The twenty-eight days was put on for me and he said I should not go to gaol for it.

12,636. Was not that given to you for your vote?—Yes it was, of course; of course I promised to vote. I always polled for the Liberal party, and I said of course I would do the same again.

12,637. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you got 3*l.* 10*s.* as messenger; was not it 3*l.* 13*s.*?—I am sure I cannot recollect.

12,638. Do you recollect what you stated to the House of Commons?—I had 13*s.* of young Mr. Stafford, that was the first lot; and the next week I had 15*s.* of Mr. Thomas Monk, and 5*s.*

12,639. (*Mr. Welford.*) You were employed at 3*s.* 6*d.* a day as messenger?—Yes.

12,640. And you considered it a pretty good job, I suppose?—Yes; I should not care if I had one just now.

12,641. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you had a pretty good share of the beer; did you ever pay anything for it?—No.

12,642. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not pay anything for what you had at Mount Pleasant, I suppose?—No.

Adjourned to Monday, at ten o'clock.

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Thirteenth Day.—10th October 1859.

H. Hawkins.

10 Oct. 1859.

HENRY HAWKINS called and further examined.

12,643. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some statement with reference to the evidence you gave on Saturday?—Yes; it is with reference to Henry Lane, senior. He came to me this morning, and told me that he had only asked me to lend him the money which I said I had given him; and I almost fancy that he may have asked me to lend it to him.

12,644. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not yourself consider it a loan at the time?—No, I did not; I believe not. There is one other thing I wish to state. Whether the print in the Chronicle is right or not I do not know. I am referring now to Tinkler. I was asked on Saturday whether Clements came to me, and asked me to go and see Tinkler respecting his vote; and it appears in the second edition of the Chronicle that I said I went and saw Tinkler. I wish to state that to the best of my belief I never spoke to him in direct language in my life, or alluded to him in any manner; but Clements I have spoken to hundreds of times. Then as to Samuel Mills, it is stated that he lived in St. Katherine's. He is living in fact in St. Mary-le-Crypt. I almost think I did say St. Katherine's.

12,645. What is the Christian name of Mills?—I do not know his Christian name.

12,646. Have you any other statement to make?—No.

D. Clarke.

DANIEL CLARKE sworn and examined.

12,647. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In California.

12,648. What are you?—A confectioner by trade; a baker and confectioner. I was obliged to give up my business on account of the state of my health.

12,649. You are a voter, are you?—I am.

12,650. For whom did you vote at the last election?—The two Liberals.

12,651. Did you receive anything for your vote?—Nothing at all.

12.652. Were you offered anything for your vote?—Nothing at all.

12,653. What money did you pay to any person?—I paid Brown three sovereigns.

12,654. What Brown is that?—William Brown.

12,655. Where does he live?—In King Street.

12,656. What is he?—He is one of the choristers at the cathedraal, and repairs musical instruments.

12,657. You paid him three sovereigns for his vote for Price and Monk?—To vote for Monk.

12,658. To whom else did you pay money?—No one.

12,659. From whom did you receive the three sovereigns?—I received them of Joseph Moss.

12,660. Is that all that you had to do with the election?—It is.

12,661. You have been very ill, have you not?—I have been very ill indeed. It was 5*l.* I had of Moss; and on the Friday night and Saturday in treating one and another I spent the other 2*l.*

12,662. Did you spend that in treating voters?—Yes.

H.K. Whithorn.

HENRY KEAR WHITHORN called, and further examined.

12,663. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you now prepared to give us an account of the mode in which you expended the money that you received from Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; but before doing so, perhaps you will allow me to say that on looking at the report of my evidence as given in the Gloucester Chronicle and in the Times, I find that there is a slight discrepancy as to the time I stated my funds to have been exhausted in the committee-room. In the Chronicle they say it was between half-past eight and nine, and in the Times they say from nine to ten. I believe the latter report to be the more accurate one.

12,664. You are prepared now to give us an account of the mode in which you expended the money you received from Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes.

12,665. You gave us a portion of the account on Friday; but it may be better that you should begin from the beginning, and show in what way the 1,000*l.* was expended?—I will give you, if you please, first of all the names of the parties to whom I paid money on the night previous to the election.

12,666. If you please?—On the evening of the nomination I gave Mr. Charles Hawkins 26*l.*; Mr. John Biddle Hanman 28*l.*

12,667. He is a grocer, is he not?—Yes, he is. To Mr. Ward, as I believe I told you before, 170*l.*; that is, I gave him 120*l.* then and 50*l.* in the morning. To Mr. Henry Smart, a bookbinder, I gave 20*l.* I think that is all the money I parted with on that night.

12,668. That is the night of the nomination?—Yes. Early in the morning of the polling I gave Mr. Stamper 60*l.*, Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck 150*l.*, Mr. William Parker 40*l.*, Mr. James Maysey 67*l.* or 70*l.*, I am not positive which; it was either one or the other; I have put it at 67*l.*; to Mr. Frederick Hanman 20*l.*

12,669. Is Mr. Frederick Hanman a grocer also?—No, he is not.

12,670. What is he?—He is a tailor, I think; and Mr. John Smart of the Swan and Falcon 9*l.*; that is all that I got rid of in large amounts.

12,671. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that 9*l.* which you gave to John Smart for his own vote or for the votes of other persons?—I gave it to him to give to others. I should say with regard to Mr. Smart, that I did not know for what purpose it was; I gave him the money, and took his receipt for it. He said he was requested to come to me from Mr. Lovegrove, and I gave him the money. I should not have parted with the money but for this reason, that I had received an application from Mr. Lovegrove for a loan of 20*l.*; I thought probably it might be with reference to that, and knowing him to be a respectable man I gave him the money.

12,672. Mr. Lovegrove told us there had been an application made to him?—But I wish you to understand that with regard to that 20*l.* I did not give it to him for the purpose of bribing the voter. I merely gave it because he asked for it, and I took his receipt. I think you will find that the total of those sums is 590*l.* Now that was all the money I parted with excepting to voters.

12,673. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The remainder of the money you paid away yourself, I believe?—The remainder of the money I paid away or nearly all of it myself on the morning of the polling. There were some few payments made by me on the evening before. Thomas Cole of Westgate Street, fishmonger, came to me the day before the nomination, and asked me to let him have 8*l.* as a loan. I very well understood what the loan was for. I do not wish to disguise the fact; and let him have the money. I expected when I

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gave it him that he was going to plump for Sir Robert Carden, but he divided his vote; and gave it for Carden and Monk. The next was a man of the name of John Perris.

12,674. What is Perris?—I think he is a shoeing smith.

12,675. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live?—He is described as of Westgate Street. He lives down in the Island, I think. He had been many times to the committee-room about his vote, and I pretty well understood what his meaning was; but he told me on the day of the nomination that if he did not get his money by seven o'clock in the evening he would go to the other party, and I thought it desirable to secure him, and I therefore settled it with him that evening.

12,676. How much did you give him?—£10. To a son of his, Charles Perris, who is described as of Westgate Street, I gave 5*l.* Then George Sterry of Westgate Street, a beerhouse keeper, said the other houses were having their houses open on the other side of the question, and unless I would give him something like 5*l.* he would not vote.

12,677. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—I think he is a householder.

12,678. In what parish?—St. Nicholas parish.

12,679. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you give him?—£5.

12,680. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the next?—Jeremiah Mann. He is described on the register, I think, as of St. Catherine's Knapp. He came to me the evening previous, and said he could get 8*l.* or 8*l.* 10*s.* for his vote on the other side of the question; and I gave him 10*l.* to secure him.

12,681. You are giving us now the names of the men to whom you paid money on the evening of the nomination?—Yes. Twice I canvassed Ephraim Houldey of St. Nicholas. When I first saw him and his wife, they told me they certainly should not vote for Mr. Price; they said they had a disposition for Sir Robert Carden, and they wanted to split their vote, which would have been of very little use to Sir Robert Carden, the contest being really between Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk. I pressed them very much. I did not make up my mind to settle with them at first, but I thought I should lose them, and therefore I gave her 9*l.*

12,682. That was the wife?—The wife. The husband was present.

12,683. Who was the next?— John Husbands, in the Southgate Street. I gave him 8*l.*

12,684. In what parish?—I think St. Margaret's. I think there is some little explanation due to Mr. Husbands upon that.

12,685. What is he?—A salesman; a clothes salesman. About six months ago (I think it was) previous to the election, he called on me, to say that he had sustained a loss by damage done to goods in his shop by some flood or sudden storm which he considered the parish authorities ought to make good to him; and he stated that he considered his loss amounted to 10*l.*; that he had made application to the authorities (I understood to Mr. Helps, for one); that he could only get 5*l.*, and did not expect he should get more. He said he thought it hard; and asked me to interest myself to get it for him; and I told him I would try to do so. It went on, and I did nothing in it. He afterwards made an application to me upon it; and I said then, that I would see into it, or something of that kind; but it struck me, knowing Mr. Helps so well, that if the man had applied to him, and he had said he would give him nothing, it would be of no use for me to see him about it, and therefore I did not name the matter to Mr. Helps; but I said I thought it might be done among a few of us, and that I would try and get him 5*l.* At that time the election was not in contemplation. I should mention, that there was a sum of 3*l.* which he considered to be due to him for the use of his rooms at one of the ward elections, and which I had promised him. He wished his rooms to be engaged, for which he was to have 3*l.*; but the rooms were never engaged. This demand that he had against me for the 8*l.* went on till the canvassing for the election commenced, and then he renewed his claim upon me for the 8*l.*, and I let him have it.

12,686. Would you have paid him that 8*l.* if it had not been for the election which was coming on?—With regard to the 3*l.* I certainly should have paid him that.

12,687. But you would not have paid him the 5*l.*?—He had no claim upon me for that in any way, further than that I told him I would try and get it for him. The 3*l.* I was pledged to him for, and I should have paid him that under any circumstances.

12,688. Did you not pay him either the 8*l.* or a portion of it for his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—He would not vote for us. He did as he did on a former occasion; he went from home.

12,689. Did you pay him the money or any portion of it to prevent him from voting on either side?—I cannot say I did not; I would not say I did not. I paid it the night before, and asked him this question, Would he go from home? I said, "I suppose you will go from home, as usual." He said, "That will depend on circumstances." He said he did not know whether he should or not. I do not think that a word passed about his vote further than that. He has told me since, I think, that he named it to the Reverend Mr. Hardwicke, or that Mr. Hardwicke had said something to him upon it; had asked him whether he got his money from the Blues, and he also told me that Mr. John Wilton knew of it, and requested him to let him take his deposition in writing upon it, which he said he had refused to do.

12,690. With regard to the other persons you have named, did you give the several sums you have mentioned to them for their votes for Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

12,691. You paid the money to those persons on the evening of the nomination day?—Late in the evening.

12,692. Now as to those you paid on the day of the election?—All the rest are persons I paid in the committee-room, and those were nearly all of them persons who were brought to me by some person or other.

12,693. Who is the first?—The first is Edwin Bourne of Water Street.

12,694. How much did you give him?—£8.

12,695. He was brought to you by whom?—I will tell you all that passed between us. He came to me several times. He had not promised. His politics, if he has any, I should say are decidedly Conservative. He had never voted otherwise than Conservative; and I do not believe that the man ever had a shilling for his vote until this occasion; he told me so, and I do not think he had. He gave me his reason. He said that he had large temptations offered to him; that he knew that money was going about, and he did not see why he should not have it as well as others.

12,696. Is he a freeman?—I understand he is a freeman.

12,697. Who is the next person?—Henry Richard Bourne of Saint Mary's Square.

12,698. Is he a brother of Edwin Bourne?—I do not think he is; he may be related.

12,699. Is he a freeman?—Yes. Henry Richard Bourne, John Bourne of St. Mary's Square, and William Bourne of St. Mary's Square.

12,700. How much did you give them?—Those three men were brought to me (I should not know them if I were to meet them) by Mr. Maysey, and I gave them 8*l.* each. The next is Thomas Baylis of Dean's Walk, St. Katherine's.

12,701. How much did you give him?—That was a man who was brought to me by Mr. Maysey; he brought him to me in the committee-room.

12,702. How much did you give him?—£10.

12,703. Who was the next?—William Bailey.

12,704. In what parish does he live?—St. Nicholas.

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H.K. Whithorn.
10 Oct. 1859.

12,705. How much did you pay him ?—£6.

12,706. Who brought him ?—I forget; I almost think he came himself. I know him perfectly well. Thomas Butler of Westgate Street; he is of St. Nicholas parish.

12,707. How much did you give him ?—£5.

12,708. Was he brought to you by any person ?—I do not think he was. The next is Henry Browning. He is the man you referred to the other day when you asked me whether I had slipped six sovereigns into his pocket, and I told you I did not, nor did I; but Mr. Ward brought him to me, and he had 6*l.* He promised that he would vote a plumper for Sir Robert Carden, and went and voted for Price and Monk.

12,709. What street did he live in ?—Mercy Place, he is described to be of. He is a freeman.

12,710. The next ?—Benjamin Cooke; that is in Westgate Street.

12,711. How much to him ?—£10.

12,712. Who brought him ?—Some one brought him, but I really cannot say who. He is described as of the Island.

12,713. Who is the next person ?—The next person is George William Drinkwater. He is described as of Barton Street.

12,714. How much did you give to him ?—£5; and James Drinkwater of the back of Barton Terrace.

12,715. By whom was Drinkwater brought ?—The two Drinkwaters were brought to me, I think (but I am not certain), by a man of the name of Haines.

12,716. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you give to James Drinkwater ?—I gave 5*l.* each to the two Drinkwaters.

12,717. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Haines ?—I do not know; I am not certain whether he was the person, but I knew the Drinkwaters perfectly well, and I gave them the money.

12,718. What is the Christian name of Haines ?—I do not know his Christian name.

12,719. What is he ?—I think he is a tailor.

12,720. Do you know where he lives ?—I do not. I dare say I can get that information for you.

12,721. Now the next ?—The next would be Charles Hatch. I believe he is a tailor. I do not know where he lives. He was brought to me by Mr. Maysey.

12,722. Is he a freeman ?—He is a freeman, I believe.

12,723. How much did you give him ?—£10.

12,724. Now the next ?—The next was Jesse Hooper of Westgate Street.

12,725. In what parish ?—St. Nicholas.

12,726. What is he ?—I think he is a marine store dealer, but I do not know.

12,727. How much did you give to him ?—£8.

12,728. Who brought him ?—He came to me. I knew Hooper very well.

12,729. He came by himself ?—Yes; he was not brought by anybody.

12,730. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is Hatch a freeman ?—He is a householder.

12,731. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did he get ?—£8.

12,732. Now the next ?—James Hyett of Alvin Street in the parish of St John. There were three of the Hyetts. There was Charles Hyett of St. Catherine, and John Hyett, Alvin Street, and James Henry Hyett. Those three were brought to me by Mr. Maysey. They had 10*l.* each; and the father, I understood, had two pounds, which he claimed for expenses in going to Cardiff, and bringing one of these men to vote.

12,733. Which is the father ?—I understand it is John; I believe it was he.

12,734. Who is the next ?—Thomas Knight of Oxford Street. There was Thomas Knight and Henry B. Wingate and Francis Wingate; Henry B. Wingate of Cross Keys Lane. Those three men were brought to me by Mr. Ward, and at his request I gave them 10*l.* each. They promised to plump, and they all of them split their votes.

12,735. What is Francis Wingate's address ?—He is described as of St. Katherine's. They are all freemen. I think it is Frederick instead of Francis.

12,736. Do you know that he was bribed by Jacobs for 6*l.* ?—I did not know it till I heard it stated that he had been.

12,737. Did they split for Monk ?—Yes, I think they did; they all of them, I believe, divided their votes.

12,738. Who was the next ?—The next is Thomas Knight of Quay Street.

12,739. In what parish ?—St. Nicholas. I forget whether he came himself, or whether he was brought to me; I knew him very well. I gave him five sovereigns; that was Thomas Knight.

12,740. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is this another Thomas Knight ?—Yes; this is a man living in Quay Street.

12,741. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next ?—John Lake of Ashleworth. I quite forget who brought that man to me; somebody did. I knew him, and I had seen him several times on the canvass. He came to me several times, always wanting money; but I never told him that I should give him any directly; he began by stating, first of all, that he should have been very willing to vote for 5*l.*, but that he could have had 8*l.*; that he had been offered it by the other party; and at last he got up, and said he had been offered 10*l.* by the other party, and I gave 10*l.* in the committee-room.

12,742. Is he a freeman ?—I believe he is.

12,743. He came by himself, did he ?—I am not quite certain. I had seen him very frequently at the committee-room during the canvas; I should think he came half a dozen times.

12,744. Who was the next ?—William Loyd of Littleworth.

12,745. Is he a freeman ?—A householder.

12,746. How much did you give to him ?—£8.

12,747. Who brought him to you ?—I do not think he was brought by anybody.

12,748. Who was the next ?—Joseph Lodge of Lady Belle Gate.

12,749. In what parish ?—St. Mary-le-Crypt.

12,750. How much did you pay him ?—£4.

12,751. By whom was he brought ?—I would not be positive. I could not charge my memory. It is utterly impossible to be distinct as to the people who brought these voters; I give you the information as far as I can.

12,752. Well ?—Matthew Matthews of Littleworth.

12,753. How much did you give him ?—£5.

12,754. Was he brought to you by any one ?—He was not. He came to me on several occasions, and came to me that morning.

12,755. Now the next ?—Henry Meadows of Westgate Street.

12,756. How much ?—£4.

12,757. Was he brought by anybody ?—No, he was not.

12,758. Now the next ?—Thomas Meadows of Hare Lane. I think that is in St. John's; whether he was brought to me by Mr. Maysey or not I do not know; I would not be positive about it.

12,759. How much did you give him ?—£5.

12,760. Now the next ?—Thomas Miles of the Stonehouse Station. That man called on me at my office, I should think a week or nine days previous to the election, to thank me for some little kindness I had done him independently of the election, and he said he should feel a disposition to serve me by giving a vote for Sir Robert Carden, but that he must vote on the other side of the question, and that he would give me one vote, for which I thanked him, and thought that there it would have ended. I said, "Of course you will vote for Mr. Price;" and he said he should, but that he should vote for the two; but on the morning of the following day he came to me, and told me he could have very large sums on the other side of the question; that he

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should be very glad to serve me, but that unless I would give him 5*l.* he could not vote. I yielded, and gave him the 5*l.*; but I see by the polling that he went and voted on the other side.

12,761. You gave him 5*l.*?—I did.

12,762. Now the next?—The next is Charles Tombs of Dockham, a freeman.

12,763. How much did you give him?—£5.

12,764. With regard to that Miles, did he come of himself or was he brought to you?—He came of himself; he could not have been brought by anybody, because he called on me at my house.

12,765. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I think he said he was canvassed at the station at Stonehouse by some gentleman; were you the person that canvassed him there?—No; I only saw him on the two occasions I tell you of with regard to this election. He came to me at my office, and I saw no more of him till the day of the polling.

12,766. Did he come by himself?—I think he did.

12,767. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next?—Henry James Wilkins of Mercy Place.

12,768. A freeman?—A freeman. Whether Mr. Ward or Mr. Maysey brought him I do not know; I think it was either one or the other.

12,769. How much did you give him?—£5.

12,770. Who was the next?—Alfred Allen of St. Mary's Square. He was brought to me by a person named Henry Rea. He told me he had been offered 8*l.*, and that he would not vote unless he had 10*l.*, and I gave him the 10*l.*

12,771. In what parish is that?—St. Mary-le-Lode.

12,772. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How much did he get?—£10. Then there is a person of the name of Thomas Dorn. I gave him the money at the committee-room. I gave him 4*l.*, but I certainly did not give it him for his vote, nor did he ask me for it for his vote; it passed through my hands.

12,773. What did you give it him for?—He had been employed by me from the commencement of the canvass to the end of it. I gave him the money on the morning of the election, but it had nothing whatever to do with his vote. He asked me if I would give him the 4*l.*, and I did, but it was not in consideration of his vote.

12,774. What was it for?—He had been employed by me to watch voters; that was his principal employment. I had put him to watch certain voters in a certain district.

12,775. Where does he live?—I think in the Island.

12,776. In what parish is Thomas Dorn?—St. Nicholas.

12,777. Just call over the names and amounts?—Edwin Bourne 8*l.*, Henry Richard Bourne 8*l.*, William Bourne 8*l.*, Thomas Baylis 10*l.*, William Bailey 6*l.*, Thomas Butler 5*l.*, Henry Browning 6*l.*, Benjamin Cooke 10*l.*, the two Drinkwaters 5*l.* each, Charles Hatch 10*l.*, Jesse Hooper 8*l.*, James Charles Hyett 10*l.*, John Henry Hyett 10*l.*, and John Hyett again 10*l.* and his expenses 2*l.*, Thomas Knight 10*l.*, John Lake 10*l.*

12,778. There are two Wingates you have given us?—Yes; 10*l.* each; Thomas Knight 5*l.*, John Lake 10*l.*

12,779. I think you said Thomas?—I think it is John. There is only one Lake of Ashleworth. William Lloyd of Littleworth 8*l.*, Joseph Lodge 4*l.*, Matthew Matthews 5*l.*, Henry Meadows 4*l.*, Thomas Meadows 5*l.*, Thomas Miles 5*l.*, Charles Tomes 5*l.*, Henry James Wilkins 5*l.*, Alfred Allen 10*l.* You have got Thomas Dorn 4*l.*; that exhausts my list, except one person, a person named Henry Castle, and I will explain to you, if you please, exactly how it occurred.

12,780. Did you pay these different sums of money to the persons whose names you have mentioned for their votes for Sir Robert Carden?—All, except Dorn. I did not consider the payment of money to him a payment for his vote at all.

12,781. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does Castle live?—In Westgate Street.

12,782. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What do you say about him?—He came to me, I should think it was a fortnight before the election, and asked me if I would lend him 10*l.* He said he wanted it for a payment which he was anxious to make, and he said he would repay me if I would let him have it. His wife came to me in the course of a few days,—I did not promise him,—his wife came in a few days, and said her husband wanted the money very badly, and hoped I would lend it to him. Upon that I lent him the 10*l.*, and received a receipt for it. I am free to admit that I paid that money out of the fund of 1,000*l.* I did so afterwards, though I did not at the time. Whether it may be considered a loan, nothing being said about the vote, I do not know.

12,783. You paid that to Castle or his wife, for Castle's vote, did you not?—I could not say I did or did not; it is a very nice question to decide upon. It is very likely that if I had not lent the money he would not have voted. I think that very likely, but I should not like to say he would not.

12,784. What was the intention in your mind at the time, or what was your motive when you lent the money?—I did not mean to run any risk with my own money for it, I must confess. I did not mean to lend the money out of my own funds.

12,785. You did it for the purpose of promoting the success of Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—Well, I would not say I did not; still I have no doubt I can sue him for it; and make him pay me. I took his receipt for it.

12,786. Probably he would come forward and say that the money was given to him for his vote?—Let him, if he chooses.

12,787. What is his Christian name?—Henry Castle.

12,788. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do the sums you have given us make a total of 884*l.* out of the 1,000*l.*?—I make it 893*l.* 4*s.* Then there is a further sum of 9*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* which I paid to James Meredith, I think by Mr. Ward. I think Mr. Ward came to me for it, for an account that was due to him. He keeps a public house. There were some refreshments had there amounting to 9*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, and I gave Mr. Ward that amount.

12,789. Was that at the last election?—I did that on the day of the polling. The man had polled before, and wanted his account paid.

12,790. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the house?—The Star.

12,791. I make that 912*l.* odd?—I think I must have miscast it; I do not make it quite so much. I make it, with the 9*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, altogether, out of the 1,000*l.*, 893*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

12,792. That would be the case if you omit the money paid to Dorn. If you include Dorn's money it is 4*l.* more?—I do not include that, certainly. With regard to the balance of 106*l.*, I cannot give you any account whatever of it. I have gone over the list from beginning to end, and looked at it very carefully, with Mr. Maysey and Mr. Ward, and I cannot make out who had it, but that it went on the day of the election and for the purposes of bribery I can most positively state. I think it very doubtful whether I shall ever be able to give any further information with regard to who had it.

12,793. You cannot give any account of the balance?—I cannot, except that it did go for that purpose.

12,794. That is to say it went for the purpose of bribery?—It did most certainly.

12,795. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you pay it in the committee-room before ten o'clock?—I should think it was all gone then. I was at home, I believe, before eleven.

12,796. (*Mr. Welford.*) Having taken the whole of the money there, you know it was all expended in that room?—It was, because I kept it quite distinct from my own money. I never touched my own

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H.K. Whithorn.
10 Oct. 1839.

money, except during the canvass, when I had not received enough from Mr. Lovegrove.

12,797. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) After you had received the 1,000*l.* you did not touch your own money?—No, because my canvass account had ceased, and I kept the money always quite distinct. I should tell you, there was a man named Henry Rea or James Rea, I do not know which; he is described as of St. Nicholas parish; he came to me into the committee-room, and wanted very badly for me to give him 10*l.* He said he had been offered 8*l.* on the other side of the question. I never intended from the moment he came to give him a farthing, for I partly suspected who he was, but he hung about the room, and I could not get rid of him for a long time, wishing me to give him 10*l.* I gave him nothing. He voted against us. He evidently came there trying to get 10*l.* from us.

12,798. Is that the man who you say brought a voter?—No; that is another person; it is the same name. He told me that he had had 8*l.* offered for his vote by the other side, and that he would vote for us if I would give him 10*l.*; but I did not give him the 10*l.*

12,799. I understand you to say you have endeavoured by every means in your power to ascertain in what way you expended the other 106*l.*, and that you have failed to do so?—I have; I have devoted at least 24 hours to it, with the assistance of the persons I have mentioned.

12,800. In your last examination you said you were located on the morning of the polling in a room to which the voters who came for money had access?—Yes.

12,801. Who were the persons that came into the room between eight o'clock on the morning of the polling day and ten?—I should think the persons I have named; I should think no others. I avoided having anybody come near me; I wanted to be kept away from them as much as I could.

12,802. Do you mean that no persons of your own party came to you?—Yes; Mr. Taynton brought me the state of the poll frequently, and Mr. Ward and Mr. Maysey were with me nearly the whole of the time. I should not have been able to give you the information I have now given you if they had not been there.

12,803. But were there any others there who had taken an active part in the election?—I do not recollect anybody.

12,804. There were voters who were brought there by persons you do not remember?—They may have come with them, but the moment the voters were done with they went away. I do not know anybody besides those I have mentioned.

12,805. How came those voters to come to you who you say came by themselves?—I believe it was very well known what room I was in. I do not think there was any disguise about that.

12,806. They did not come by any previous arrangement?—No, none whatever.

12,807. Is the sum of which you have spoken the whole amount that you had in your possession on that day?—It is the whole amount I had during the whole election for any purposes connected with bribery; every shilling.

12,808. You do not consider that any portion of the 170*l.* that you paid before the day of nomination was applicable to or was devoted to the purpose of bribery?—No; I kept it perfectly distinct. I will give you an account of how I disposed of it, as nearly as I can.

12,809. Have you the list of the messengers that we were to have put in to-day?—I did not undertake to bring a list of the messengers. I know no more of the messengers than yourselves.

12,810. Can you say in what way the 170*l.* was expended?—Yes.

12,811. How do you account for it?—I will hand you in that account, if you please (*handing a paper to the Commissioners*).

12,812. Did you make out this account yourself?—I did.

12,813. It comes to 150*l.* altogether?—Yes. I am indebted to Mr. Lovegrove on that account 19*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* I have a balance in hand that I am indebted to him for. I kept the account daily. I generally put into my pocket so much money in the morning, and the next morning I took stock; that was the only account I did keep. As to keeping accounts at elections, it is utterly impossible almost to do so.

12,814. I think you can supply us with a list of public houses with respect to which claims have been sent in?—I can (*producing it*).

12,815. How have you made that list out?—It is made out from accounts that have been sent in to me.

12,816. Is it a list of the claims sent in to you?—Yes.

12,817. Which claims are still unpaid?—They are still unpaid.

12,818. Just read the names of the public houses and the amounts?—Mr. John Growtage of the Booth Hall 22*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* John Mann of the Victoria 2*l.* 3*s.* William Tandy of the Rising Sun 36*l.* John Tew of the City Arms 4*l.* 8*s.* James Westbury, Eating-house keeper, 9*s.* John Hanman, Grocer, half-a-crown.

12,819. I asked you for the public houses. You may pass that over?—Nathan Cotton, a beer and cider house keeper, 3*l.* Mrs. Maysey of the Globe 2*l.* Mr. William Watkins of the Cross Keys Lane 11*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.* William Lawrence of the Crown 3*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* William Hall of Alvin Street 4*l.*

12,820. Is he a beerhouse keeper or a publican?—I think he is a beerhouse keeper. George Giles of the Worcester Arms 2*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* Joseph Roberts, a beerhouse keeper in the Westgate Street somewhere, but where I do not know, 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Mrs. Smith, who keeps a public house called the Bell in Lower Barton Street, 3*l.* 16*s.* John Growtage of the Booth Hall, a further bill for horse hire, I think. I suppose you will omit that. That is 15*s.* only; it is for the hire of horses. Isaac James of the Talbot 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* John Fewins of Birdlip 17*s.* 8*d.* William Roberts, I do not know that there is any sign to his house, 3*l.* 3*s.*

12,821. Is he a beer-shop keeper?—No; he has a spirit licence. Anne Turk, New Inn, 17*l.* 15*s.* Mrs. Goreley of the Wellington 5*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* John Smart of the Falcon 64*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* Henry Pearce of the Green Dragon 6*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* John Dowding of the White Hart 5*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* John Tew of the City Arms (I suppose that is a second account; you had better take it so, as I have got it in this list, at any rate,) 6*l.* 15. Mrs. Gainey of the Pilot 14*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* George Jenkins of the Bolt Inn 8*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* William Holtham of the Spread Eagle 8*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* William Moreton of the Horse and Groom (that is a beer-house) 3*l.* 10*s.* Thomas Brewer of the Hope 13*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* And I do not know how this comes; here is James Gainey, for travelling expenses; that would not have to do with public houses.

12,822. How much is that for travelling expenses?—£5 15*s.*

12,823. Is that a son of Mrs. Gainey of the Pilot?—I do not know; I believe it is; I do not know him nor the woman either; I am told it is her husband; whether it is her son or husband I cannot tell you.

12,824. Are there any others?—Those are the whole.

12,825. What do you make the grand total of that?—£269 6*s.* 10*d.*

12,826. When were those claims sent in to you first?—They have all of them been sentin since the election.

12,827. Within what period since the election were they sent in?—I should think some of them within a month of it; but when these came to me I took very little notice of them; I threw them altogether, and did not, until within the last few days, look into them.

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12,828. May the Commissioners take it that those various claims were sent in to you within a month after the election?—Not all of them.

12,829. But the greater portion of them?—The greater portion of them were sent in, I should think, within a month or six weeks.

12,830. Did you communicate to Mr. Lovegrove that such claims had been sent in?—I communicated to Mr. Lovegrove that a good many claims were being sent in to me, but I assure you I never looked at them.

12,831. Did you communicate to him that a great many claims had been sent in to you for monies claimed by publicans to be due to them?—Yes. I think that a great many of these accounts might have gone into the auditor's account, from what I know of them. A great many of them were incurred by myself and Mr. Taynton, and persons who were about the committee-room, who went to these places to dinner, rather than go home, for the sake of getting back to the committee-room in a body, so that we should not disperse; and for a long while we hesitated whether we should not pay for ourselves.

12,832. However, you determined not to do that?—We did not do it. There are very few exceptions to that, except as to the larger amounts; the larger amounts we had nothing to do with.

12,833. Before the account was made up that was sent in to the election auditor, were you consulted with regard to it?—Not at all.

12,834. Were you consulted at all with regard to the supplementary account which has been handed in by Mr. Lovegrove?—Certainly not; I have never been consulted with regard to any account whatever.

12,835. Your committee-room was at the house of a Mr. Vick, was it not?—Our committee-room, until about two days before the polling, was at Mr. Vick's; about two days before the polling it was removed from there; on the polling day it was not there; the house was too small; the committee-rooms were within about two doors of each other.

12,836. I see there is a charge of 16*l.* 15*s.* for that; was that by agreement?—I cannot tell you.

12,837. You do not know anything about that?—I do not.

12,838. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was the name of the person to whose house you went on the day of the polling?—They were both void houses. They were taken for the occasion.

12,839. Was there a number to the house?—I cannot tell you. They were very nearly opposite to where we are now.

12,840. Were they the same committee-rooms that you had in 1857?—One of them was; that which we had on the polling day; it is a very large house.

12,841. It has a back way, I suppose?—It has.

12,842. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There is a charge for Mr. Thomas Eycott for rent and furniture 21*l.*; do you know anything of that?—I do not.

12,843. Were you not anxious to discover some quiet place to which voters might be sent?—No. There was a place that one man wished to be sent to, to get out of the way; that was Frog Mill.

12,844. Did you not inquire whether any quiet place could be found to which voters might be sent?—I am not aware that I did. I know Frog Mill was suggested, and I do not think we had any occasion for any other place.

12,845. I see here is a charge, "Mr. Williams, Frog Mill, refreshments, &c. for voters 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*"?—Yes; I think that was on the occasion of some voters wishing to be sent there.

12,846. Do you know the names of any persons who desired to be sent to that quiet place?—I forget the man's name; there was one man, I think.

12,847. Do you think that the charge of 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* applies to refreshments for one voter?—When a voter is sent to a place there is generally some one sent to take care of him, lest he should escape.

12,848. Is that the case when a man is sent at his own request?—I know that on these occasions you do not send them by themselves.

12,849. If a man wishes to be sent to a quiet place, to avoid the importunities of other parties, does he require to have somebody sent with him to take care of him?—If he is a weak infirm man he might be stolen if there was not somebody to take care of him.

12,850. Was the person to whom you refer a weak infirm man who required to be taken care of?—I do not recollect at present.

12,851. But there was only one person, you say?—I think there was only one. I am endeavouring to recollect who it was. I think I can tell you; I think it was a man of the name of Knight of one of the hospitals.

12,852. Is that one of the persons to whom you had paid money?—No, it is not; I know he had been endeavoured to be taken away, at least we suspected so, and that he went to this place.

12,853. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know how he voted?—For Carden, I think; I am not positive.

12,854. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And he went there at your suggestion?—I will not disguise the fact; it was so.

12,855. (*Mr. Welford.*) Or rather we may say he was taken there at your suggestion?—He was taken there at my suggestion.

12,856. To whom did you intrust him?—I think Curtis went with him part of the way, and Curtis's son, if I recollect right; he went very willingly, and was rather glad to go.

12,857. And therefore he required two persons to take care of him?—Two persons were not with him; one person was with him, Curtis's son; two went with him to the place, but one returned.

12,858. The publicans who sent in claims have sent in those claims for refreshments, I suppose, that were supplied to the voters or persons in the interest of Sir Robert Carden?—I cannot tell how they were supplied.

12,859. Have you not got the particulars?—No. They say it is for refreshments, but it is in a lump; it is not in detail.

12,860. Is it for refreshments supplied to voters?—Yes.

12,861. To whom are the bills made out?—The bills are made out to Sir Robert Carden.

12,862. You gave authority, did you not, to many of these people to open their houses?—No, certainly not. I do not know an instance of it; on the contrary, I checked it.

12,863. Do you mean to say you did not give authority to any of those parties whose names you have mentioned to supply refreshments to canvassing parties?—All those I did; the principal of those where we dined; but if you ask me whether I gave orders for any houses to be opened, I say no.

12,864. Did you give orders to any person to supply refreshments gratuitously to voters and canvassers in the interest of Sir Robert Carden?—Only on a particular day; not generally. Suppose we dined at a particular house, as to-day, I have told them to provide a dinner for a certain number.

12,865. If you dined at a particular house as to-day you would have given an order to the publican to supply a dinner for a certain number of persons?—To get a dinner ready for me and some one else at a certain hour on that day, and a certain number attended, and there it ended.

12,866. Do you represent to the Commissioners that the total sum you have given us as the amount of these bills relates to refreshments supplied to you and your friends?—Certainly not. There are two very large amounts to be taken off to begin with.

12,867. There is 64*l.* 10*s.*, the amount of John Smart's bill; did you not give him authority to open his house?—I did not.

12,868. Were you in court when Smart gave his evidence?—I was not.

12,869. Have you heard what evidence he did give?—I told him he must by no means do it. He

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H.K. Whithorn.
10 Oct. 1859.

told me there was a bill of 30*l.* run up; and I told him he had no authority to do it; none whatever.

12,870. Do you say that at the commencement of the canvassing you did not tell Smart to supply refreshments to voters?—A man came to me very early in the canvass, and wanted to see me. He said there was drinking going on at Smart's, and that they would not let him have any. I went to Smart, and told him by no means to let them have it. There were a good many people there; and Smart said, "I suppose I may let these people have it." I said, "As they are here you may let them have it, but go no further."

12,871. Do you consider that such persons as Stamper and Maysey were authorized to take voters to public-houses for refreshments?—Stamper had no authority from me to do it. He had no authority to run up any bill anywhere.

12,872. He was one of your paid canvassers?—I do not know that he was. I did not pay him.

12,873. He was one of your active canvassers, was he not?—He was.

12,874. And Maysey was, too?—Yes, Maysey was also; but I gave no authority to anybody to go to public houses. Generally speaking, you will see that where anything was done I paid for it.

12,875. Do you mean to assert that that claim of John Smart's of 64*l.* is a claim on you on the part of Sir Robert Carden which you are not prepared to pay?—Certainly.

12,876. Or any portion of it?—As far as I gave the order the day I was there I would admit it; but I do not admit the claim as to anything else, nor do I know any one els who would admit it.

12,877. You were at John Smart's yourself?—I may have gone there twice; I may have gone there when I have been canvassing. Some man, I remember, came to me, and said that some drink had been refused to him, and I went up to Smart's, and told him he must not let the people have any drink at all without some order. He said, "There are these people here;" and I think he showed me some in the kitchen; not many. I said, "You may let them have a little, but you must not let it go on."

12,878. This is a claim, you say, which is not admitted by you. What reason is there why that claim should have been excluded from both the accounts which have been sent in? There is the account which was sent in to the election auditor and the supplementary account, and neither of those accounts contains any mention of this claim made by Smart?—No.

12,879. Why should it not have been stated that there had been such a claim sent in, and that you disputed it?—I had nothing to do with that. These accounts were sent in to me, and that is all I know of them. I can go over the list, and tell you those I did participate in, and those I gave orders for.

12,880. What do you say about 36*l.* to William Tandy?—Some of the early portion of it, to the amount of 4*l.* or 5*l.*, I may be responsible for. I had no more notion of Mr. Tandy's bill amounting to 36*l.* than I have of flying.

12,881. Do you not think it will be a very great surprise to Mr. Tandy to hear that you only recognize his bill to the extent of 5*l.*?—He had no authority from me. I will not limit myself to 5*l.* I think there is a portion of Mr. Tandy's bill I may be responsible for beyond 5*l.*, but certainly not to the extent of 36*l.*

12,882. Now, Growtage at the Booth Hall; what do you say to that?—I believe that to be a legitimate claim.

12,883. What was it for?—The house was near to the committee-room, and dinners were sent for and refreshments had. There is no charge here for refreshments supplied to voters.

12,884–5. I see an entry in the account here of miscellaneous charges at the committee-rooms, twenty-four days, 25*l.* odd?—I know nothing of those accounts.

12,886. Would that comprehend the refreshments at the committee-room?—I should think it would not comprehend Growtage's.

12,887. Have you looked to see what the particulars are that are charged for in the different bills that have been sent in by the publicans?—There are very few of them that give particulars. With regard to Growtage's bill, I think all the particulars are correct. I will go over this list, if you please, and tell you what I believe I am responsible for and what I am not.

12,888. Do you know whether that account of Tandy's includes items for refreshments supplied to that part of the family of the Coopeys who were your supporters?—I cannot tell you. I do not know what it is for.

12,889. If you found that refreshments provided to the Coopeys were included in that bill would you be very sorry to disallow it?—I should not be anxious to allow it.

12,890. What is the amount charged for refreshments which you say you and your friends at different houses had?—I see the first on the list is Mr. William Watkins, 11*l.* 2*s.* and Miss Ann Turk; part, I should say not above one-half of that would be what I and Mr. Taynton and the clerks and other persons with us partook of. Then there is Mrs. Gorely.

12,891. You admit hers?—Yes; the whole of it; and Henry Pearce's, and John Dowding, and John Tew.

12,892. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Both his bills?—No; I think they are distinct. I think you will see one for myself and others. I cannot exactly explain what the other was for.

12,893. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are there any others?—Yes; George Jenkins of the Bolt and William Holtham of the Spread Eagle; that is all.

12,894. You admit those?—Yes. I, myself, I think, ordered them, for the reasons I have given you.

12,895. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We have had a list of the solicitors handed in by Mr. Lovegrove; but besides those solicitors there were other gentlemen who took an active part in the election?—Yes.

12,896. Did Mr. Richard Tew Smith take an active part?—He is not a solicitor.

12,897. But did he take an active part in the canvass?—Yes.

12,898. Where did he canvass?—I should think generally. When I say he canvassed generally, he did not canvass every day, but I should think he did many days there. There is a gentleman present who can give you that information much better than I can.

12,899. Who is that?—Mr. Buchanan.

12,900. Is that Mr. G. N. Buchanan?—Yes, that is the gentleman. I think he was pretty nearly every day upon it.

12,901. And a regular frequenter of your committee-room?—I think he was there most days; I will not be positive. It would be hard for me to say who of our friends was there most.

12,902. Was Mr. Henry Hughes there?—He was there.

12,903. Was he active?—Not so active as others were.

12,904. He was there very frequently, was he not?—Yes.

12,905. Captain Bradley?—Yes.

12,906. Mr. Hooper?—Yes, but he was not there a great deal.

12,907. Mr. William Nix?—Very little. He was from home most of the time.

12,908. Mr. Baxter?—No.

12,909. Mr. Lovegrove's brother?—His nephew I suppose you mean. I do not recollect seeing his brother there at all.

12,910. Mr. Lovegrove has a brother a surgeon, has he not?—Yes. I saw very little of him. He may have come, but I did not see much of him.

12,911. Mr. George Curtis?—Yes.

12,912. And Mr. William Curtis?—Yes; and a gentleman who was here this morning, Mr. Hawkins.

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12,913. Mr. John Hanman ?—Not a great deal; he was there sometimes.

12,914. Did all those gentlemen more or less canvass and take part in the election ?—I think they did.

12,915. And did they make returns of their canvass, do you know, to the committee-room ?—Some of them did ; but Mr. Taynton could give you better information upon that subject than I could. Mr. Taynton received all the returns.

12,916. But you were in frequent communication with those gentlemen, as well as with others, about the election, were you not ?—Certainly.

12,917. Do the names of any other gentlemen who were equally active suggest themselves to your mind ?—I do not remember any others at present. If I should think of any I will communicate them to you.

12,918. You say we should obtain information from Mr. Buchanan as to others ?—He could tell you who attended him on the canvass better than I could, a great deal.

12,919. I did not ask you as to that ?—That is what I meant.

12,920. I asked you whether you could inform us, or whether Mr. Buchanan could inform us, of the names of other gentlemen who were equally active with the gentlemen whose names you have now mentioned ?—I should not think he could do that.

12,921. Did you give any money to a person named Charles Jones ?—Not that I am aware of ; I do not recollect it at all.

12,922. Do you know who I mean ?—I really do not.

12,923. Did you promise to give Charles Jones any money ?—I am not sure that I did, for I do not know the man. What Charles Jones is it ? There is one Charles Jones that I know, the clerk of St. Michael; I know that man.

12,924. Charles Jones of St. John's Lane ?—I know him.

12,925. Did you offer him any money ?—No. He came to me, and wanted me to give him some money as a messenger, which I refused to do.

12,926. You did not promise to give him any money ?—No, I do not recollect it ; I have not the least recollection of having made him any promise. I know he came to me after the election was over, to be paid as a messenger ; that is what he came for. He thought he ought to be put on as a messenger.

12,927. And you refused to pay him anything ?—I did.

12,928. Was that with reference to any promise you had made ?—If I had made him a promise I would have performed it.

12,929. Did you ever offer any money to Isaac Blatchford ?—I gave Isaac Blatchford half a crown on the canvass.

12,930. Did you tell him what money he wanted he might have ?—No, I did not. I never expected he would vote for us. I knew him very well.

12,931. Did you tell him you would always be a friend to him ?—No, nothing of the sort. I have known him pretty well all his life.

12,932. Do you know a person of the name of George Beckley ?—Yes.

12,933. Did you tell George Beckley that you would do what you could to get his son out of the Military Train ?—George Beckley originally promised to poll for Sir Robert Carden ; he gave me his positive promise to plump for Sir Robert. Carden. Some few days afterwards, rather early in the canvass, he wished to make me believe that he had not done so. I saw him many times ; I called in upon him ; I passed his house most days, and he persisted in it that he could not vote for Sir Robert Carden, and gave out that he wanted to get his son discharged from the Military Train, and held out that some friends had promised to do it for him, through Captain Robertson. I said, "If others can get your "son out of the Military Train, perhaps we might "be able to do the same." That is all that passed between us.

12,934. Did you tell him that your party had great interest in those matters, and could easily do what he required if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I did nothing of the sort. He told me that he had a promise that his son should be discharged from the Military Train. I think he told me it would cost twenty guineas, and that the money was to be found for him.

12,935. Who was to find the money ?—I cannot say. He said Captain Robertson was interesting himself to get it done, and it would be done. I told him that as far as interest went (I did not say a word about money) probably we could do as well as they.

12,936. Did you not say that your party had great interest ?—No. I told him that if one party had any interest to get him off, we had the same interest.

12,937. Did you tell him that if he would not vote for your party, means should be taken to prevent his son being bought off ?—I never said anything of the kind, or hinted at it.

12,938. Nothing of the sort ?—Nothing of the sort. If he states that I did, he states a very great untruth. I have given you nearly the whole conversation that passed between us with regard to that, and that was a day or two before the polling ; not many days before. I think I have given you pretty well the substance of all that passed between us.

12,939. Did you ask him what regiment his son was in ?—No.

12,940. Did he say he was in the Military Train ?—No ; I do not recollect anything of the sort.

12,941. You did not say that your party had great interest in those matters, and could easily do what he required if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No. I merely stated that if they had interest I thought we might have the same. He told me that interest was going to be used for him, and that he had got the promise of it.

12,942. Did you say that if he did not vote your way means should be taken to stop his son being bought off ?—I never said anything of the kind, or even thought of it, much less said it.

12,943. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did the conversation you had with this man imply that you would assist him in finding the money to buy off his son ?—Certainly not.

12,944. I think you say that you took the whole of the thousand pounds into the committee-room and disbursed it there ?—Yes.

12,945. Did you tell Mr. Lovegrove that you had disbursed it ?—No, I did not. I do not think he knew of the actual disbursement of it till last night.

12,946. You mean that he did not know of the mode in which it had been disbursed ?—No ; nor that it was all disbursed.

12,947. Did you lead him to believe that any considerable portion of it remained in your hands ?—No. I studiously avoided talking to him about it. I knew that the petition was going on. I had some notion of doing it after the petition was over, and I should have done so had it not been for the state of my health. I had been very unwell, and my medical attendant advised me to leave home.

12,948. Then in fact you never communicated to Mr. Lovegrove that any balance remained in your hands ?—He may have suspected it ; I do not think anything passed between us about it. I am certain, at all events, it was not till after the election petition, and then he might have said something about having an account of it. I dare say Mr. Lovegrove felt satisfied he would have it.

12,949. But you having expended the whole of the money in the committee-room could not have led Mr. Lovegrove to believe that any balance remained ?—I never led him to believe either way. He was as ignorant of what had become of it as you were. I think it exceedingly likely that if my health had been as it ought to have been, after the petition was over I

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H.K. Whithorn. 19 Oct. 1859.

should have gone fully into the accounts with him, and I should have been prepared to give them to you without asking for any adjournment.

12,950. Was any bill incurred at the Pelican ?—Not that I am aware of.

12,951. Do you know a man named Thomas Evans ?—Very well.

12,952. Did you employ him or pay him during the election ?—I gave him two 10*s.*, which you will see in that account ; that is all I ever gave him.

12,953. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) With reference to the envelope which was picked up in the committee-room, did you, when you saw it, recognize the hand writing ?—I could not ; in fact I hardly know that I took notice of the handwriting, for I was so astounded when, having taken it for 5*l.* note, I found it was a note for 500*l.*, that I did not pay much attention to the envelope, except that I thought it a very loose mode of sending money.

12,954. Who gave you the envelope ?—Mr. Taynton.

12,955. Have you got the envelope now ?—I am sure I have not.

12,956. (*Mr. Welford.*) You probably suspected that the person who left the envelope was not very far off ?—I had no suspicion at all about it ; I did not at all expect to receive it in that way.

12,957. Was there a postmark upon it ?—I think not ; I think it was delivered by hand ; I do not think there was any post mark. Mr. Taynton picked it up before me. I think if there had been a postmark upon it I should have looked at it.

12,958. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You gave the money to Mr. Lovegrove ?—Not till the other half came ; the second half.

12,959. You communicated I suppose to Mr. Lovegrove that you had gt the half of a 500*l.* note ?—Yes.

12,960. Did you and he discuss the matter, as to who it came from ?—No ; but I had a strong suspicion in my own mind ; it was impossible for me to say, but I suspected.

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined.

12,961. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Will you give us to-day a list of the messengers ?—It is now being completed, it is a complicated list ; and my clerk, with Mr. Maysey and Mr. Ward and several others, is now completing it, in the form you required it. It will give you the names of the messengers, and will distinguish the voters and non-voters, and those related to voters, with the amounts paid to them, and the dates when they were engaged. It is rather a complicated account, and I have not been able to complete it yet. You shall have it either this evening or to-morrow morrow.

12,962. I will reserve any question with regard to messengers till you have put in that list ?—If you please.

12,963. Did you not know, at the time when the auditor's account was made out, or at the time when the supplementary account was made out, that there were claims outstanding for refreshments supplied at different public houses to a large amount ?—When the supplementary account was made out I did know of a portion of them, but inasmuch as Mr. Whithorn had the entire charge of that branch I expected they would be produced by him.

12,964. You mentioned on your previous examination some four or five accounts of publicans that you knew had been sent in, but you could not tell us very well the amounts of them. The accounts now appear to have amounted to upwards of 260*l.* odd, supposing them to be paid ?—Yes. I am much astonished at the amount.

12,965. You are much astonished at it ?—Yes.

12,966. Have you examined those accounts with Mr. Whithorn ?—Last night I called at Mr. Whithorn's, and went through the accounts with him roughly. From his statement I should think some of them might very fairly be paid ; and from inquiries I have made as to treating at Smart's house, a portion of that account also, I should say, would be very fairly due.

12,967. May we take it as your opinion that the greater portion of those accounts would be properly payable ?—I think so. I should recommend Sir Robert Carden to pay them.

12,968. The account rendered to the auditor I understood was an account of payments actually made ?—No ; of claims sent in. They are not all paid. They are all paid, except, I think, about 300*l.*

12,969. You have not received from Sir Robert Carden money for the payment of those accounts ?—Not if the 500*l.* I found is taken into account. There is 350*l.* or 360*l.* or nearly 400*l.* due to me upon the general account at the present moment in cash.

12,970. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is that laying aside the 800*l.* which you said was appropriated to the petition ?—Yes ; quite exclusive of that.

12,971. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you have received from Sir Robert Carden 1,171*l.* ?—That is the amount.

12,972. Do I understand that there are claims which are not satisfied even at the present time included in this account rendered to the auditor ?—Yes ; about 350*l.*

12,973. Will you just mark those items, and while you do so mention them by name ?—The account rendered prior to the nomination, 22*l.* 12*s.*, would be paid; clerks 61*l.* would be paid; inspectors, 18 guineas, would be paid ; bill posters, 7*l.* 10*s.*, would be paid.

12,974. Can you state those that are not paid instead of those that are paid ?—The balance due to Mr. Walter Clutterbuck is not paid.

12,975. £77 ?—Not the whole of it ; he has had 15*l.* on account of that. Messrs. P. and C. Cooke, 25*l.* 4*s.*, is not paid ; J. Buchanan, 15 guineas, not paid ; John Boughton, 10 guineas, not paid ; Messrs. Holland and Gregory, 6*l.* 4*s.*, disputed, and not paid; Mr. J. Halls, 15 guineas ; Mr. Henry Rea, 10 guineas, disputed, not paid a portion of it; Miss Marsh, 38*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, not paid ; Drivers, 11*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, not paid (that was paid by Miss Marsh) ; William Lea, 6*l.* 5*s.*; James Tidmarsh, 1*l.* 4*s.*, not paid ; Edwin Merritt, 5*l.* 15*s.*, not paid ; John Robins, 16*l.* 1*s.* ; Cab Company, 19*l.* 18*s.*; D. Williams, 1*l.* 10*s.*; Messrs. Reynolds, rent. I do not think that is paid.

12,976. How much is that ?—Five guineas. William Sterry, 2*l.* 10*s.* ; Mr. Perrins, 22*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* ; Abbott Barton, and Company, disputed, 10*l.* 10*s.* ; Mr. Nest, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; Nathaniel Bretherton, 21*l.* 3*s.*; Gloucester Chronicle and Gloucester Journal, 26*l.* 18*s.*

12,977. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you cast those sums up ?—No ; I do not know what they come to at all. They ought to come to about 350*l.* or 330*l.* ; I am not quite sure.

12,978. The vouchers that were handed in do not comprehend any vouchers for these various sums which you say are not paid ?—No, I think not, because I had those vouchers with a view to the payment of the bills.

12,979. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I think you said, either on Thursday or Friday last, that, with the exception of two sums, a sum of 19*l.* 11*s.* that was paid to Mr. Taynton, and a sum of 53*l.* 10*s.* paid to Mr. James Maysey, you did not know yourself of any illegal expenses ?—No. I think you will find that I treated that list of extra payments as illegal, as to a portion of it.

12,980. I understood you to say that with the exception of those two payments you looked upon all the others as legal ?—Yes.

12,981. That is so, is it not ?—Yes ; that is so. There is an item to Keveran of five shillings. I

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do not know what that was for; and some gratuity to Merrett of a shilling.

12,982. With respect to all the claims that have come in, whether included in the account you have sent in to the auditor, or whether included in the account sent in to Mr. Whithorn, do you say, with the exception of those payments of 19*l.* 11*s.* to Mr. Taynton and 53*l.* 10*s.* to Maysey, the others are legal expenses?—I think as to all these there is no objection to their being included in the auditor's account.

12,983. Which is that you are referring to?—This which I have here is a copy of the extra payments; it is a copy of that which you have before you. I do not known whether you are speaking of Smart's and the public-house bills.

12,984. I am speaking of all the bills?—Those payments would be illegal for treating and all that kind of thing.

12,985. In this supplementary account there is Skinner for refreshments for canvassers 6*l.* 16*s.*?—That is legal, if confined to refreshments for canvassers.

12,986. Mrs. Williams, Frog Mill, refreshments, &c. for voters 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*?—If the voters went there willingly, that would be a legal expense.

12,987. You had nothing to do with the selection of a quiet place, I suppose?—No, nothing.

12,988. You stated, on your last examination, that you did not know at all where the first half of the 500*l.* note came from which was found on the table of the committee-room?—Except that I supposed it would come from Mr. Bernard.

12,989. Excepting your supposition?—Except my supposition that it came from Mr. Bernard.

12,990. Had you any knowledge where it came from?—None whatever.

12,991. You had no knowledge whatever?—No.

12,992. The second half was sent to your house?—It came with my own letters by post in the morning.

12,993. Do you undertake now to state that the first half was not sent to your house?—I do most positively.

12,994. The first half of the 500*l.* note did not come to your house?—No.

12,995. Nor to your office?—Nor to my office.

12,996. If it had come either to your house or to your office you must have known it?—Certainly.

12,997. Are you certain that the statement you made on Thursday is correct, that you did not request Mr. Bernard to send any money down to Gloucester for the purposes of the election?—Certainly; I did not request him to do so. I merely gave him the history of the case, and informed him that it would be desirable to have a fund of 1,000*l.* provided; that it was Mr. Whithorn's opinion that a fund of 1,000*l.* should be provided for the election.

12,998. Did you request him to make any statement at all to Sir Robert Carden, that any sum of money would be required for the election at that time?—No, certainly not. Of course I could have made such a statement myself if I had felt it prudent to do so.

12,999. What induced you to make the statement to Mr. Bernard, that a fund of 1,000*l.* would be required?—In consequence of his inquiry into the prospects of the election, and the impression that without money, seeing the profuse expenditure on the other side, we might not be able to carry the election.

13,000. What special reason was there why you should mention it to Mr. Bernard more than to anybody else?—From the fact of his being a friend of Sir Robert Carden's, and from the fact that in 1857 he had made an advance of 100*l.* to Mr. Whithorn, for (as I understood at that time) monies expended by him upon the canvass.

13,001. To Mr. Whithorn?—Yes. I believe he also made a further advance of 100*l.* after the election, to Mr. Whithorn, for monies out of pocket or something of that kind; but it did not come through me.

13,002. Was it from the circumstance that money had been advanced for the purpose of the election of 1857 by Mr. Bernard that you thought it probable that if in 1859 you stated to Mr. Bernard that a fund of 1,000*l.* would be required he would take means to procure an advance of that sum?—Yes, I think I may say that was so.

13,003. Did the first sum of 100*l.* which was advanced in 1857 come to your hands direct from Mr. Bernard?—I am not quite sure. I think it was a cheque that Mr. Bernard gave himself to Mr. Whithorn in consequence of a conversation I had had with him.

13,004. You think the first 100*l.* was a cheque of Mr. Bernard's to Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

13,005. In consequence of a conversation between you and Mr. Whithorn?—No; between me and Mr. Bernard.

13,006. You say Mr. Bernard gave a cheque to Mr. Whithorn for the first 100*l.* in consequence of a conversation between you and Mr. Bernard?—I think that was the transaction.

13,007. As regards the second 100*l.*, how came that to be advanced?—I really forget the circumstances of it. I have not seen Mr. Bernard, or had any communication with him upon the subject, and therefore I could not be reminded; but really I can not recollect whether Mr. Whithorn had it directly from Mr. Bernard or not; I am not sure at all.

13,008. (*Mr. Welford.*) Or whether you had it?—I do not think it was advanced till after the election; that is my impression.

13,009. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you undertake to represent that no money was paid to any other person which was the produce of cheques of Mr. Bernard before the election of 1857?—I really would not undertake to say there was not, but I do not remember it.

13,010. There were two sums of 100*l.* paid by Mr. Bernard. If any money was paid to you by any other person, the produce of those two cheques, must you not have known by whom it was paid?—Yes, I should think so.

13,011. By whom was it paid?—I did not have the produce of those cheques, if I remember rightly. Mr. Whithorn got the cash for them; I think so. That is my impression.

13,012. Do you state that, although those two cheques of Mr. Bernard's were drawn, you did not receive any portion of the money which was obtained from those cheques, either from Mr. Bernard or from anybody else?—At the present moment I do not remember that I did. I have not at all gone into the affairs of 1857, or spoken to Mr. Whithorn upon the matter; and consequently I am unprepared to go into the circumstances of it.

12,013. If you say you are unprepared I shall not press you upon it, but we shall be going into it in the course of a day or two, and therefore you had better look into the matter, if you please, accurately?—I shall do so.

13,014. Just answer me this question; whether, with regard to those two sums of Mr. Bernard's, you are aware of their having been included in any account rendered by yourself to Sir Robert Carden?—No, I should think not.

13,015. That you cannot tell?—I cannot tell.

13,016. You would prefer to reserve your answer to that question also?—If you please.

13,017. Now with regard to the sum of 500*l.* advanced by Mr. Bernard in 1859, do you know whether that sum of 500*l.* has been repaid to Mr. Bernard?—I think I may infer that from what Mr. Bernard told me subsequently.

13,018. You infer that that sum of 500*l.* has been repaid?—Yes.

13,019. By whom?—By Sir Robert Carden, I presume.

13,020. When did Mr. Bernard tell you it had been repaid?—I think it was some time afterwards, on my casually seeing him.

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J. Lovegrove.

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13,021. How soon after the election?—I should think it might be two or three months.

13,022. When did you see Mr. Bernard to have a conversation with him?—I saw him before the petition was heard in town.

13,023. Seeing him in London before the petition was heard, was it then that he told you he had been repaid the money by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; and I think that Sir Robert Carden had told me so himself.

13,024. Did you make any communication to Sir Robert Carden before the repayment?—No.

13,025. You had made no communication to him?—None whatever.

13,026. Had any application been made to you by Sir Robert Carden with respect to that sum of 500*l.*?—None whatever.

13,027. Then in fact, from the time when these halves of the note came down to Gloucester until the time when you saw Mr. Bernard at some period before the petition came on to be heard in London, no communication had taken place between you and Sir Robert Carden at all with regard to the advance or repayment of the 500*l.*?—I would not say that. I think it very likely that Sir Robert Carden was the first to tell me of the repayment of it.

13,028. Did he tell you that in London?—Yes.

13,029. There was no letter passed upon the subject?—None whatever.

13,030. You were not the first person to say anything upon the subject, but he was the first person to speak to you about it?—I am almost inclined to think that Sir Robert Carden was the person who informed me of it. That is my impression.

13,031. At the time when he spoke to you about it, I understand you to say he told you he had repaid it?—Yes.

13,032. Did he make any remark to you upon the subject when he said he had repaid it?—I forget. I think he expressed surprise that Mr. Bernard should have advanced any money on his account without first consulting him. I think that was the substance of what he said.

13,033. Are you sure that he did so express himself?—I think so. I think that was the substance of his remark upon the matter.

13,034. What was the substance of his remark?—That he was surprised that Mr. Bernard should have advanced any money on his account without first consulting him.

13,035. Did he ask you how it came to be done?—Well, we did not go into very full particulars, but I told him that it was done, no doubt, in consequence of the meeting that Mr. Bernard and I had had; that it was done, no doubt, at my request, or rather at my suggestion, in consequence of our conversation.

13,036. May I take it that you said it was done no doubt at your suggestion?—Yes.

13,037. Did you say anything to Sir Robert Carden at that time about Mr. Bernard coming down?—Yes; I think I told him.

13,038. Did you express any astonishment to him that he had come down?—No, not at all.

13,039. Did Sir Robert Carden express any astonishment to you at finding that Mr. Bernard had come down?—He was astonished that Mr. Bernard had not called upon him or seen him in Gloucester when he was here.

13,040. When he, Sir Robert Carden, was here?—When Mr. Bernard came to Gloucester.

13,041. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Sir Robert Carden was here at that time?—He was canvassing.

13,042. He was here at the time?—Yes, I think so; I am not quite positive as to that.

13,043. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did he say he was surprised that Mr. Bernard had not called upon him at Gloucester?—Yes.

13,044. Did he express surprise at Mr. Bernard coming down at all?—I do not know that he did. He was not aware of his being down. Evidently, from the tenor of his conversation, he was not at all aware that he had been down.

13,045. That was what you were led to infer?—Certainly.

13,046. Mr. Bernard was here in 1857, you say, as a friend of Sir Robert Carden?—He was with him canvassing.

13,047. And Sir Robert Carden was here when Mr. Bernard came to Gloucester?—Not in 1859.

13,048. I am speaking now of 1859?—Not in 1859. I did not see Mr. Bernard in Gloucester, except on the occasion to which I have spoken.

13,049. At the time when he came to the railway station Sir Robert Carden was here?—I think he was.

13,050. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was on the Sunday before the election?—On the Saturday.

13,051. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How came you not to tell Sir Robert Carden that his friend, Mr. Bernard, had been down to the railway station?—In consequence of the nature of the communication I had had with Mr. Bernard, I deemed it prudent not to bring it to the knowledge of Sir Robert Carden.

13,052. Did Sir Robert Carden ask you in that conversation which you had with him about him, how it was that you had not mentioned the circumstance to him in Gloucester?—No; I do not think he made any particular remark upon the subject.

13,053. He did not think it strange that you had not mentioned the subject to him, though he did think it strange that Mr. Bernard had not called upon him?—No; I do not think he made any reflection as it were upon me.

13,054. He did not make any reflection on you, but only a reflection on Mr. Bernard for not having called on him?—No.

13,055. Can you at all fix the date of this conversation which you had with Sir Robert Carden?—No, I cannot.

13,056. Was it before the disclosure made by Mr. Bernard to yourself that he had been repaid the 500*l.*?—Yes, I think so; oh yes.

13,057. It was before that?—Yes.

13,058. When Mr. Bernard told you that he had been paid the 500*l.*, you had already known that circumstance from Sir Robert Carden himself?—Yes, I think that was the course of knowledge.

13,059. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that before the petition was presented?—It was about the time; whether it was then or just upon the eve of it I am not quite sure.

13,060. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then the sum of 350*l.* of the amount entered in the auditor's account remaining unpaid, you have, in fact, repaid yourself the 500*l.* which you advanced to the fund out of the sum you received from Sir Robert Carden?—If upon the account there is 350*l.* or 400*l.* due to me, that is debiting one side of the account with the 500*l.*

13,061. Therefore these sums remaining outstanding making up about 350*l.*, the 500*l.* has been repaid to you?—Yes, about that.

13,062. You received 1,175*l.* from Sir Robert Carden?—£1,175.

13,063. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I understood you to say you received it in four cheques?—In two cheques. I received on April the 25th 500*l.*, and on May 14th 675*l.*; on June 13th I received 400*l.*, and on August 2d 400*l.*

13,064. Those two 400*l.* you applied to the expenses of the election petition?—Yes.

13,065. (*Mr. Welford.*) Taking the proportion of the auditor's account which has been paid, you have been repaid out of that 1,175*l.* the 500*l.* you advanced; is not that so?—That would be about it; whatever those bills are as near as possible.

13,066. In paying some of the sums in the auditor's account, and omitting to pay others, what was the principle that guided you?—Merely as the parties came for it; there was no principle whatever. As the parties came for their money I would draw them a cheque, and pay them.

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13,067. The first people who asked were the first paid?—I should have discharged this account before the Commissioners came here, but not having done so before the Commission was issued, I thought that if I did it would appear like a mode of getting rid of the account, from which you might draw unfair conclusions, and therefore I preferred not to pay more. The agents on the other side were only paid, I understand, 24 hours before you came here; most of them. That was my only reason.

13,068. You did not leave these sums unpaid because they were sums that might fairly and properly and legally be paid?—No.

13,069. You did not leave them unpaid merely as a cover for getting back the 500*l.* which had been improperly paid?—Not in any way at all.

13,070. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The total amounts, I think, are these: the auditor's account, 1,012*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*?—Yes.

13,071. What you call legal expenses, which are contained in your supplementary account, 200*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* Paid Mr. Whithorn 174*l.* before the election, and at the election 1,000*l.*; and the accounts brought in to-day, 269*l.*?—Yes.

13,072. That is the grand total?—That is the grand total.

13,073. About 2,660*l.* altogether?—That is about the amount.

13,074. When Sir Robert Carden mentioned to you that he had paid the 500*l.* to Mr. Bernard, did he know into whose hands the 500*l.* had gone; did he know that Mr. Whithorn had had it?—I am not quite sure. I abstained from going into it with him.

13,075. Did he not know how it had been disbursed?—No, I think not. I did not lead him to infer anything as to the mode in which it had been disbursed.

13,076. He merely mentioned that a sum of 500*l.* which Mr. Bernard had advanced had been repaid by him?—Yes.

13,077. Those were all the particulars that were entered into?—Yes.

13,078. I think you said that Mr. Bernard slept in Gloucester on the Saturday night?—He did.

13,079. You do not know of your own knowledge that he did not see Sir Robert Carden here?—No; I do not think he did.

13,080. He did not inform you, one way or the other?—No.

13,081. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you understand from Sir Robert Carden that he had paid Mr. Bernard those two sums of 200*l.* which Mr. Bernard had advanced for him in 1857?—Yes; I understood that he had repaid them.

13,082. Did he tell you whether he had complained upon that occasion of Mr. Bernard having advanced money without consulting him?—I do not recollect it.

13,083. Was he not very angry when he discovered that Mr. Bernard had advanced 500*l.*?—I know that he knew nothing whatever of that advance until the final settlement of the matter; the petitions and all together. He knew nothing whatever of any of the circumstances.

13,084. Which election are you alluding to now?—The election of 1857.

13,085. After the petitions were over he was informed of this advance having been made by Mr. Bernard on his account?—Yes.

13,086. But upon this last occasion was he not very angry when he discovered that the 500*l.* had been advanced?—Yes. He expressed his surprise that Mr. Bernard should have made any advance on his account without first consulting him.

13,087. I make out, without repaying you that 500*l.*, that Sir Robert Carden is still indebted to you 416*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*?—Somewhere about 400*l.* out of pocket. I have not gone into the figures.

13,088. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From the statement that you made to Sir Robert Carden respecting the payment of those two sums of 100*l.* each, which had been advanced by Mr. Bernard, was he led to understand that there had been an illegal expenditure of money at his election in 1857?—No, he was not. Sir Robert Carden settled the whole of those accounts, and paid the money, and made no inquiry any kind.

13,089. He made no inquiry of any sort?—No.

13,090. But he did express surprise that Mr. Bernard should advance those two sums of 100*l.* Did not Sir Robert Carden inquire of you to what purpose those sums were applied?—The surprise he expressed was with reference to the 1859 advance.

13,091. I understood you to say, in answer to a question put to you by Mr. Fitzgerald, that he had expressed surprise at the advances of the two sums of 100*l.* each in 1857?—It was with reference to the 1859 advance that he expressed surprise.

13,092. What was the total amount that you received from Sir Robert Carden for the election expenses of 1857?—I have not any papers here relating to it, but I should think 1,200*l.* or 1,300*l.*

13,093. Whatever the amount was, did Sir Robert Carden pay that amount to you without making any inquiry as to the expenditure, or any observation as to the amount?—Yes; he has done so invariably. If I had written to him to say that upon these accounts I should be glad to have his cheque for 500*l.*, the next post would have brought it down, I have no doubt.

13,094. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was Mr. Bernard repaid the 200*l.* in 1857 by you, or by Sir Robert Carden direct?—By Sir Robert Carden direct, I think. Yes, it was so.

J. B. Hanman.

JOHN BIDDLE HANMAN sworn and examined.

13,095. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A grocer.

13,096. Where do you live?—In Southgate Street.

13,097. You were a supporter of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—I was.

13,098. Who are the parties you bribed?—I have a list of them I can give you (*producing it*).

13,099. Read their names?—The first is Decimus Best, junior.

13,100. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a freeman?—I think he is.

13,101. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is he at the railway?—Yes.

13,102. Is he a son of Decimus Best at the railway?—Yes; they are both porters of the General Post Office at the railway station.

13,103. How much money did you give him?—I gave Decimus Best, junior, 10*l.*

13,104. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

13,105. Who was the next person?—Perhaps you will let me explain a little circumstance in connexion with that. The man had been suffering from rheumatic fever for some months; in fact he had been such a sufferer that at the time the election took place he was on half pay at an Odd Fellows Lodge to which he belongs, receiving four shillings and sixpence or five shillings a week, to maintain a wife and six or seven children, and he told me that he was in very distressed circumstances; in fact I knew such to be the case, as he had been a regular customer at my shop, and I knew his wife. He told me that he was got behind with his rent; that a little money would do him good, and that he had received an offer from the other side; and I told him I would do as well for him as I could.

13,106. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He did not tell you that the other side had paid him?—No, he did not. He was not paid by the other side.

13,107. Harry Jacobs had given him 2*l.* had he

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not ?—No. That was the father. The old man received 2*l.* both from Wilkes and Jacobs.

13,108. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did give the 10*l.* to Decimus Best to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did ; and had he come to me to relieve him during his sufferings I might have made him a present, though not to such an amount as that.

13,109. You might have made him a present of a pound or so ?—Yes ; or two, perhaps.

13,110. Who was the next ?—The next was his father.

13,111. How much did you give him ?—£4.

13,112. For his vote for Carden ?—For his vote for Carden, but with an understanding that he would divide his vote.

13,113. They both voted for Carden, I believe ?—They both voted for Carden ; but I must correct a portion of Mr. Jacobs's evidence, in which he says that Mr. Best, senior, voted for Carden alone. He has made a mistake in that. The fact is, that the old man told me, when I gave him the money, that he was determined to split his vote; and I said, "You "will do us the least injury if you vote for Mr. Price;" and he did so.

13,114. Who was the next ?—Robert Acutt.

13,115. What did you give him ?—I gave him 5*l.*

13,116. Is he a freeman ?—I think he is on as a householder. He is objected to this year ; I do not know what for.

13,117. Was that 5*l.* for his vote for Carden ?—Yes; for his vote for Carden; a plumper. The next is William Tooth, a freeman, living at Tredworth.

13,118. How much did you give him ?—£5.

13,119. For his vote for Carden ?—Yes.

13,120. The next ?—The next is Thomas Jeynes ; He is a householder residing in Southgate Street.

13,121. How much did you give him ?—£5.

13,122. For his vote for Carden ?—Yes. And I have received 4*l.* besides, which I have spent in treating, not only among voters but other people, at different houses.

13,123. At different public houses ?—At different public houses.

13,124. From whom did you receive the money ?—I received 28*l.* from Mr. Whithorn on the night previous to the election, and 5*l.* from Mr. Stamper on the Monday following the election. I paid that money to Jeynes's wife.

13,125. Did you pay 5*l.* to Stamper to give to him ?—No ; Stamper gave me the 5*l.* and I paid him. I had a list for that district sent to me the night previous to the election ; and having heard that the other party had been endeavouring to get hold of old Jeynes, I sent Packer to go and stop with the old man. He did his business in a very workmanlike manner, for he sat down, and had a pipe with the old man, and sat there till I got there.

13,126. (*Mr. Welford.*) Stamper gave you the money for that particular purpose ?—Yes. He stated that he bribed Jeynes through me. The fact is that we never should have had his vote if I had not looked after him. The money was given to his wife. The old fellow is too imbecile to think anything upon the subject.

13,127. Do you know a person named Henry Cox ?—Yes.

13,128. Was he indebted to you in a sum of money ?—He was, at the last election, but he has wiped it off since by going through the Insolvent Court.

13,129. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer him a receipt for the money, if he would vote for Carden ?—No. I went and told him, I heard he was in bad company, and was not going to treat me as he ought ; that I had refrained from suing him when I could have put him in great difficulty, and that he ought to oblige me ; but I said if he was on the committee I did not wish him to give up that money. He intimated to me that he was in such distress that he should be obliged to go through the Insolvent Court ; and I made an offer to him to get a gentleman to do it for him.

13,130. What was the offer which you made to him ?—To take him to Mr. Lovegrove, and see what could be done for him. I never mentioned the subject to Mr. Lovegrove. Within a day or two he came and told me he was going to see Mr. Whithorn ; and a few hours after that I heard that Mr. Wilkes was going to take him through the court, which was the fact.

13,131. You did not mention the matter to Mr. Lovegrove ?—No. I knew that Mr. Wilkes was going to do his business, and when I knew that I knew that he was lost.

13,132. You are sure you did not offer him a receipt for the money that was due to you if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did not. The fact is that I gave him a receipt for about 3*l.* in 1857, and he has now wiped off 10*l.* 13*s.* by going through the court, and I am sorry to say there have been a great many in the same way within the last two or three years in Gloucester.

13,133. Can you give us the names of any other persons to whom you offered money or a receipt ?—No. I have not made an offer of a receipt ; but I have offered money to one or two persons.

13,134. Were there no persons indebted to you at that time to whom you offered receipts ?—I have lots of persons indebted to me, but I do not wish to mention their names in court.

13,135. I mean voters, to whom you offered receipts if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—None at all. My name has been mentioned in connexion with Mr. Wright. I do not remember offering him anything. He owes me 6*l.* or 7*l.*; but I do not think he would be induced to vote as I wished if I gave him a receipt for that when he had been offered and received 8*l.* on the other side.

13,136. I understand you to say you did not offer him any money ?—I do not recollect that I did. I may have had a little chaff with him over a pipe. I should have been afraid to have made him an offer. I made an offer to Henry Townsend.

13,137. Where does he live ?—In Green Dragon Lane. I saw him twice upon the subject. The first time he told me he had a family, and had a house at a heavy rent, and that he should see if he could not get something towards paying it. I told him I thought I could do a quarter's rent very likely for him. It was either 12*l.* or 14*l.*, I do not know which it was. He however would not make me an answer at that time. He told me he thought he could get more. I saw him again on the night before the election. I then offered him either 5*l.* to plump for Carden, or 3*l.* to split for Carden and Price ; and as he said he did not like to vote against Mr. Clarke's principles (though I knew Mr. Clarke would not attempt to influence him in the least) I offered him 2*l.* to stay at home. I believe he went to the Berkeley Arms, and what he did after that I do not know, but he voted for Price and Monk.

13,138. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay him anything ?—No. I dare say I gave him 6*d.* or 1*s.* to have some drink ; that is very likely.

13,139. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you mention anyone else to whom you offered money ?—I do not recollect any one else. I can only say that when I was first called on and asked by Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Lovegrove for my vote, I immediately promised it, and told them distinctly I would have nothing to do with the canvass ; but finding that some parties visiting my shop, such as the Bests and others, had not promised, I went to see if I could get them to vote for Sir Robert Carden, and the result was what I have stated.

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JOHN WARD called and further examined. *J. Ward.* 10 Oct. 1859.

13,140. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you prepared the list which you were requested to make out?—Yes (*producing it*). You will see I have made one addition of a bribed party, John Bagley of Hare Lane.

[*The list is handed in to the Commissioners.*]

13,141. Is John Bagley a freeman?—No; a householder in St. John's parish.

13,142. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you pay him?—£5. I did not consider it a payment for his vote. The man polled. I saw him near the hustings. I asked him if he had polled, and he said "No." I then told him to go and poll, and he did. He came to my house afterwards; and I said, "Did you poll for Sir Robert Carden?" and he said, "Yes;" and, having a balance in hand, I gave him five sovereigns.

13,143. But you paid those five sovereigns to him for his vote, did you not?—I did.

13,144. In consequence of his having voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; but there was no understanding between the man and myself that he should have it; that is what I mean. I still believe that I bribed that Joseph Coopey I mentioned before, but I should not like to swear to it.

13,145. Joseph Coopey of Littleworth?—Yes; I do not know whether it was the same family. I know I put the money in a bag to pay him, and somebody had it, if he had not.

13,146. You put the amount you received altogether at 190*l.*?—Yes. I stated the sum before. I received from 15*l.* to 20*l.* during the canvass; 120*l.* the night before the election, and 50*l.* on the day of the election. It is just possible that some of the 30*l.* that heads the list went for bribery, but I cannot swear positively to whom I gave it.

JAMES TAYLOR called and further examined. *J. Taylor.*

13,147. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some statement with reference to some evidence that has been given?—Yes. I find that a statement was made by Mr. Sharpe last week, that I had been offered 15*l.* on the opposite side, which I most positively deny; and that I said I would take 130 set of beechwood for my vote; that is a falsehood. I never agreed to anything of the sort. When Mr. Sharpe offered me the 30 set, I said, "No;" and then I said, "Would you give the 50 set?" and he said he did not know; that I should see him in the morning. I said I should be in town in the morning at the Black Dog. I met him in the morning up by the Red Lion. He said, "I have been at the Black "Dog twice for you this morning. Have you made "up your mind?" I said, "Yes; I do not intend to "vote for Sir Robert Carden. I never voted that "way, neither do I intend to." And respecting the silk dress, which he says my wife asked him for, the truth is that he promised her something very handsome if she would prevail upon me to vote for Sir Robert Carden, and he brought her, as an instalment, a flower—a geranium, and he said, "Mind now, that is the colour." As to the other statement, I most positively deny it.

13,148. Do you affirm that Mr. Sharpe did offer you 30 sets of beech for your vote?—Yes, he did.

13,149. Did you say you would take 50 sets?—No; I did not say I would take it. I said, "Would you give 50 sets."

13,150. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you stand on the register; for what parish?—The parish of Saint Aldate's.

13,151. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman?—No.

13,152. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) James Taylor of King Street?—Yes.

13,153. What did you get from Jacobs?—I had 10*l.*

HENRY SMART sworn and examined. *H. Smart.*

13,154. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a bookbinder?—A stationer.

13,155. Where do you live?—In Northgate Street.

13,156. Who did you bribe?—Indirectly I bribed one person. In fact I will lay the circumstances of the case, if you please, before you. My father resides at No. 2, Worcester Street. His name is John Smart, a bookbinder.

13,157. You gave him 10*l.*, did you?—No, I did not.

13,158. How much?—I did not give him anything. I will relate the circumstances to you, if you please. On the morning of the election early, I asked him who he was going to vote for; if he was going to vote on the Conservative side, the same as he had done before. He told me he could not give me an answer on that head, for he had been promised 8*l.* to vote for the Liberals. I said, "Well, I am sure I should not do that; I should not take a bribe." I said, "Sooner than you should take a bribe from those "parties I would give you 5*l.* or 6*l.* out of my own "pocket." He made the remark, "You would be "foolish to do that; you would never get it again." "If I do not," I said, "I shall be doing something "for the party; they have behaved very honourable "to me, and I shall try and do something for them "at this election." He said he could not give me an answer then. I said, "Well, do not go and be bribed by the Liberals." That is the last word I said to him then. I saw him again between 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning in Westgate Street. He was with a person named David Lane, a boot and shoe maker, and Field. He was talking with them, and Field said to him, "Now, you come with me, and you can have your money in a minute." I caught hold of my father's arm, and said, "Let us have no bribery; come along with me home." I took him along with me from Mr. Lane as far as St. John's Lane, and then Field came up, and said, "Now, so help me God, you can have the 8*l.* in less than five minutes." I said, "He shall have nothing at all to do with you." He then went home, and I saw him no more till the middle of the day. When I saw him, I said, "Now you go and vote." I went over about 11 o'clock on purpose to see him. He was not in the shop. I saw my brother, and I said, "Well, Phil., has father voted?" He said, "I am sure I do not know. He has been out all the morning. Have you not seen him?" I said, "No; I have not seen him since I left him in St. John's Lane." I said that I had promised him that if he would not take a bribe from the Liberal party I would give him 5*l.* or 6*l.* out of my own pocket. I gave the 6*l.* to my brother Philip, and said, "You see what you have to do with him." When I saw my father, between one and two, I asked him if he had been to vote; and he said, "No." I said, "What are you going to do?" He said, "I cannot give you an answer yet; I am going home." He went home; and I did not see him again till something after three o'clock, and that was down in Westgate Street, by the polling booth. I said, "Have you not polled yet?" He said, "No." I said, "Go "and poll, though it is of no use your going now; "it is of no use now, for the election is lost; but go "and poll." And he went and polled. That was about three o'clock or after.

13,159. He polled for Carden?—Yes.

13,160. And he received 6*l.* from you through your brother?—He received 6*l.* from me through my brother. That I learned after.

13,161. Did you not consider that that 6*l.* was for your father's vote?—No, I did not. Certainly I gave it him. I told him if he would not take a bribe

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H. Smart.
10 Oct. 1859.

from the Liberal party, as he was so determined upon money, I would sooner give him 5*l.* or 6*l.* from my own pocket than that he should vote for the Liberals.

13,162. And you gave him the 6*l.* on condition that he should vote for Carden, or that he should not vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,163. And he voted for Carden?—Yes; he voted for Carden.

13,164. Are you the Mr. Henry Smart who received 20*l.* from Mr. Whithorn?—I am.

13,165. What did you receive that 20*l.* for?—I made application to Mr. Lovegrove some few days previous to the election; it was after I had promised Sir Robert Carden I would vote for him. I wrote him a note. As near as I can recollect it run thus: "Sir, I have to ask you a favor, whether you could lend me 20*l.* or 25*l.*?"

13,166. Who was that letter written to?—Mr. Lovegrove. Mr. Lovegrove came down on the next day, and said to me, "What do you want that money for, Mr. Smart?" "Well," I said, "It is not for elec- "tioneering purposes; it is for my own private pur- "poses. Bear in mind I want nothing for election- "eering purposes. I want you to lend me that "money, which I will pay you back again."

13,167. And did Mr. Lovegrove refer you to Mr. Whithorn?—Not then; he said he would see about it.

13,168. Did he afterwards?—He referred me to Mr. Whithorn. I asked him who Mr. Whithorn was, and where he lived. I knew Mr. Whithorn by name; but who he was, and where he lived, I did not know.

13,169. Did you go to Mr. Whithorn?—I went to him, and I handed him the note, and he gave me the money without a word of hesitation.

13,170. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Mr. Lovegrove give you a note to Mr. Whithorn?—He gave me my own note; my application.

13,171. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you bribe any person with that money?—No.

13,172. Did you with any portion of it?—No; it was money that I had myself.

13,173. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you repaid it?—No, I have not. I should have done so at the time, but I had an account with the committee. I served the committee with stationery. Mr. Lovegrove is a good customer of mine, and a gentleman who pays me a good deal of money.

13,174. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And therefore you have not repaid the money?—I have not repaid the money.

13,175. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you intend to repay it by supplying him with stationery?—Not in that way. I shall pay it again.

13,176. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give any security for it?—I gave Mr. Whithorn a receipt for the money.

13,177. Did you give him any promissory note for it?—No, I did not. I gave him a full receipt.

13,178. But you gave him no security?—No.

13,179. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Mr. Whithorn tell you that he was advancing this money out of the election fund?—No. Scarcely a word passed, I think. He merely handed me the note.

13,180. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know of any persons that were bribed on Sir Robert Carden's side?—No, I cannot say that I do.

13,181. Can you say that you do not?—I could not say positively that I did, but I had a very firm opinion that it was the case.

13,182. Were you a party yourself to any acts of bribery?—That is the only thing that I was connected with during the election.

13,183. You were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, were you not?—Yes.

13,184. You were asked, "Do you know of cases where there was Blue stuff flying about?" and your answer was, "Yes; there is always plenty of that, and Yellow too"?—I said I believed it; I did not say I knew it.

13,185. The question was, "Do you know of cases where there was Blue stuff flying about," and your answer was "Yes; there is always plenty of that, and Yellow too"?—It may have been that; but I said I believed that it was. If I knew of one single case, or 500,000, I would tell you every one of them now direct.

13,186. With the exception of that 6*l.*, which you say you gave to your father, do you mean to represent that you did not pay any money to any one?—Not a fraction. I have a man at work for me, James Henry Clarke, a freeman, who has a vote, and I made use of this allusion in my shop: "It is not "right of any master to try to influence his men, who "have votes. Let every man vote according to "his conscience." That man I mention went and polled for Price and Monk. I did not discharge him for it. He is still in my employ.

13,187. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How long before the election was it that you borrowed this 20*l.*?—I think it was about two days when I made the application to Mr. Lovegrove; but Mr. Lovegrove came the next day and said, he would give me an answer, and the following day was the nomination.

13,188. You wanted to borrow 20*l.* on the morning before the election, and yet on the morning of the election you offered to give your father 6*l.* rather than he should vote for the Liberals?—Yes; I said, "I would sooner give you 5*l.* or 6*l.* out of my own pocket than you should be bribed."

13,189. Had you got 6*l.* to give him?—I hope so, and 60*l.* if I wanted it.

13,190. After having borrowed 20*l.* two days before?—Yes. For a man in business like me it would be very awkward if I was short of 50*l.* or 60*l.* If you want to know I will tell you exactly what I wanted the money for. I will do so if you wish it.

13,191. (*Mr. Welford.*) It was on the day of the nomination that you received the 20*l.*?—I am almost sure it was.

13,192. In the afternoon or evening?—In the evening, I saw Mr. Lovegrove, and he gave me a note to Mr. Whithorn. I said, "Where does he live?" Mr. Lovegrove said, "Do not you know where he lives?" "No," I said, "I do not." Mr. Lovegrove said, "He lives in Bell Lane." I then went to Bell Lane, and inquired for Mr. Whithorn, and I saw him, and he gave me the money immediately.

13,193. What time in the evening was it?—As near as I can recollect, about 8 o'clock.

13,194. Was it dark?—It was dark.

13,195. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You knew that Mr. Whithorn was engaged for Sir Robert Carden as an agent, did you not?—I did not know that he had anything to do with money. I knew him by name, but I did not know him except by name.

13,196. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you saw Mr. Whithorn at his house, you knew he was a gentleman attending the committee-room for Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—Yes.

13,197. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you prepared to swear that you did not borrow that 20*l.* with reference to the election?—Yes.

13,198. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you believe that if the election had not been coming on you would have had the loan from Mr. Whithorn?—I think Mr. Lovegrove would have done it.

13,199. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But you got it from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes; but Mr. Lovegrove told me to go to Mr. Whithorn, and it would be all right.

13,200. What did you understand by that?—I did not know what to understand. I was in a maze about it.

13,201. Did you expect to get the money?—Of course, on Mr. Lovegrove's word, I expected to get it, and I got it.

13,202. Did you canvass the Hyetts for their vote?—Yes; three of them.

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H. Smart.
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13,203. How did they vote?—I believe one of them voted for Price and Monk. He told me that was his principles, and I said, "Vote." The others I could get no answer from; they were not at home.

13,204. Do you know how they voted?—I believe they voted for Sir Robert Carden.

13,205. Is John Hyett your tenant?—Yes.

13,206. He got 8*l.* from Harry Jacobs. Do you know where he lives?—At No. 10, Alvin Street.

13,207. Is he a freeman?—I could not answer you that question, I am sure.

13,208. Which is John Hyett of Alvin Street who voted for Sir Robert Carden?—That is the old man, the father.

S. Gainey.

SARAH GAINEY sworn and examined.

13,209. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep the Pilot, do you not?—Yes.

13,210. Have you a husband?—Yes.

13,211. What is his name?—James Gainey.

13,212. You received some money at the time of the election for the purpose of paying some people?—I did.

13,213. How much did you receive?—£40.

13,214. Who gave it to you?—Mr. Stamper.

13,215. Who did you pay it to?—Charles Newth, John Edwards, Daniel Jeffs, and John Richards.

13,216. How much did you give to each of them?—£10 each.

13,217. For their votes for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

13,218. They were in the kitchen of your house, were they not, when you received the money from Stamper?—Yes; they were in some part of the house.

13,219. You were requested by Stamper to give that money to them?—I was.

13,220. Did you offer a bribe to a man of the name of Tanner?—He was at my house painting, and he said he did not know which to vote for; that he should vote for the parties he could get most money from.

13,221. And what did you offer him?—I cannot particularly say. I asked him what the price of his vote was.

13,222. And what did he tell you the price was?—£12.

13,223. Do you know what his Christian name is?—No. He is a painter. He was at work at my house at the time. He lives in Alvin Street.

13,224. Did you offer him 12*l.*?—No.

13,225. Did you offer him any money at all?—No.

13,226. Do you know a man of the name of Herbert, a shoemaker?—Yes.

13,227. Did you offer him any money?—No.

13,228. Did you ask him what was the price of his vote?—I never spoke to him on the subject of the election in my life.

13,229. Did you receive any other money from any other person besides the sum you have mentioned?—I did not.

13,230. Did your husband get anything at all for his vote?—No.

13,231. He was paid, was he not?—No; he had to come from Milford.

13,232. Has he not received 5*l.*?—No. His expenses were 5*l.* 15*s.*

13,233. That has not been paid?—No.

13,234. What expenses were they?—His expenses in coming from Milford Haven, and putting a responsible person in his situation.

13,235. What was his situation?—On board ship.

13,236. What is he?—He is master on board a ship.

13,237. And the vessel was at Milford Haven, and he had to come from there?—Yes, he had.

S. Butt.

SAMUEL BUTT sworn and examined.

13,238. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A cab master.

13,239. Where do you live?—In Hare Lane.

13,240. Who did you bribe at the last election?—No one.

13,241. No one at all?—There was a party met me in the street, and he said he was going to gaol.

13,242. Who was that?—A man named Cooke.

13,243. What is his Christian name?—George Hobbs Cooke, I think.

13,244. He told you he was going to gaol?—Yes; and asked me if I could get him out of his difficulty. I said I would see, if he would stop a bit. There was a party dining at the White Hart, and I ran across there, and got 2*l.* 9*s.* and something for him; and I have got his I. O. U. for it.

13,245. Who did you get it from?—That is it (*producing a paper, and handing it to the Commissioners*).

13,246. Who did you get the money from?—There were several in the room at dinner; perhaps a dozen; I cannot say how many there were; one of them threw down something, and another threw down something, till there was enough; and I came across to the New Inn, and gave it to the man.

13,247. I suppose you took an interest in the fate of this man in consequence of his being a voter; did you not?—I did not know whether he was a voter or not, and never asked him about his vote.

13,248. You did not know he was a voter?—I considered that he was; I thought he might be; but I did not know it, and do not know whether he voted or not; or if he did vote, who he voted for.

13,249. Do you mean to say, that you met this man in the street, that he told you he was going to gaol, and that you therefore took such an interest in him that you went at once to the White Hart, where you heard some gentlemen were dining, and got this money from them and gave it him?—Yes.

13,250. That is the whole of your story?—Yes; and that is the truth.

13,251. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know from whom the money came?—There were several gentlemen there.

13,252. Who where they?—Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Taynton were there.

13,253. And did they all subscribe to make up the sum?—I do not know that they did all.

13,254. How came you to take so much interest in this man?—Because I had known the man these six or seven years.

13,255. How came you to get the I.O.U.?—The gentlemen asked me to do it.

13,256. Supposing he had come, and paid you the money, to whom should you have given it?—Some of the gentlemen.

13,257. (*Mr. Welford.*) Should you not have given it to Mr. Whithorn?—Very likely I might have given it to him.

13,258. Did you not receive it from Mr. Whithorn?—No, I did not.

13,259. Will you swear that?—Yes, I will.

13,260. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) If this man came, and offered you 2*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, you would take the money?—Yes.

13,261. Who would you give it to—Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Taynton.

13,262. Though Mr. Whithorn did not advance the whole money?—I do not know who did advance the money, or whether Mr. Whithorn gave anything or not I do not know.

13,263. Why did you take the I.O.U. in your own

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name?—That is what they asked me to do, and I did it.

13,264. But they did not ask you to make it out in your own name?—They did not.

13,265. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Whithorn ask you do it?—No. I cannot say who asked me to do it, but somebody said, "You had better get a memoran-" dum of it." The man said he would give his I.O.U., and I took it. I asked him for a receipt.

13,266. Did Mr. Whithorn ask you to get an I.O.U. from that man?—No, I do not think he did; I do not know that Mr. Whithorn said anything about it; I do not know who it was said it, but somebody said, "You had better get a memorandum," and that is what the man gave me as a memorandum.

13,267. Why did you go to the White Hart?—I heard there were a lot of gentlemen at dinner there.

13,268. And you thought they were a body of charitable gentlemen?—I thought, perhaps, they might do something for the man rather than let him go to gaol.

13,269. You thought they would subscribe their money as an act of charity to him; was that what you thought?—I did not know what they would do. I thought I would run over and ask them.

13,270. Did you think it was a subscription in the nature of a charity?—It must be a charity to keep a man out of gaol.

13,271. If it was a charity why did you take the man's I.O.U.?—I was to have a memorandum, and that is the memorandum I got. He said, "I will give you an I.O.U.," and he gave it to me. I did not ask him for it.

13,272. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Why did you not hand this I.O.U. over to the people to whom it belonged?—I never thought about it till I had the summons on Saturday.

13,273. Of course this memorandum is of no use to you now?—No, it is not.

13,274. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the person who had charge of this man?—Two men; I do not know what their names are.

13,275. Was one of them a man named George Cooke?—I do not know their names.

13,276. Will you undertake to swear that that 2*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* was not paid by you to that man for his vote?—No, it was not. I never asked him for his vote in any way, and I did not know whether he voted at the last election or not.

13,277. Had you ever done such a thing as this before in your life?—No; I do not know that I ever did.

13,278. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was this on the day of the election?—No, it was some time before.

13,279. Did you canvass for Sir Robert Carden at the election in 1857?—I canvassed some of the out-voters.

13,280. How many did you bribe?—Ne'er a one.

13,281. Did you give them any money?—No.

13,282. Will you swear that?—Yes. There was a woman at the "Upper George," and Mr. Ward gave me 3*l.* to give her, but I do not consider that my bribing.

13,283. Did you find out what they wanted for their votes?—No; never one. I never inquired of any one.

13,284. How came Mr. Ward to give you the 3*l.*?—He was stood on the staircase, and he said, "Here, Samuel, you give that woman 3*l.*," and away he ran.

13,285. Who was the woman?—I do not know her name. Her husband is dead. It was one of the Coopeys. She lives at Longford.

W. Holtham.

WILLIAM HOLTHAM sworn and examined.

13,286. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are an innkeeper, are you not?—Yes.

13,287. You produce an account, do you not?—Yes (*producing it*).

13,288. What inn do you keep?—The Spread Eagle.

13,289. Has this bill been paid?—No.

13,290. It is included, is it not, in the account which has been handed in this morning?—It is, I believe.

13,291. £2 5*s.*?—Yes.

13,292. Is this for refreshments supplied to the members of the committee?—It is.

13,293. Is that the total amount of refreshments that were provided at your house during the election?—It is the whole amount; that is, during the election of 1859.

13,294. Was your house frequented by voters?—By no one, except the canvassing party, I believe.

13,295. Did you bribe any one?—I did not.

13,296. Did you offer any money to any person?—Not to any one.

W. Parker.

WILLIAM PARKER sworn and examined.

13,297. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A carpenter and joiner, and haulier.

13,298. Where do you live?—In Barton Steet.

13,299. You received 20*l.*, did you not?—Yes.

13,300. Was it more than 20*l.*?—I received 5*l.* at the time of the canvass, and I received 40*l.* of Mr. Whithorn the day of the polling.

13,301. £45 altogether?—Yes; and 4*l.* I received from Mr. Whithorn to pay a man's travelling expenses.

13,302. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You received it all from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

13,303. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Whose expenses were they that you received?—Charles Milton's.

13,304. To whom did you give bribes?—To a man of the name of Lovett.

13,305. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is his Christian name?—I do not know. He lives in Hampden Place.

13,306. What is he?—I think he is a labourer.

13,307. Is he a freeman?—No; I think he is a householder.

13,308. In what parish?—Saint Michael's parish, I believe.

13,309. How much did you give to him?—£5.

13,310. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

13,311. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next?—A man of the name of Price.

13,312. What is his Christian name?—I believe his name is William.

13,313. Where does he live?—In Hampden Place.

13,314. How much did you give him?—£4.

13,315. Is he a freeman?—No; a householder.

13,316. Did you give him that for his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. I put it down on the table.

13,317. Now the next?—Francis Meek.

13,318. Where does he live?—I believe he lives in Albert Street.

13,319. How much did you give him?—£4.

13,320. For his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

13,321. Who was the next?—William Band.

13,322. How much?—£2.

13,323. For his vote for Carden?—Yes.

13,324. Where does he live?—In Barton Street, St. Michael's parish.

13,325. Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes.

13,326. Now the next?—A man of the name of Harris in Alvin Street.

13,327. What is his Christian name?—Henry.

13,328. How much?—£5.

13,329. To vote for Carden?—Yes.

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W. Parker.

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13,330. The next?—A man of the name of Tiley in Alvin Street.

13,331. Do you know his Christian name?—I do not know his Christian name.

13,332. How much did you give to him?—£2. I did not give it him for his vote; but I gave him 2*l.* for fetching Harris.

13,333. Did you give him 2*l.* for fetching Harris and for his vote?—No. He did not say anything about his vote. He did not ask me about his vote.

13,334. You gave him 2*l.* for fetching Harris?—For fetching Harris to me.

13,335. For fetching Harris from Alvin Street?—Yes; he brought him to me at the poll.

13,336. That is rather a good price for bringing a man from Alvin Street, is it not?—I do not know. I gave him that.

13,337. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it a very difficult matter to bring him?—I do not know; I did not ask him.

13,338. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you not think at the time you gave him that money that you were paying him 2*l.* partly for his vote and partly for bringing Harris?—He did not ask me anything for his vote; he thought as he brought him down he ought to be paid for his trouble.

13,339. And for his vote?—No; not for his vote.

13,340. Now the next?—Thomas Cox of Worcester Street. I gave him 2*l.*; but he never asked me for anything. I did not give it him till the evening.

13,341. You gave him 2*l.* for his vote?—I gave him 2*l.* after he had voted.

13,342. Why did you give it him?—I thought he might as well have some as I had some.

13,343. Did you give it him for his vote?—He did not ask me for anything for his vote.

13,344. (*Mr. Welford.*) Shuld you have given it him if he had had no vote?—No.

13,345. Who was the next?—I polled two men whose names I do not know.

13,346. What did you give them?—I gave them 5*l.* apiece.

13,347. Did you give that to people whose names you do not know?—Yes; but I should know them if I were to see them.

13,348. How do you know they were voters?—Because I went along with them, and polled them, and saw them poll.

13,349. Where did you meet them?—In the committee-room.

13,350. What committee-room?—Sir Robert Carden's.

13,351. You gave to two persons in the committee-room whose names you do not know 5*l.* each?—Yes.

13,352. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did anybody desire you to give it to them?—No.

13,353. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where did you meet them?—In the committee-room.

13,354. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the next?—That is all the bribery, to the best of my knowledge.

13,355. You have not exhausted the money yet?—No; I was twenty days canvassing.

13,356. And what did you get for that?—5*s.* a day.

13,357. Did you receive for twenty days' canvassing 5*s.* a day?—I stopped it out of the money that I had left. I had one sovereign left after that, and that I thought of paying over to Whithorn.

13,358. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did you do with the other 5*l.*? You said you received 5*l.*, and then you received 40*l.*?—I received 5*l.* on the canvass, and that I spent in the canvass.

13,359. How did you spend that?—In eating and drinking.

13,360. Drinking yourself, I suppose?—Yes. I spent it in treating myself and in treating freemen and non-freemen.

13,361. With what you deduct for treating, you got 20*s.* a day during your canvass?—Yes, and something more.

13,362. Had that any influence at all on your own vote?—No, not at all.

13,363. Whether you had been employed as a canvasser or not you would have voted Blue?—Yes, certainly; I always did. They never so much as asked me for a vote.

13,364. (*Mr. Welford.*) You are quite sure that these two men whose names you do not know were real men; you are quite sure they polled?—Yes.

13,365. You are quite sure the 10*l.* did not go into your own pocket?—Yes, I am. I am on my oath.

13,366. You did not poll for a dead man, did you? No.

GEORGE NEWTON COX BUCHANAN sworn and examined.

G. N. C. Buchanan.

13,367. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At the Spa, No. 11.

13,368. You were an active supporter of Sir Robert Carden's at the last election?—I was.

13,369. Did you canvass in some of the districts?—I went out for six or seven days with Sir Robert Carden every day. We started about half past nine in the morning, and sometimes finished about six or seven in the evening; sometimes later.

13,370. Did you canvass by yourself at all?—I canvassed a few voters, but not many. I saw in the paper that Mr. Wilkes had given testimony that I had seen a person of the name of Murrell; and I shall be very happy to state what passed between myself and Mr. Murrell, if you would wish to hear it.

13,371. You were one of the gentlemen who used to meet at the committee-room?—I went there almost every day, but not for any lengthened period, because I was out nearly the entire day on the canvass with Sir Robert Carden.

13,372. Mr. Tew Smith; was he active?—He rarely came on the canvass; he joined us once or twice, but did not go much on the canvass.

13,373. Mr. Henry Hughes?—I saw him but about twice or three times, I think. The two who went regularly on the canvass were myself and Captain Bradley; but he used to shirk it at times.

13,374. I am speaking of those who took an active part in the election?—Yes; Captain Bradley and myself. Every morning I met Captain Bradley inside the Bell, when we started with Sir Robert Carden, and Captain Bradley sometimes left, and went away; but I continued with Sir Robert Carden during the whole day. I left, I think, only one day during the six or seven days that we were out.

13,375. Was there Mr. Hooper also?—He came. I think I saw him twice or three times. He came very little.

13,376. Mr. George Curtis?—He came occasionally.

13,377. Mr. W. Curtis?—He came also, but not to continue the whole of the day. They would meet us in one street sometimes, and go down part of the street.

13,378. Mr. Hanman?—He also came a little.

13,379. What other names can you mention?—There were a number of men. Sometimes we mustered from 25 to 30 at times; and sometimes they dwindled down to three or four, just as the occasion might be; but they were men who I did not know by name, though, if I were to see them, I should recognize them. I do not know them by name.

13,380. Can you add to the list I have read over to you?—I do not know that I can. There was a Mr. Herbert, a draper I think he is; he also came with us; and if I were to see them I should know others, but I do not recollect who they were.

13,381. Were you consulted by Mr. Lovegrove about the election?—Not at all. They merely asked me if I would accompany Sir Robert Carden. I did

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G. N. C. Buchanan.

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the same thing with Mr. Cooper and Mr. Hope. I never went beyond that in election matters, because I knew there was a great deal of business done that I would rather not be mixed up with. I knew that was the case on both sides, and therefore I kept myself clear of it; and whenever I went it was merely on the canvass. But on the last occasion I was asked, at the committee-room, if I would go and see a man named Murrell. Mr. Taynton, I think, was in the chair at the committee-room, looking over the list of voters, and he said, "There is Murrell; there is no report about him;" and whether I volunterred or not I will not say, but I may have said, "I shall pass his house as I go down to the Spa, and I will call in upon him;" and I did so. I knocked at his door, and Mrs. Murrell answered the knock. I asked her if Mr. Murrell was in the house; and she, hesitatingly, said, "Well, then, sir, I do not know that he is; pray what is your name?" I said, "My name is Buchanan." "Oh," she said, "walk in, I know he will see you;" and I went in. She took me into the parlour; and when I went in, Murrell shook his head, and said, "Ah, you know I am a "thorough-going Blue; but I am afraid I shall not "be able to vote Blue this time." I said, "How is that, Murrell?" "Well," he said, "I am under an "obligation to Mr. Wilkes, and if you will promise "not to tell any one I will tell you all about it." I have never named the subject; but now that it has been stated by Mr. Wilkes, there can be no objection to my stating what passed. He said, "Well, the fact "is, that Mr. Wilkes has a mortgage on my pro- "perty, and he came here the other day; he did "not press me to vote, but he said, 'Well, Murrell, "I hope you will vote for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.'" Murrell told me he said, in answer to that, "You know I am a regular Blue." "Oh, well," said Mr. Wilkes, "never mind; you will oblige me this time." I do not know that he said that Mr. Wilkes had pressed him more than that. In the conversation that took place afterwards, I said, "Then I suppose you cannot vote for me." He said, "Well, he has so "much money on my property, and I am also in "arrear as to interest, that I do not know what to do." I said, "Well, my good fellow; I should not jeopardize "the thing; I should vote for Price and Monk; "that is my advice to you." He said, "Yes, but I have always been a Blue." I said, "Never mind that; you are not the only man in such a position; you must go, as you cannot help yourself." I do not know that anything else passed between Murrell and myself, except that he asked me how we were getting on. I said, "Well, as far as people promise, we are getting on remarkably well; but there are so many that hang back that I do not know what the result of the election will be." That, to the best of my belief, is all that passed between Murrell and myself. I saw it stated in the papers that I had called upon him two or three times; I never called at his house but once. It has been also stated that I promised I would see Mr. Lovegrove.

13,382. Did you?—Never. I never named it to Mr. Lovegrove, nor did I name to any individual what had passed between myself and Mr. Murrell.

13,383. Did you go back a second time, and tell Murrell or his wife that you had seen Mr. Lovegrove?—Never. I never went to the house but the time I have named to you.

13,384. Did you canvass a person named Davis?—I do not recollect it. You know I called at all the houses with Sir Robert Carden; not that I interfered at all in the matter; sometimes we were a few and sometimes many; but I never went to interfere in the election.

13,385. Did you offer Davis *5l.*?—Never. To the best of my recollection, during all the elections I have been concerned in, I have never offered any one anything.

13,386. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you ever been asked by voters to give them anything?—I have been asked for a pint of beer; but even when I tried for the corporation myself, I have never given a farthing. People have stopped me in the street, and said, "I "voted for Sir Robert Carden, and I hope you will "give me something to drink," and when they have "said that, I have answered, "I voted for Sir Robert "Carden too, and I hope you will give *me* something "to drink." I never gave a single penny.

13,387. Did you offer this man Davis anything?—He may have asked me, but I am sure I never promised him anything.

13,388. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have frequented elections at Gloucester many years, have you not?—All my life; and I and my family have always voted on the Conservative side for four or five generations.

13,389. You have always avoided making any very particular inquiries as to what was going on?—I said to Mr. Whithorn, "If I can be of any service, by "going round with Sir Robert Carden, I shall be "most happy to do so;" but beyond that all that has been revealed to this court has been perfectly new to me. It has been currently reported that bribery has taken place in Gloucester, and I know that when we canvassed at the time of Mr. Cooper's election it was stated that there were about 120 venal votes; in Mr. Hope's day the number amounted to 220; and now, I believe, they have got up to nearly 400.

13,390. When did Mr. Cooper's election take place?—When I was about of age, thirty years ago; there were then 120 venal voters; that was the current report; in Mr. Hope's day there were 230; and now they amount to nearly 400; at least on our canvass at this last election we found that there were a very great many who would not promise. Whenever we called at their houses, it was, "I have not made up my mind;" "I shall not promise;" "I told a Yellow I would not promise anybody;" "I be not going to promise anybody;" and so on. I always put those men down in my own mind as venal. I suspected that they were men who would get something from one candidate or the other.

13,391. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is there any special circumstance to which you attribute this increase of venality?—Unfortunately "A little leaven" has leavened "the whole lump." When you find that even ministers are tainted, as they are, I think the effect is to lower the general standard of society. I must confess I think it is a growing evil throughout society; and I will give you a graphic sketch, confining myself to Gloucester. As I was going down the street one day to the committee-room, I saw two poor men talking very vehemently together, and I had the curiosity to hear what they were saying; it was opposite Mr. Nest's shop in the Westgate Street; he is a bookseller; I pulled up at the shop, pretending to look at some prints, but really for the purpose of hearing their conversation. One of them said, "I be "not going to let them have my vote for nothing; look "at the four-and-twenty lawyers that be having their "*25l.* down and two guineas a day; I will not let them "have my vote for nothing." I thought that showed the tone of society among the lower orders. It seemed to me a scramble which should get the most; and I do not like to see a man held up to public obloquy for getting *3s. 6d.* a day, when a professional man who makes professional charges receives his twenty-five guineas.

13,392. You were a candidate once for the South Ward, were you not?—I was.

13,393. Were you elected?—I was not; and I declare most positively that I never spent a penny, without it was for a pint of beer that I had myself. It was when the polling took place at the Albion Hotel. Mr. Hughes, to the best of my recollection, told me that it cost him *44l.*

13,394. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you of opinion that the increasing corruption of which you have now spoken is at all attributable to the system prevailing at municipal elections in this city?—I think it is. I believe it has increased very much, for I have heard of one gentleman, Mr. Eassie, giving a cheque for *550l.* for his expenses at the election.

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13,395. Was that a municipal election?—Yes.

13,396. For the office of town councillor?—Yes; and I believe there is scarcely a man who will go up and vote now unless you say you will pay him for a day's work, at any rate, and if he can get more he will. The corruption has got now general.

13,397. And you state advisedly that the system of corruption existing at the municipal elections is very extensive?—Yes, and it has tended very much to increase what we find now-a-days at the general election for members of Parliament.

13,398. Can you state when it was that that corruption was first introduced at those municipal elections?—Ever since the alteration in the body corporate. I think that when men have to elect themselves they will endeavour to have men who are respectable in the body. I think the old system was a great deal better than the present. That is my notion as an individual. The old corporation was certainly one-sided, but you cannot blame them for that. They took good care to exclude every one of the Blue side.

13,399. Your statement is that to the corruption which takes place at the municipal elections may be attributed to a great extent much of the corruption which prevails at parliamentary elections?—Yes, I think so.

13,400. Are you aware that prior to the passing of the Reform Act the system prevailed in this city of giving what was denominated head money?—I believe that there was always a price given to the voters. I have heard from different persons that whenever a man went up to vote he had so much money.

13,401. Do you state that you have heard, or is it within your knowledge, that formerly voters in this city were always in the habit of receiving something for their votes?—Always. I remember one circumstance, at Mr. Hope's election; but I believe you are not going back to that, and therefore, perhaps, I need hardly trouble you with it.

13,402. We had better take it generally?—Ever since I have been connected with this city (which is all my life) it has been believed that votes were to be bought on both sides.

13,403. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you think that the increased corruption is due to increased sums of money having been expended by candidates?—At the last election it was given out that Mr. Rilli was a very rich man, and was determined that Mr. Monk should gain his election. I was taunted by two or three of the committee on the other side, "Ah, we mean to beat you with your own weapons." I understood by that that they meant to let the money fly, for it had always been understood that the Tories were ready to give money on all occasions of that sort; but what I blame the other side for is, that they call themselves reformers, and yet do the very same thing that they complain of the Tories for doing. I do not understand what they mean by the word "Reform." Here is a Reform Club started, the object of which I thought was to put down all abuses.

13,404. They thought you should not have the monopoly of bribery?—Yes; they thought so, and they determined this time to outbid us.

13,405. Since the Reform Bill, has the existence of corruption been increased, do you think, by candidates coming down with larger sums of money?—I do not know. Under the old régime, I heard Captain Berkeley state himself, that his election cost him 27,000*l.*; and Mr. Cooper's election, I know, cost him 20,000*l.*; but there was great expense then incurred bringing voters to Gloucester, for all freemen, let them reside where they might, had a right to vote. Captain Berkeley, I believe, acknowledged that it cost him 27,000*l.*, as nearly as I can recollect.

13,406. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For one election?—For one election.

13,407. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Which election was that?—Before the Reform Bill, when the freemen at a distance could vote.

13,408. But I want to know whether corruption existing among householders has increased since the passing of the Reform Bill?—As soon as one man in a neighbourhood receives so much for his vote, it spreads, and they talk among themselves, and say, "What, are you such a fool as to vote for nothing! I "have received 5*l.* for my vote;" and so it goes on, and, as I have said, "A little leaven leavens the whole lump."

13,409. Do you think that the increased sums expended by candidates are due to the increased demands made by the voters, or that the increased demands made by the voters are due to the candidates bringing down more money for the purpose of corruption?—There is no doubt that the more money there is the more ready the voters will be to receive it; everybody now is ready to take what he can get.

13,410. Do you know the date of those elections of Mr. Cooper and Captain Berkeley to which you have referred?—I cannot charge my memory as to the years. I remember Captain Berkeley stating, that his election had cost him 27,000*l.*; and I know it was constantly reported that Mr. Cooper's election cost him 20,000*l.*; and I know that at the next election, the party, seeing Mr. Cooper had spent so much money, came forward, and put their names down as subscribers of 100*l.* each, and I think from 800*l.* to 1,200*l.* was subscribed for the purpose of assisting to carry the next election.

13,411. Who do you mean by Captain Berkeley?—Sir Maurice Berkeley now.

13,412. Did you hear Mr. Price's evidence in this court?—I heard a part of it; I left.

13,413. Did you hear him state that his election in 1857 cost him not much more than 300*l.*?—No, I did not.

13,414. If you were to hear that Mr. Price's election did not cost much more than 300*l.*, would that alter the opinion you have expressed, that corruption in this borough is on the increase?—I should say, in that case, that some one else must have paid the money.

13,415. That is your supposition?—That is my supposition. I believe that 300*l.* has never gained an election in Gloucester.

13,416. Were you at a meeting at Mr. Lovegrove's the night before the election?—I do not know that I was; I do not remember it. I went to Mr. Lovegrove's on one or two occasions. I cannot say whether I was there the night before the election.

13,417. Were you there at any time when a subscription was proposed to be entered into?—Certainly not; I never knew, till to-day, when I heard the statement, that the money had come down, or anything about it; I had never heard about the 500*l.* note, or of Mr. Lovegrove giving 500*l.*, or anything else.

13,418. Did you hear of any subscription for money?—Not at all; I never heard of anything of the sort.

JAMES BRIMMELL sworn and examined.

13,419. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A ropemaker.

13,420. Where do you live?—In Southgate Street.

13,421. Were you a supporter of Sir Robert Carden's at the last election?—Yes.

13,422. What money passed through your hands?—I did not receive any money at all.

13,423. Not from anybody?—Not from anybody.

13,424. Not for the purpose of the election?—Not for the purpose of the election.

13,425. Did you give any money yourself?—I did.

13,426. To whom?—To a man of the name of French.

13,427. What is his Christian name?—Henry French.

13,428. What is he?—He is ostler at the Ram.

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J. Brimmell.

10 Oct. 1859.

13,429. Where is that ?—In Southgate Street.

13,430. How much did you give him ?—£4.

13,431. To vote for Carden ?—To vote for Carden.

13,432. Did you pay that out of your own pocket ?—I paid that out of my own pocket.

13,433. Who is the next person ?—A man named Charles Harding.

13,434. Where does he live ?—I do not know where he lives. I think up the London Road. He is a householder.

13,435. What is he ?—A sailmaker.

13,436. In what parish ?—St. Catherine's, I think.

13,437. How much did you give him ?—£2 10*s.*

13,438. Did you give him that for his vote ?—I did not promise him ; I gave it him after. I should tell you that he works for me. I made no promise, and he never asked me for anything. After the election was over, finding that other people had money, I gave him that.

13,439. You gave it him in consequence of his having voted ?—Yes.

13,440. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you tell him it was in consequence of his having voted ?—I did not tell him so, but he so understood it, I have no doubt.

13,441. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is the next ?—Frederick Lines.

13,442. Where does he live ?—In High Orchard.

13,443. What is he ?—A ropemaker. He works for me also.

13,444. What did you give him ?—£2 10*s.*, under similar circumstances to the other.

13,445. Did you intend that that should be a payment to him for his vote for Carden ?—Of course it would be so. There was no promise made to him before he voted at all.

13,446. Now the next ?—That is all.

13,447. Is that all the money you paid ?—That is all the money I paid.

13,448. Do I understand you to say you paid those sums out of your own pocket ?—I paid them out of my own pocket.

13,449. And you have not since been repaid ?—No.

13,450. Have you sent any claim to any person in respect to them ?—No ; I do not know who to send it to.

13,451. And have you no intention to do so ?—No. I do not know who to send it to. If the parties were to send it to me I should take it ; but I do not consider I have any claim upon them. I was not authorized to do so.

13,452. Did you make any offer to any person ?—Yes, I think I did.

13,453. Who did you make an offer to ?—I offered to a man named John Withers, I think.

13,454. How much ?—I offered him 3*l.*; but it was not enough for him, I suppose. He promised his vote for Carden, but he was taken out of my hand by the other party.

13,455. Where does John Withers live ?—At High Orchard.

13,456. Anybody else ?—No ; nobody else, that I am aware of.

13,457. He did not not accept that money from you ?—I could not find him to give it him. When I saw him he was being polled, or had just polled.

13,458. Did he promise you ?—He promised to vote for Carden.

13,459. If you would give him 3*l.* ?—Yes ; but he was kidnapped on the night before, I believe.

13,460. Did you agree to give him 5*l.* ?—I did. I believe he had a larger sum from the other party for his vote.

13,461. Do you know who gave it him ?—I do not know who gave it him. I know who was after him. There was a fly sent part of the way down the canal, to fetch him, overnight.

13,462. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you know who was after him. Who was it ?—Mr. Chadbourn, and Mr. Mansell, and young Mr. Chadbourn's brother. Charles Chadbourn went down to Sharpness Point, I believe, to fetch him up.

13,463. These three men you have spoken of were your workmen, were they ?—Two of them.

13,464. Did you canvass them before for their votes ?—Yes ; I canvassed them all three ; and two promised me first, and I never promised them anything at all.

13,465. But you did canvass them ?—Yes.

13,466. You expected them to vote for you ?—Yes. It was stated here by a party, Messrs. Phillpotts and Company's foreman, I think, that I offered a bribe to a man named Wright. I was afraid to offer him a bribe, from the company he was in. I saw he was in Messrs. Phillpotts and Company's foreman's company ; he appeared to be looking after him, and he was drunk nearly all the time. I am positive I never offered a bribe. I considered him a very dangerous man to have to deal with.

13,467. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who is Mr. Chadbourn ?—He is a coal merchant.

13,468. And Charles Chadbourn is his brother ?—Yes ; and I understood he went down to Sharpness Point, to look after this man, who had engaged to poll for Carden.

13,469. Who is Mr. Mansell ?—He is a carrier here, and hallier.

13,470. Is Mr. Phillpotts a member of the firm that bears his name ?—I do not know, but his name appears in it.

13,471. What is the name of the foreman ?—Gregory.

13,472. John Gregory ?—I do not know whether his name is John or not.

J. Alloway.

JAMES ALLOWAY sworn and examined.

13,473. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Victoria Street.

13,474. What are you ?—A tailor.

13,475. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

13,476. Did you receive any money ;—Yes.

13,477. How much ?— £5.

13,478. Who from ?—From Mr. Brewer Monk.

13,479. For your vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

J. Coates.

JAMES COATES sworn and examined.

13,480. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—I was a policeman on the Midland Railway, and before that I was in the Gloucestershire constabulary. I suppose I must call myself a labourer now.

13,481. Did You receive any money at the last election ?—I did.

13,482. How much ?—£4.

13,483. Who paid it you ?—William Mallard.

13,484. What was it for ? Was it for your vote ?—Yes.

13,485. Did you vote for Price and Monk ?—I did.

13,486. What did you receive for your vote in 1857 ?—Not a farthing.

13,487. Who did you vote for then ?—Price and Carden.

13,488. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You received nothing in 1857, you say ?—I did not.

13,489. You then voted for Price and Carden ?—Yes.

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JAMES BRIMMELL called and further examined. *J. Brimmell.*

10 Oct. 1859.

13,490. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer Herbert Price *5l.* for his vote?—No; I canvassed him for his vote.

13,491. Did you offer him any money?—I did not. He wanted a horse. He had got a boat, he said, a canal boat, and he must have a horse. I did not offer him any money, to the best of my recollection.

13,492. Are you quite certain that you did not offer him *5l.*?—I would sooner swear I did than I did not, when he talked about wanting a horse.

13,493. He did not tell you what sort of a horse he wanted?—No, he did not.

WALTER SEYMOUR DAVEY sworn and examined. *W. S. Davey.*

13,494. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—I was check taker at the station.

13,495. What did you receive for your vote at the last election?—I received *4l.*

13,496. To vote for Price and Monk?—I did not vote for any one.

13,497. Who paid you the *4l.*?—Mallard.

13,498. You received it to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,499. But you did not vote?—I did not vote for any one.

13,500. (*Mr. Vaughan*) Did you vote in 1857?—No.

13,501. Had you no vote then?—No. I was canvassed two or three times by Mr. Pendry, the station master, this time; and he told me, if I would vote for Price and Monk I should be paid for my day's work, and all the men on the ground that had votes would be paid.

PETER EDWARDS sworn and examined. *P. Edwards.*

13,502. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Alvin Street.

13,503. What are you?—A gardener.

13,504. What did you receive at the last election?—£6; at least my wife did.

13,505. For your vote?—Yes.

13,506. Who did you vote for?—Price and Monk.

13,507. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) She gave the money to you, did she?—She did not give the money to me, but they gave it to she.

13,508. Did she tell you she had got the money?—Yes.

16,509. Did she give you the money?—No; she did not give me the money. She is mistress and master too.

13,510. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

13,511. Were you paid?—No; not a farthing, nor have not been for several elections; but I thought I would stand out for some this time. I have not had a farthing for many elections.

13,512. You thought you had been badly treated, I suppose?—Yes; for me to lose time and not get paid.

13,513. Who paid your wife the money?—Mrs. Hall.

THOMAS EVANS sworn and examined. *T. Evans.*

13,514. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Southgate Street.

13,515. What are you?—A bootmaker.

13,516. Did you receive any money at the last election?—I did.

13,517. How much?—£42.

13,518. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. John Wilton and Mr. Bryon.

13,519. How much did you receive from Mr. John Wilton?—£2.

13,520. And you received from Mr. Jefferson Bryon the rest?—Yes.

13,521. You received *40l.* from Mr. Bryon and *2l.* from Mr. Wilton?—Yes.

13,522. What did you receive that money for?—Treating and bribery.

13,523. What did you do with it?—I paid John Allaway *5l.*

13,524. Where does he live?—Blackfriars.

13,525. For his vote?—Yes.

13,526. For Price and Monk?—Yes. He could have had more on the other side.

13,527. He told you so?—Yes.

13,528. Is he a freeman?—Yes.

13,529. Who was the next person?—James Parry.

13,530. Where does he live?—In Longsmith Street.

13,531. In what parish?—St. Mary-le-Crypt, I believe.

13,532. What is he?—He is captain of a trow.

13,533. What did you give him?—£5; that was for expenses and trouble of voting. He had to come a distance and to return.

13,534. For expenses and for his vote?—Yes.

13,535. For Price and Monk?—Yes. He could have had more on the other side.

13,536. Who was the next?—James Hooper of Littleworth.

13,537. What did you give him?—£5.

13,538. For his vote?—Yes; for Price and Monk. He had to come from a distance, and I told him I would pay him whatever it was for his expenses and trouble.

13,539. Was it for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,540. Who was the next?—James Philip Cook, a freeman.

13,541. How much did you give him?—Three pounds. He is now on his way to New Zealand. He was a freeman.

13,542. Was that for his vote?—Yes.

13,543. For Price and Monk?—Yes. He told me he could have more on the other side.

13,544. Who was the next?—John Rogers.

13,545. What was he?—I do not know exactly where he lived.

13,546. Where is he entered on the register for?—I do not know.

13,547. What is he?—A gasfitter.

13,548. Is he a freeman?—No, I think not.

13,549. What did you give him?—£2.

13,550. For his vote?—Yes.

13,551. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,552. Who was the next?—John Orton, for Jellyman.

13,553. For which Jellyman?—The freeman. There are two Jellymans, James and John; it must have been James.

13,554. How much?—£5. I did not go into particulars.

13,555. He asked for the money, and you gave it him?—Yes.

13,556. Who was the next?—Herbert Price.

13,557. Where is he?—Of Littleworth.

13,558. How much did you give him?—£4.

13,559. Did you pay it him yourself?—Yes; he had to come a distance.

13,560. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; and he was offered *5l.* by James Brimmell for his vote; he told me so no later than this morning.

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T. Evans.
10 Oct. 1859.

13,561. Who is the next?—£2 to a non-voter, James Mills.

13,562. What was that for?—I told him to see to his father voting; but his father knew nothing of it, and I never asked him or promised him.

13,563. Was his father an old man?—Yes; in a very delicate state. I never asked him for his vote, and I never promised him anything. I heard him say he would vote for Price and Monk.

13,564. And you paid this to the son?—To the son, on the morning of the polling.

13,565. Who is the next?—Henry Townsend.

13,566. Where does he live?—In Dragon Lane.

13,567. How much did you pay him?—£5.

13,568. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; and he would have voted without anything if he had not been interfered with by other parties.

13,569. He had been tampered with by others?—Yes; in every shape. He could not pass along the street without being offered by somebody or other. I did not promise him anything. I know he would have voted without anything. I did not pay him till after he had voted.

13,570. Now the next?—That is the whole, except treating.

13,571. How did you apply the rest of the money?—There was 4*l.* There was 2*l.* I received before the election; that was for three weeks; that I spent in treating, and the other was on the day of the nomination and election.

13,572. How did you spend that?—In treating at public houses.

13,573. In treating voters?—Voters or non-voters; I was not particular.

13,574. Can you give me an account of the persons you treated?—No, I could not.

13,575. Can you mention any particular houses?—There were different houses; sometimes I went into the Fountain. I was not particular.

13,576. Whoever you treated, did you pay for what they had at the time?—At the time.

13,577. You did not go into any house, and have an account run up?—No; nothing of the sort.

13,578. That is all the money you received?—That is the amount received and expended by me at the election for the purpose of treating and bribery. I canvassed Burgess of Blackfriars. I forget whether it was John or James.

13,579. Did you offer him anything?—I did. I offered him 5*l.*

13,580. Did he accept it?—He did not. In the earlier part I understood he would vote; but he said he should vote as he had promised Mr. Hanman.

13,581. Did he tell you that he had promised to vote before you offered him the 5*l.*?—He had promised; and when I offered him the 5*l.* he said he had engaged to vote the other way. I offered Henry John Wilkins 5*l.* He said he could have 10*l.*

13,582. Did he say from whom?—From the other party.

13,583. He did not mention any particular person?—No, he did not.

13,584. Any one else?—No; not that I can recollect at present.

A. Peters.

ARTHUR PETERS sworn and examined.

13,585. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Prince Street.

13,586. What are you?—A shoemaker.

13,587. What did you receive at the last election for your vote?—My wife received 6*l.* 10*s.*

13,588. From whom?—From Mr. Hall's wife.

13,589. For your vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,590. What did you receive at the election before, in 1857?—I had no vote at all then.

13,591. You voted for Price and Monk at the last election?—Yes.

13,592. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you received it from Mr. Hall's wife?—My wife received it from Mr. Hall's wife.

13,593. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you promised the 6*l.* 10*s.* before you voted?—Yes; the night before.

13,594. Who promised you?—Mr. Hall.

13,595. And Mrs. Hall paid it to your wife the next day?—Yes.

13,596. Was that after you had voted?—Before I had polled.

T. Evans.

THOMAS EVANS called and further examined.

13,597. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to add something to your evidence?

Yes. I find that I have omitted one name; Bowkett 2*l.*

W. Merritt.

WILLIAM MERRITT sworn and examined.

13,598. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Mitre Street.

13,599. What are you?—A tailor.

13,600. What did you receive at the last election? I received on the morning of the polling 4*l.*

13,601. Who did you receive it from?—He lives next door to the hall, here.

13,602. Mr. Jacobs?—Yes.

13,603. Was it for your vote for Price and Monk?—It was.

13,604. What did you receive at the election of 1857?—£2.

13,605. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

13,606. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Jacobs said he gave you 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*?—He gave me 4*l.* on the morning of the polling, and on the Saturday previous to that he gave me 1*l.*, and in my extreme illness he gave me a few shillings. I cannot say what it was; but I believe the man is right.

13,607. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was before you voted?—Yes. I believe the man is quite right.

13,608. What did you say you had for your vote at the election of 1857?—I did not receive a halfpenny from the Liberal party. I received 2*l.* from a spirit merchant up in the Bell Lane.

13,609. Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

13,610. Who did you vote for then?—I voted for Mr. Price and Sir Robert Carden.

13,611. Did you receive the 2*l.* then to vote for Carden?—I did.

13,612. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did you receive that money in 1857? Where was it paid you?—The committee-room was nearly opposite this hall.

13,613. You received it in the committee-room?—Yes, I did.

13,614. Did you receive the 2*l.* from Mr. Whithorn in the committee-room in 1857?—I did.

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JOHN WATKINS HYETT sworn and examined. *J. W. Hyett.*

10 Oct. 1859.

13,615. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Kingsholm.
13,616. What are you?—A labourer.
13,617. Are you a freeman?—Yes.
13,618. What did you receive for your vote at the last election?—£8.
13,619. Who paid it you?—Mr. William Probert.
13,620. To vote for Price and Monk?—To vote for Price and Monk.
13,621. And you voted?—Yes.
13,622. Did you receive anything for your vote in the election of 1857?—Not a penny.
13,623. Who did you vote for then?—Price and Berkeley.

JOHN BOUGHTON sworn and examined. *J. Boughton.*

13,624. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A solicitor.
13,625. Were you a supporter of Sir Robert Carden's at the last election?—I am not a voter, but I assisted him in the election.
13,626. Did you canvass?—I canvassed a few voters in town, and some of the out-voters.
13,627. Were you professionally employed?—Yes.
13,628. What was the amount of your professional fee?—Ten guineas.
13,629. Did you receive or pay any money?—No, I did not.
13,630. Did you pay any expenses in canvassing?—Not any at all.
13,631. Did you attend the committee-rooms?—I did.
13,632. Did you make returns of voters that you had canvassed?—I did, of a few.
13,633. During your canvass did you receive from any of the voters intimations that they required payment?—Not one.
13,634. Are you aware of any acts of bribery?—Only what I have heard.
13,635. What part did you take in the election?—I canvassed some out-voters at Longford.
13,636. Who were they?—I think one's name was Griffiths.
13,637. Did he promise you?—Yes.
13,638. Without any consideration?—Yes.
13,639. Of your own knowledge, you know of no bribes having been given?—No, not one.
13,640. Or asked for at the last election?—No.

WILLIAM JONES sworn and examined. *W. Jones.*

13,641. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Cambridge Street.
13,642. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In what parish?—Barton Saint Mary's.
13,643. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman?—No.
13,644. What are you?—A shoemaker.
13,645. Did you receive any money at the last election?—I did.
13,646. How much?—£10.
13,647. From whom?—From Mr. Clutterbuck of the Dolphin.
13,648. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—I did.
13,649. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.
13,650. And you voted?—I did.
13,651. What did you receive at the election before; in 1857?—£4.
13,652. Who did you receive that from?—From Mr. Clutterbuck.
13,653. The same Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes, I did.
13,654. Was that to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, it was.
13,655. And you voted?—I did.
13,656. Did you receive anything at any former election?—No.
13,657. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck pay you that 4*l.*?—At the committee-room; not in the committee-room, but in the house; some part of the house.
13,658. In the house where the committee-room was?—Yes.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at 10 o'clock.

Fourteenth Day.—11th October 1859.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined. *J. Lovegrove.*

11 Oct. 1859.

13,659. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you brought now the list of messengers with which you were to furnish us?—Yes; and I also produce the canvass book, which the Commissioners can refer to, if they think proper.
13,660. Is that the canvass book in which all the returns were made?—Yes.
13,661. Was it kept by Mr. Taynton?—Yes; it was kept generally in the committee room.
13,662. And it was afterwards handed to you?—Yes.
13,663. Is it now in exactly the state in which it was when it came into your possession?—Yes. (*The documents referred to are handed in.*)

WILLIAM NICKS sworn and examined. *W. Nicks.*

13,664. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A timber merchant.
13,665. Living in Gloucester?—In Gloucester.
13,666. Were you an active partisan of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—I was not.
13,667. Were you a member of his committee?—No; he had no committee.
13,668. Did you canvass for him?—I did for about an hour, not more; I was not in Gloucester but about a day during the whole election. I was at Torquay with my family part of the time, and the other part up in the North on important business.
13,669. Had you anything to do with the management or details of the last election?—Not the slightest.
13,670. Did any money pass through your hands?—Not a shilling.
13,671. You did not bribe any voters?—No; I never gave or offered a bribe, or was asked for a bribe, in my life, except on one occasion, and that was at

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W. Nicks.
11 Oct. 1859.

the last election; then a man did ask me for a bribe, and of course I walked away.

13,672. Neither in 1859, or in 1857, did you offer or give a bribe to any person?—I never offered or gave a bribe in my life.

13,673. Were you at all cognizant of the practices which prevailed at the last election?—I had not the slightest idea of anything being wrong in 1857 or 1859 until I saw it in the papers.

13,674. In 1857, I believe you canvassed more frequently than you did in 1859?—I was engaged during the whole time in 1857; in fact, I was as active as, perhaps, a man could be in 1857; I did all I could to secure Sir Robert Carden's return.

13,675. And in the year 1857, we understand you to say, you did not take any part whatever in attempting to influence any voters by corrupt practices?—I never offered, or gave, or was asked for a bribe in 1857.

13,676. And you knew nothing about any bribery?—No.

T. W. Baxter.

THOMAS WYATT BAXTER sworn and examined.

13,677. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A timber merchant.

13,678. In Gloucester?—In Gloucester.

13,679. You were one of the supporters of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Yes.

13,680. Did you take an active part in the election?—No; I did not take an active part in it.

13,681. Did you canvass for him?—About half a day or less.

13,682. Were you a frequenter of his committee room?—No; I am not aware that there was a committee.

13,683. You did not go into any committee-room?—I did not.

13,684. Did you give any person any money for his vote?—No.

13,685. Did you offer any person any?—No.

13,686. Did you hold out any inducement?—No; I was never asked for a farthing, and offered no inducement.

13,687. And made no promise to any person?—No.

13,688. Were you aware of any corrupt practices existing at the last election?—No; I was not aware of them at all.

13,689. Were you in communication with Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn prior to the polling?—No; I had no communication with them beyond being asked to canvass; circulars were sent out asking me to canvass, but nothing further.

13,690. Did you take any part in the election in 1857?—I took a more active part in 1857.

13,691. Did you in 1857 offer any person any money to vote?—No.

13,692. Nor give any money to any person?—Not a fraction.

13,693. Nor hold out any inducement?—No.

13,694. Were you aware at the election of 1857 that any corrupt practices existed?—I believed it to be pure at the time.

13,695. You believed the election of 1857 to be quite pure?—Yes; I believed it to be so.

13,696. You were not aware that any bribery was then carried on?—No.

13,697. Were you ever requested to subscribe any money for the election of 1857?—No.

13,698. Or to advance any money?—No.

13,699. (*Mr. Welford.*) During your canvass in 1859 did you find that a great many of the voters refused to promise?—I was not with them above a few hours, and we did not canvass above 15 men during the time I was out.

13,700. And you did not find among those men you canvassed any reluctance to promise?—There was no difference between them then and in 1857.

13,701. You probably canvassed the more respectable class of voters?—Quite so.

13,702. You did not go much among the freemen?—Not at all; I was not aware that any were freemen. They were the householders in our own district.

13,703. Do you know a person named Stamper?—I do.

13,704. Was he formerly in your employment?—I was in the same employment as he is; I was formerly manager for Barkworth and Spaldin.

13,705. Were you made acquainted by Stamper, during the last election, with any illegal practices?—Stamper and I have had no connexion for two years, and he is an opponent, therefore I could have no communication with Stamper.

13,706. You had none in relation to the election proceedings?—Certainly not.

13,707. You do not know anything of any of Stamper's practices?—No, not at all.

W. Nicks.

WILLIAM NICKS called and further examined.

13,708. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know anything of a person named Arkill?—I know a man named Arkill in Gloucester, a fruiterer.

13,709. Did you canvass him?—No; he was not in my district at all.

13,710. Had you anything to do with Arkill with reference to the last election, or the election of 1857?—I never spoke to him with reference to the election in my life. I have a man or two named Arkill in my employ, but I do not think they are voters. I never mentioned the election to either of them in my life.

13,711. With regard to all persons of the name of Arkill that you know, you give the same answer, that you did not exercise any improper influence over either of them for the purpose of getting their votes either in 1859 or 1857?—Certainly not. I have one or two men named Arkill in my employment, but I do not think they have votes, not to my knowledge; certainly they never mentioned anything to me about their votes.

R. T. Smith.

RICHARD TEW SMITH sworn and examined.

13,712. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live in Gloucester?—I do.

13,713. What are you?—I am a general carrier, and a railway agent.

13,714. I believe, in the year 1857, you were the Mayor of this city?—Yes; I nominated Sir Robert Carden.

13,715. I suppose you took an active part in promoting his election?—I did my best to return him.

13,716. I mean at the last election in 1859?—Yes, not quite so much I think as in 1857.

13,717. Were you consulted by Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn with regard to the steps it would be necessary to take for promoting the success of Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—No; I was not consulted. I might, perhaps, qualify that. I attended some of the meetings, when a discussion took place as to adopting measures that might be considered best to return Sir Robert Carden.

13,718. Were those meetings held from time to time during the contest?—Yes; occasionally in the evening.

13,719. From the commencement of the canvass down to the time of the polling?—Very frequently.

13,720. At those meetings did any discussion take place as to the funds that it would be necessary to provide?—Not one word.

13,721. Was it considered at all those meetings

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that were held that Sir Robert Carden's return might be effected without resort to any malpractices?—Yes, decidedly so; I never heard corrupt practices alluded to at all.

13,722. And those meetings were continued to be held down to the time of the polling-day?—Yes. I cannot state any specific time, but there were frequently half dozens got together to talk over measures that we considered best for securing the return of Sir Robert Carden.

13,723. By what measures did you expect to effect his return if you did not resort to bribery and other malpractices?—By fair and honourable measures, by canvassing the voters, and returning him in a fair and just and honourable manner.

13,724. Was it considered at those meetings that by canvassing voters you would obtain the return of Sir Robert Carden?—No doubt of it; and I still think so now.

13,725. Did you go to the committee room during the two or three weeks prior to the election?—I occasionally went in there, but I took no part there at all. I simply went in to hear how things were going on.

13,726. When you went there who did you see? Who did you have that conversation with regarding the election?—I think I generally found Mr. Taynton chiefly there, and sometimes Alderman Whithorn, and many other gentlemen were in and out. If I wished to obtain any information, I generally asked Mr. Taynton for that information, or Mr. Lovegrove.

13,727. Had you no communication or conversation with Mr. Whithorn as to what he understood as to the state of the canvass?—No, I have no recollection of talking to Alderman Whithorn as to the state of the canvass. I asked Mr. Lovegrove two or three times, I believe, as to the state of the canvass.

13,728. You have no recollection of any conversation with Mr. Whithorn, but you have with Mr. Lovegrove?—I had conversations with Mr. Lovegrove; I perfectly recollect that. I was anxious about it.

13,729. What was the nature of the answers you received to your questions?—Generally that we were progressing favourably.

13,730. Was it not stated to you that a great number of the voters declined to promise?—Towards the last I heard that several held back.

13,731. Towards the last?—As it came near to the polling-day.

13,732. A day or two before the election?—Yes. I cannot speak to a day or two, but I should say within a week previous to the election I heard that a good many promises were held back.

13,733. Who did you hear that from?—I think it must have been Mr. Lovegrove, because I have no recollection of asking anyone else respecting the state of the canvass.

13,734. You are quite sure you did not hear it at an earlier period than a week before the election?—The impression on my mind is, that it was not at an earlier period.

13,735. At that time was any communication made to you by Mr. Lovegrove as to what would be required to be done for the purpose of stimulating the backwardness of the voters?—No; he never communicated with me on any matter of the kind.

13,736. He said nothing to you about it?—He did not.

13,737. Did you not yourself inquire of Mr. Lovegrove what steps he proposed to take for the purpose of obtaining promises from those voters who had not promised?—No, I did not.

13,738. When did you first know that any money had been employed in the purchase of votes?—On reading the evidence given in this court before this Commission.

13,739. Do you mean to swear that until you read the evidence that has been given before us you had not heard from any person at all that money had been spent in the purchase of votes at the last election?—I had heard, of course, common report state it so, but I had no knowledge of the fact.

13,740. Did you not hear it from Mr. Lovegrove?—No.

13,741. Or from Mr. Whithorn?—No, certainly not; indeed, I had no knowledge of the financial matters connected with the election at all, and I never was consulted upon them.

13,742. Do you represent that, until this inquiry commenced, you thought the election of Sir Robert Carden was perfectly pure?—I cannot say I thought so, because I had heard so many reports to the contrary: but I had no knowledge myself that it was not so.

13,743. Had you not heard at all from any person who took an active part in the election, to what purpose the money that had been expended had been applied?—No, I had not; and I was greatly surprised when I heard what had been expended.

13,744. Did you yourself canvass any of the voters?—Yes; I canvassed both in 1857 and 1859, but more so, I think, in 1857 than in 1859; but I have a strong objection to canvassing, and avoided it all I possibly could beyond what I considered it my duty to do on behalf of Sir Robert Carden.

13,745. What districts did you canvass?—I did not take any particular district at all. I simply ran out for two or three hours when it was convenient to me, and joined the parties that were moving about.

13,746. You canvassed indiscriminately?—I did so.

13,747. Did you canvass voters who were employed at the different railway stations?—I did in 1857, some two or three of them, but owing to some remarks that were made after that election, which were not at all pleasing to me, I refused to do it in 1859.

13,748. And in 1859 you did not do it?—I did not do it farther than this; there are some 22 or 23 voters at the Midland Station; and out of the whole of these men I find I called on one man in company, I believe, with Sir Robert Carden. That man's name is Walter Davey, and he resides in Barton-street; but at the time, I believe, that we called at the door I had no knowledge of his being one of the Midland Railway servants. I see that Mr. Moss, the builder, stated in his evidence, which I have seen for the first time in the papers, that Davey said he did not care a damn about Mr. Price being on the Board of the railway upon which he was employed, as Mr. Smith, the Mayor of Gloucester, had promised him a situation on the Great Western line; I simply wish to give to that the most flat contradiction I can give to it as being entirely false. Whether the man stated so to Moss or not I am not in a position to say. I believe that was the only man at all connected with the Midland Railway, at the election of 1859, that I spoke to respecting a vote; I refused to do it.

13,749. You did not promise him any situation upon the Great Western Railway, nor did you promise him any employment?—I did not, nor any other man. I have no recollection of being asked to do so.

13,750. Was there any other person that you canvassed to whom you did make any promise?—No, I never made a promise directly or indirectly in my life to obtain a vote, and I never gave a bribe or saw one pass.

13,751. And you did not know yourself any person who, at the last election, did so prior to your hearing of the evidence that has been given in this court?—That is so.

13,752. With regard to the election in 1857, you were more active than you were in 1859?—Yes, I think so; I nominated Sir Robert Carden in 1857, and, therefore, perhaps I felt a greater interest in his success, and I had, perhaps, something to do with bringing him down.

13,753. With respect to that election in 1857, is it your opinion that the election, on the part of Sir Robert Carden, was a pure election?—I know nothing to the contrary; and I may say, still further, that the impression on my mind is, that Sir Robert Carden

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thinks the same, and I will give you my reason, if you please.

13,754. No, there is no occasion for that, because we shall have Sir Robert Carden here himself. Are you of opinion, also, that the election of 1859 was a pure election?—I am not now.

13,755. But you were?—Yes; I thought it was as pure as they generally have been in Gloucester. There is no doubt there has always been a little bribing, but I have no knowledge of anything of the kind myself.

13,756. Have you been for many years a resident in Gloucester?—About ten years.

13,757. Your knowledge does not extend then beyond that period?—No; I registered my vote for Mr. Hope, I believe, in 1852, but I took no part in the election. I can only speak as to 1857 and 1859, except from report.

13,758. I suppose you know that we have had evidence given before us of bribery having been committed in 1857. Have you read the evidence given in this court sufficiently to know that?—I cannot say positively that I have. I have read something about it, but I did not know that you had any proof of it.

13,759. Did you ever attend any meeting of gentlemen connected with Sir Robert Carden, for the purpose of providing a fund for promoting his return?—No, certainly not.

13,760. A temporary fund?—No, never. I never gave sixpence in my life towards Sir Robert Carden's election, and I have no knowledge of any one else doing so.

13,761. Have you stood a contested election yourself for the office of town councillor?—I am in the corporation now.

13,762. When you were elected town councillor was that election a contested one?—Yes.

13,763. Did you expend a considerable sum of money in securing your return?—I do not know that you may call it a considerable sum. It was more than I intended to expend, certainly; but after the election was over I was informed there were several outstanding bills, and I immediately sent for a list of them and paid them.

13,764. What was the amount?—The amount I paid, I think, was 30*l.*

13,765. Was that the total cost of your election?—Of my share of it.

13,766. Were there several standing in the same position as yourself?—Myself and colleague, Mr. Nicks.

13,767. Yourself and Mr. Nicks were the only two standing for that particular ward in the same interest?—Yes.

13,768. And your share was 30*l.*?—My share was 30*l.*

13,769. Your share was 30*l.*; that was the total cost to you?—Yes.

13,770. And the whole expense was 60*l.*?—Yes.

13,771. How was that money spent?—I have no knowledge how it was spent; I cannot tell you that.

13,772. Do you know whether or not any portion of that money was spent in corrupting the electors?—I think it is very likely.

13,773. Did you not take any steps to ascertain?—No, I did not.

13,774. You purposely avoided it?—I did not purposely avoid it, but I trusted to those who managed the election for me.

13,775. What ward do you represent?—The East ward, the largest ward of the city.

13,776. Is it the fact that municipal elections in this city are usually attended with a considerable expenditure of money?—It is so. At that time I did not quite understand it, perhaps, so well as I do now.

13,777. Do you consider that the corruption at municipal elections arises or has arisen out of the practice of the corruption of voters at parliamentary elections?—Well, I cannot give an opinion upon that. I have not, perhaps, had sufficient experience. I think that in municipal elections, it generally began by the poorer class of voters getting their day's pay, and as it went on, of course the day's labour became more valuable; and to what extent it may ultimately get it is impossible for me to say.

13,778. Your knowledge of the bribery existing at municipal elections does not extend further than the requirement by the poorer class of voters of pay for their day's labour?—No; it does not extend beyond that; but, as I have stated before, it begins to get larger in amount. I think, in the first instance, it began in that way; that was the basis of it.

13,779. That was my question, whether, so far as you know, the commencement was the payment to the poorer class of voters of their day's labour?—Yes; that is so.

13,780. Can you see any connexion between such payment and the employment of voters as messengers at parliamentary elections?—There is a similarity; there is no doubt about that. I presume both parties get paid for scarcely doing anything.

13,781. Have you had only one contested election since you have become a member of the corporation?—I have been in the corporation five years. At my last election I was opposed, but it was not an opposition that I cared at all for, and therefore I hardly consider it a contested election. I took very little trouble in the matter.

13,782. Have you ever had to sustain a larger expenditure than the 30*l.* which you speak of as having been the amount of your expenditure at your first election?—No; and I never intend to expend that again.

13,783. (*Mr. Welford.*) You mention having attended some meetings of friends of Sir Robert Carden before the election, at which you discussed the measure for procuring his return. At those meetings, was not the fact of a great number of voters withholding their promises considered an important matter?—Well; that certainly came always under discussion when the returns were made, and it certainly was an important question; there is no doubt about that; but nothing was ever suggested to me as to how that difficulty was to be overcome.

13,784. Were no suggestions made as to obtaining promises?—No; nothing beyond what would occur in the course of common conversation.

13,785. Was it not discussed or considered that many of these promises were withheld in the expectation of obtaining some advantage?—I think it is very possible that such an observation might be made, but it is impossible to charge my memory with the actual conversation that took place.

13,786. But still such suggestions were made?—No doubt about that.

13,787. Were no suggestions made for overcoming that difficulty?—I never heard the slightest intimation of anything of the kind.

13,788. But you arrived at this point; that voters who would not promise expected money; but there was no attempt to solve the difficulty?—No; I did not consider it part of my duty to solve the difficulty.

13,789. Nor did you hear others discuss the method of solving it?—I did not.

13,790. Did you attend any meeting between Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove on the Saturday or on the Friday preceding the election week?—In all probability. I was with Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove frequently, but I have no recollection of any particular meeting; and I must say again, neither Mr. Whithorn nor Mr. Lovegrove consulted me on the matter of the election.

13,791. And there was no discussion as to the mode of securing promises in your presence?—No, certainly not.

13,792. At that time had you heard of rumours of corruption on either side?—Oh, yes.

13,793. On Price and Monk's side?—Yes; but I must say, that is always the case at all elections. I do not always put great faith in those reports; there

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is an object in starting them; there is no doubt about that.

13,794. At your meetings was it discussed whether great expectations were being held out of money being provided on the part of your opponents?—I cannot say that the question was discussed at all; it was sometimes mentioned.

13,795. Still, all you heard discussed did not lead you to the expectation that money would be expended on your side for corruption?—Certainly not. If you ask me, as I stated before, if I had a suspicion that money might be spent, I admit that did cross my mind; but I had no knowledge of the fact; I never heard it discussed; indeed, I did not think that they would be in a position to get the money to spend.

13,796. Did you really expect your candidate would win the election without the expenditure of money corruptly?—I think now, that if Sir Robert Carden had had fair play he would have won the election.

13,797. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) That is, if money had not been spent on either side?—Yes. I still think that the balance of power is very equal in Gloucester, and that the Conservatives have a right to a fair share in the representation.

13,798. Were you aware of the employment of messengers by the Conservative candidates?—No, I had not the slightest knowledge whether there were ten, twenty, or fifty.

13,799. Is there a committee now sitting with reference to future elections?—I will explain that, if you will allow me; but, first of all, perhaps, I may not be out of order if I refer to a bit of evidence here that certainly caused great surprise in my mind. I allude to a remark made by Mr. Walter Clutterbuck. He says, "I believe Gloucester to be one of the most corrupt boroughs in England; I firmly believe, that, taking the four streets, there are not ten persons on either side that are free and unbiassed." Now, sir, as a magistrate of the city, and having twice served the office of Mayor, it is to be supposed that I have some little regard for the honour of the old city; and I can only say, that taking away the two or three hundred venal voters that exist, I believe the constituency of Gloucester are as respectable and intelligent as any in England, and I consider this bit of evidence a gratuitous insult, quite uncalled for; and, as a citizen, knowing what I do, and moving about among my fellow citizens day by day, I feel deeply the insult cast upon them by Mr. Clutterbuck, and on their behalf I beg to repudiate it. And I may go on to state that, such is the desire that these corrupt practices should be got rid of, that a committee now exists of twenty-four gentlemen connected with the city, twelve on each side, to take this matter into serious consideration, and to see if some scheme cannot be adopted to prevent the evils complained of. That committee has met once; I had the honour to preside over them; and we have selected a sub-committee of six to go further into the matter, and I hope that in the course of next week we shall be in a position to have our second meeting; and I assure you, it is the desire and wish of the respectable inhabitants of this city to put an end to corrupt practices, and it will not be their fault if it is not done. I merely volunteer this statement, because that statement of Mr. Clutterbuck was as unheard of as it was uncalled for.

13,800. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was that committee appointed?—There was some difficulty in getting the committee together; it was appointed, I think, a week previous to the commission arriving here. But the subject has been under discussion in our local papers for some weeks. The committee of twenty-four is merely a nucleus, from which to form, if possible, a much larger committee, because without a large number, I do not anticipate that any possible success could result, for I am free to admit that the question is surrounded with difficulties.

13,801. You are aware that Mr. Walter Clutterbuck is one of the most active supporters of Sir Robert Carden?—I am quite aware of that fact; but I think that Sir Robert Carden would be quite as well without him.

13,802. Of course I know nothing about the merits or demerits of Mr. Walter Clutterbuck as a partizan, but he stated he had canvassed very largely on behalf of Sir Robert Carden. I suppose, too, that he is a person of great experience, having known Gloucester for many years; and he stated what he did state as the result of his knowledge of Gloucester during nearly the whole of his life?—I am here on my oath, and I believe it to be a gratuitous lie.

13,803. You state that as your opinion, founded on your knowledge during the last ten years that you have resided in Gloucester?—Yes; I am speaking more now respecting my fellow citizens; of course, the outvoters I do not profess to have any knowledge of.

13,804. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then a good deal of the evidence given before this Commission must have been a surprise to you, as to the extent of corruption, and as to the respectable persons engaged in it?—I must tell you that the evidence before this Commission *has* astounded me.

13,805. Because you must have seen there are, not only a considerable number of venal voters, but a considerable number of men holding respectable positions who have lent themselves to the corruption of those voters?—There is no doubt that that is so; it is a pity it is so; but the misfortune is, that the men that lend themselves to corrupting the voters merely look upon it as an electioneering business without any harm connected with it.

J. Bryon.

JEFFERSON BRYON sworn and examined.

13,806. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the landlord of the Berkeley Arms?—Yes.

13,807. What money did you receive at the last election?—100*l.*

13,808. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. John Wilton.

13,809. When did you get it from him?—On the election morning.

13,810. (*Mr. Welford.*) On the polling morning?—Yes.

13,811. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any money from any other person?—No.

13,812. 100*l.* was all you received?—All I received.

13,813. How did you expend it?—I gave Mr. William Henley 30*l.*, John Ayers 15*l.* My own account was 22*l.* 10*s.*

13,814. Your own tavern account?—Yes; I paid Francis Barnfield 7*l.* 17*s.* I paid Roberts, at the Nelson Inn, at Rudford, 2*l.* 10*s.* for expenses. I bribed Frederick Reece with 10*l.*

13,815. Who is he?—A pilot on the canal.

13,816. Is he a freeman?—No; a householder.

13,817. Where does he live?—He lives in High Orchard.

13,818. How much did you give Frederick Reece?—10*l.*

13,819. Was that for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,820. Who else?—John Miles, a tailor.

13,821. In what parish does he live?—Saint Mary-le-Crypt.

13,822. How much did you give him?—£5.

13,823. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

13,824. Now the next?—I gave Roberts 5*l.* to give to Wadley; I do not know his Christian name.

13,825. Was that Roberts of the Nelson?—Yes; I gave Roberts of the Nelson 5*l.* to give to Wadley.

13,826. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; I gave James Williams, of Sudbrook, for treating 10*s.*

13,827. For treating whom?—For treating the voters.

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13,828. For treating voters where?—I think it was in the Island, as near as I can say; I believe that to be it. He asked me if I would give him the money, and I did.

13,829. How much?—10*s.*

13,830. Now the next?—That makes 98*l.* 7*s.* I think, which left me a balance of 1*l.* 13*s.*

13,831. That you have in hand?—Yes; in addition to that I advanced out of my own money, which is still due to me the following sums. I gave Mr. Evans, a shoemaker, in Southgate Street, 40*l.*

13,832. Out of your own money?—Out of my own money. I gave Payne, junior, 10*l.*; William Payne I think his name is.

13,833. Where does he live?—In Southgate Street.

13,834. Is that the son of Payne the stonemason?—Yes.

13,835. What did you give to Payne, junior, 10*l.* for?—For votes, I suppose.

13,836. (*Mr. Welford.*) To buy votes?—Yes.

13,837. And Mr. Evans for the same purpose?—Yes; he asked me to lend him 40*l.*, which I lent him. I gave Charles Hatch, a tailor, 1*l.*

13,838. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where does Hatch live?—I cannot say; Hare Lane, I think.

13,839. What did you give Charles Hatch that money for?—As a bribe, I suppose.

13,840. For his vote?—Yes.

13,841. For Price and Monk?—For Price and Monk.

13,842. Now the next?—I made a claim of 3*l.* 3*s.* for a room used for the election.

13,843. You made a claim on the committee?—Yes; I sent in a bill of three guineas for the use of the room.

13,844. A room in your own house?—Yes.

13,845. We are now taking what you advanced. You advanced 40*l.*?—That leaves me a balance to myself of 49*l.* 7*s.* of my own money.

13,846. You advanced 40*l.* to Evans?—Yes.

13,847. And 10*l.* to Payne, junior?—Yes.

13,848. And you gave 5*l.* to Charles Hatch?—Yes; that makes 51*l.*

13,849. Did you advance any money to any other persons?—No.

13,850. Neither advanced nor paid?—No.

13,851. Besides that money there is a claim of three guineas?—I have a claim on Price and Monk for 3*l.* 3*s.* for a committee room in my own house, for a room let to them. I offered Charles Hatch an amount which I cannot remember, but I paid him on account 1*l.*

13,852. But you offered him more money?—I offered him more money, but I cannot say what I did offer him. He did not vote for Price and Monk. I promised Henry Cox 7*l.*

13,853. Who is Henry Cox?—He used to be a publican in the lane where I live; he is not now.

13,854. Where did he live at the last election?—He lived in the Berkeley Arms Lane.

13,855. You promised to give him 7*l.*?—Yes; which I intend to pay, if I get the money, but not having received it he is not yet paid.

13,856. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How did he vote?—He voted for Price and Monk.

13,857. (*Mr. Welford.*) He performed his part of the contract?—He did, but I did not.

13,858. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who else?—I promised Captain Jackson his expenses from Cardiff, when I could get the money; but as I have not got it, he is not yet paid.

13,859. What is Captain Jackson's Christian name?—William.

13,860. Where does he live?—He keeps the Brunswick Arms.

13,861. Was it anything besides the expenses that he wanted? Was it any sum he wanted?—I think it was 5*l.*

13,862. From Cardiff?—Yes; he has not got it.

13,863. How did he vote?—For Price and Monk.

13,864. That sum was offered to him to come to vote?—I said I would see him paid.

13,865. It was for his vote and expenses?—Yes, for his vote and expenses. I also engaged Danter's fly, on behalf of Messrs. Price and Monk, with a view to get his vote. I was present at the time Danter signed the authority drawn up by Mr. William Henley, and Mr. George Ball was also present.

13,866. We will come to that presently?—I have no further evidence to give.

13,867. You have not been repaid that 40*l.*—No.

13,868. Nor the 10*l.*?—No.

13,869. Nor the 1*l.*?—No.

13,870. Have you been paid your three guineas?—Yes.

13,871. And have you made two promises, one of 5*l.* and the other of 7*l.*, which you have not yet performed?—Which I have not yet performed.

13,872. Dou you look to any person for the repayment of these moneys?—No; I have no one to look to for it. I did it of my own account, at the heat of the moment, and I do not know who to apply to for the money.

13,873. What did you give Mr. Henley 30*l.* for?—To buy votes.

13,874. Did he say for what purpose he wanted the money, or to whom he intended to give it?—No; I gave him 30*l.* the first thing in the morning.

13,875. John Ayers 15*l.*?—Yes.

13,876. To buy votes also?—Yes.

13,877. Did he tell you what votes he wanted to purchase?—No.

13,878. You had an account for 22*l.* 10*s.*, what was that for?—For refreshments.

13,879. Supplied to voters?—Yes.

13,880. And messengers?—No; to voters; drinking, eating, and refreshments.

13,881. Were you told to supply refreshments to voters?—Mr. Wilton said I might go to the amount of 20*l.*, and I went a little over the mark.

13,882. Mr. John Wilton?—Yes; and I went a little over the mark.

13,883. I suppose you knew pretty well who were voters and who were not voters, did you not?—No; I did not know much about it, for I never was in an election before, and had nothing to do with it.

13,884. However, people who came in and said they were friends of Price and Monk, you let them have what they wanted?—Yes; one brought another. I could not say who had it, or who they were.

13,885. What did you give Barnfield 7*l.* 17*s.* for?—Some country voters. We had many transactions, and he asked me if I would give him the money; it was for his account for those voters, 7*l.* 17*s.*

13,886. That is the Sailors' Home, is it not?—The Sailors' Home.

13,887. And Roberts of the Nelson, you paid him 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

13,888. Was that for refreshments supplied by Roberts?—At his house. I do not know how many voters he had. That was his account, and I gave him the money.

13,889. Did Barnfield and Roberts give you the accounts—did they give you bills and receipt them?—I have got Mr. Barnfield's receipt, but I have not got Roberts'.

13,890. You say you gave 5*l.* to Roberts to give to Wadley?—Yes.

13,891. Do you know that Roberts did give that 5*l.* to Wadley?—I cannot say; I was in the passage at the time; it was given him in the little room adjoining the passage.

13,892. Was Wadley in your house at the time you gave the 5*l.* to Roberts?—He was.

13,893. And when you had given the 5*l.* to Roberts where did Roberts go to?—He went with Wadley.

13,894. You gave the 5*l.* to Roberts?—Yes.

13,895. Whether he gave it to Wadley or not you do not know?—No.

13,896. And you do not knew where Roberts went

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after you gave it him?—No; I never saw him the rest of the day that I know of.

13,897. You gave to James Williams, of Sudbrook, 10*s.*?—Yes.

13,898. What James Williams is that?—He lives on Baker's Quay.

13,899. What is he?—He is in the timber yard at Price's.

13,900. Do you mean that he is employed at Mr. Price's yard?—Yes.

13,901. You say that you were present when Danter signed a paper?—Yes.

13,902. Was there any money due from Danter to you?—I engaged him on behalf of Price and Monk to drive for the election. I advanced him money two or three times a week. There was no money paid for his driving, and I advanced him different sums of money during the time.

13,903. He occupied your stables as a tenant?—He did.

13,904. What was the rent?—Four shillings a week.

13,905. How long did he occupy it?—He occupied it about twenty or twenty-one weeks; I cannot say exactly.

13,906. Then his rent would be about 4*l.*—Yes; he owed 3*l.* 11*s.*, I think; the account is against him for stable rent—I think it is; I cannot say exactly.

13,907. What money did you advance him during the progress of the election?—I should think altogether it is 19*l.*; there was the stable rent 4*l.*

13,908. That you said was 3*l.* 11*s.*?—I think so; I gave my word for 4*l.* 2*s.* for corn for him.

13,909. To whom?—Mr. Dobie, the baker.

13,910. For Danter?—Yes.

13,911. What is the next?—I cannot exactly say what the cash is, but I think I went through it and found it was nearly 19*l.* advanced in cash, stable, and corn.

13,912. £19 altogether?—Yes; besides the drink that he had at the house.

13,913. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you the account with you?—No, I have not.

13,914. Have you it in writing anywhere?—Yes, I have.

13,915. In a book?—I have the cash lent.

13,916. When you lent him that money did he give you a receipt for it?—No; I paid Mr. Cooke 2*l.*, that I have a receipt for, and Mr. Henley 5*s.* for some cards he printed, and I advanced him 2*l.* to keep him from being sold off.

13,917. You advanced Danter 2*l.*, he being put in the County Court?—Yes.

13,918. He owed Mr. Cooke 4*l.*, and you advanced Danter 2*l.* to pay Mr. Cooke?—Yes.

13,919. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is that in addition to the 19*l.*?—No, it is included in the 19*l.*; I could give the particulars of it if you wish it.

13,920. What else; you said there was something for cards?—5*s.* to Mr. Henley for printing cards. I cannot give it you in my mind now. I ran over it a day or two ago, and I see, with the corn and paying for the stables, and so on, it is altogether 19*l.*

13,921. Your claim was for 19*l.* then?—My claim is for the money lent and the stable; but he has had beer and different things during the election.

13,922. Did the amount altogether come to 19*l.*?—I think so.

13,923. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that including or excluding the beer?—Excluding it.

13,924. What did the beer come to?—I cannot exactly tell you without referring to the books; I did not know that I should be called to speak to that.

13,925. Can you form no judgment about it?—No, I cannot, it is a long time ago.

13,926. Was it 1*l.*?—More than that; perhaps 2*l.*, perhaps 3*l.*

13,927. Which you would have to add on to the 19*l.*?—Yes.

13,928. Making the whole about 20*l.*?—I cannot say.

13,929. About that?—About that, I should say.

13,930. Was that the amount you required Danter to sign an order for you to receive?—No; the order was signed for more money; the bill was made out for his claim. His claim was 27*l.* 10*s.* or 26*l.* 10*s.*, I cannot say which, and Mr. Henley made the bill out, and George Danter signed the document.

13,931. Signed what bill?—The bill that was made out for the 27*l.*

13,932. Did you get from Danter that signed order?—Yes.

13,933. To pay the money to any person?—Yes, to pay the money to me; I would not advance him more money till I got an order to receive what was coming to him; the bill was made out before Danter; by his orders Mr. Henley made the bill out.

13,934. Did you see George Danter sign the order?—I saw George Danter sign that document.

13,935. "Sir, you will be pleased to pay the "amount of my account due by the committee of "Messrs. Price and Monk, namely 27*l.* 15*s.*, to Mr. J. "Bryon of the Berkeley Arms. Signed George Dan-"ter"?—Mr. Henley first wrote his mark, and he came in at the door; he had a short pipe; it was between eleven and twelve, a quarter past eleven as near as I can say in the morning, and he signed it "George Danter," I think, in a slanting direction; I took the paper up and gave it to my son-in-law, and he took it to Mr. Smith and received 15*l.* from Mr. Smith.

13,936. Your son-in-law?—Yes, my son-in-law.

13,937. Is that the paper (*handing it to the witness*)?—That is the paper, and that is George Danter's signature.

13,938. Is that 15*l.* all you received?—Yes; I gave him credit for that, and sued him in the County Court for the balance due to me.

13,939. All you have received from Mr. Smith is 15*l.*?—Yes.

13,940. There is 12*l.* odd due still from Mr. Smith?—I cannot say exactly what it is.

13,941. It is a just claim?—Yes, and I should wish the man to have it.

13,942. You have recovered the remainder of your bill in the County Court?—I have not got the money yet. Mr. Smith said the claim was large and he should not pay it.

13,943. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If you got the order from Danter to receive 27*l.* 15*s.*, how came you to sue him in the County Court?—For the money that he had had from me during the time; I advanced him money.

13,944. According to your own statement the money due from him was 22*l.*?—I could not say what it is—I said nearly.

13,945. You said it was altogether about 22*l.*, and you get an order for 27*l.* 15*s.*, and after that you put the man in the County Court to recover the difference between 15*l.* and your claim. It appears to me to be a very extraordinary proceeding?—(*No answer.*)

13,946. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Has this case been tried before the County Court judge?—Yes.

13,947. Did he give judgment?—Yes.

13,948. How much have you got judgment for?—I think it is 4*l.* something; I cannot say exactly.

13,949. Did Danter appear himself?—Yes.

13,950. Did he plead these facts. Was the whole case brought out before the County Court judge?—Yes.

13,951. And he gave you judgment?—Yes.

13,952. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you claim of Mr. Smith the whole amount?—Yes, the whole amount of Danter's claim; that bill was sent to Mr. Smith, and all he would pay was 15*l.*

13,953. Did he only pay 15*l.* on account of the 27*l.*?—Yes.

13,954. And he would not give any more?—No.

13,955. Therefore you considered you had got all you could from that paper?—Yes.

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J. Bryon.
11 Oct. 1659.

13,956. Do you know of any other acts of bribery except those you have mentioned ?—No more.

13,957. Did you canvass yourself ?—I canvassed two or three.

13,958. You did not go actively among the voters ?—No.

13,959. What was your action for ?—The balance of money I had lent him. He could not get his money and I advanced him some. I should not want to rob the man of a farthing.

13,960. Did you consider his claim of 27*l.* 10*s.* a fair claim ?—I could not say anything about it. The fly was out most days.

J. Bradley.

JOHN BRADLEY sworn and examined.

13,961. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a Captain in the navy ?—I am a Commander in the navy.

13,962. You, I believe, hold some official position in Gloucester ?—Yes ; I am a Sub-Commissioner of Pilots under the Trinity Board.

13,963. Did you take an interest in the success of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes, I did.

13,964. And supported him probably at the last election ?—Yes.

13,965. Are you one of those gentlemen who were in the habit of attending his committee room ?—No ; I do not know that ever I was in his committee room. I do not recollect being there.

13,966. In what way did you exert yourself for Sir Robert Carden ?—I canvassed with him.

13,967. And did you canvass without him ? Did you canvass by yourself ?—I may have asked a person I thought likely to give him a vote, but I did not particularly take any trouble in doing so.

13,968. I suppose we may take it that you canvassed generally ?—Yes ; I did all I could to secure his return fairly and honestly.

13,969. Was your canvass principally confined to the voters in the city ?—Yes, entirely.

13,970. Do you remember making any promise to any person ?—Never.

13,971. Not at the last election ?—Never.

13,972. Did you offer any money at all ?—Never.

13,973. No inducement of any sort ?—Not of any sort.

13,974. Not at the last election ?—No.

13,975. Were you cognizant of the proceedings that were taken by Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn with respect to procuring funds ?—I never heard a sentence of it until I heard it in this court.

13,976. You never heard a word about it ?—I never heard a sentence of it ; not a word.

13,977. Were you in frequent communication with those gentlemen respecting the progress of the election ?—I do not think I ever met them in private. I never had any private communication with them.

13,978. Not on the subject of the last election ?—I do not believe I had any private conversation with them.

13,979. Did you find, when you were canvassing, that the voters either generally promised you at once or refused to promise you at the time ?—I really did not pay much attention to it. I merely accompanied them in their canvass. There were many we called on, and I did not know which way they voted because I had no influence over them, and did not take any pains to gain any information.

13,980. You are not able to express any opinion as to the character of the canvass in which you participated ?—Only from hearsay.

13,981. Were you at all aware from other persons besides Mr. Lovegrove or Mr. Whithorn that bribery was being resorted to at the last election ?—No, I never heard or knew of a case of bribery on either side so that I could believe it. There were many reports, but I never knew a case that I could believe on either side.

13,982. You confined yourself during the last election to a pure atmosphere. You knew nothing of any bribery ?—No, never.

13,983. Did you take part in the election of 1857 ?—Yes ; I did.

13,984. In 1857 do you remember canvassing individuals for their votes ?—I believe the only man that I recollect canvassing was a man of the name of Jones. I met him one day, and asked him if he would give Sir Robert Carden a vote, and he gave me a reason why he could not ; he said, "I should be very happy to vote for Sir Robert," but he gave me his reason for not being able to do so, and I said, "I think you would be very wrong if you voted against the party you have been supporting." That was Jones, a cabinet maker. That is the only man I recollect.

13,985. You do not remember to have held out any inducement in 1857 to any person to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No ; never.

13,986. Do you know a person of the name of Phelps, a pilot ?—I do not recollect him. There may be a man of that name, but I do not recollect him at this moment.

13,987. Do you know a person of the name of Edwin Phelps ?—I do not recollect a man of such a name.

13,988. Perhaps I may recall the name to your recollection. Did you promise a person that, if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden, you would do all you could to appoint him a canal pilot ?—No ; I never did to any man breathing.

13,989. You never said that to any person at all ?—Never.

13,990. Either in 1859 or 1857 ?—Never to anybody.

13,991. Does that question that I have put to you suggest to your memory a person of the name of Phelps ?—No, it does not ; unless it is a man that was at the King's Head tap, when I went to request a pilot there to vote as he had promised me. Some man sung out to me, "Will you make me a pilot ?" or something to that effect ; and I do not know that I ever replied to him. I dare say there were fifty people in the room, but I certainly never promised him or any other person.

13,992. Did you canvass the canal pilots ?—I did one or two ; two, I think, one of the name of Reece. I believe I asked him, or his wife, I forget which—not this last time, not in 1859,—in 1857, I asked Reece, and he said, he should certainly vote for Sir Robert Carden ; and another man of the name of Joseph Clark, I asked him, and he said, "Yes, certainly."

13,993. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was he a pilot ?—Yes, a canal pilot.

13,994. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many canal pilots are there ?—I think there are a dozen ; there are others, who are sub-pilots, to assist, in case the others are all out of the way ; there are eight appointed to act in case the others are not present.

13,995. Are they voters ?—I do not know, I am sure.

13,996. You do not know how many of the pilots are voters ?—I do not know that there are more than two ; I do not remember ever asking more than two for their votes—Clark and this man Reece.

13,997. You do not know whether there are more than those who are voters ?—I do not know whether there are any more or not.

13,998. If you had known there had been more, would you have canvassed them ?—Yes, most likely I should.

13,999. Do you consider that canvassing the pilots by yourself, you holding an official situation, would be likely to exercise an influence over their minds ?—I do not think it would ; it certainly did not as to one, because he voted the other side ; I believe he promised me and went and voted the other side.

14,000. Who was that ?—Reece. I believe he did, I am not certain.

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14,001. In 1857 ?—Yes. I was told he did, but I am not certain of it. In 1859 I did not canvass him, for I would not go near him.

14,002. In 1857 he voted against your side ?—I do not know for certain, but I was told so.

14,003. And the other man voted for Carden ?—Yes.

14,004. Did you canvass Clark in 1859 ?—Yes, I did.

14,005. Were there any other pilots that you canvassed in 1859 ?—I do not recollect any others.

14,006. Or any others in 1857 ?—No, I do not recollect any others.

14,007. Are the appointments of pilots for life ?—Yes, if their conduct is correct. I do not believe that any of the sea pilots have a vote. I do not believe that one of them has.

14,008. I understood you to say that twelve were canal pilots and eight sub-pilots ?—Yes. I am not quite certain whether there are eight extra pilots, but I believe there are.

14,009. Are there sea pilots as well ?—Yes, what they call the Severn pilots.

14,010. How many of them are there ?—I believe eighteen.

14,011. And as far as you know of all those pilots, there are only two who have votes ?—Of the canal pilots.

14,012. Have the sea pilots votes ?—None of them that I know of.

14,013. Then of all the pilots the only voters you know are the two you have mentioned ?—That I believe to be the case.

14,014. Does the appointment of pilots rest with yourself ?—No, there are two other commissioners; one lives out of Gloucester—he lives half-way between this and Berkeley.

14,015. It rests with you and two other commismissioners to appoint and also to dismiss the pilots ?—No, to recommend them to the Trinity Board—that is the sea pilots; the canal pilots we have the power of appointing ourselves. After examination we have the power to recommend.

14,016. And the canal pilots you have the power to dismiss, I suppose ?—Yes, or to suspend them.

14,017. You state it to be your impression that a pilot would not be likely to promise a vote, in consequence of being canvassed by yourself, and of voting contrary to his inclination ?—I do not think he would, for I have always told every one I have canvassed, "Do not do anything to please me if it is injurious to yourself or your family." I have always impressed that on every person I have spoken to, even in the presence of Sir Robert Carden.

14,018. You consider that you have acted fairly towards them ?—Yes, I have decidedly.

14,019. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you attend any meeting of Sir Robert Carden's friends at the last election ?—I attended a meeting when Sir Robert Carden came down from London.

14,020. A public meeting ?—Yes, a large meeting.

14,021. I mean a meeting of a few of his active friends ?—No; I was not in the secrets of any of the movements of the committee. I beg to state, that I have been accused of bribery, and I should like it to be known, not only to yourselves, but to the citizens of Gloucester, that I never took part in that of which I have been accused—inducing a man to personate another, and vote in consequence of his being absent. When I was told of it, I wrote to the chairman of the committee, and here is my letter and his reply to it.

14,022. Were you examined before the committee in London ?—Yes, but this is since.

14,023. Who was the person who personated another ?—I do not know; but somebody accused me of having done it, and in consequence of that I wrote to the chairman of the committee, and requested to know whether my name was registered as having done so in the committee room.

14,024. Are you referring to the proceedings before the committee of the House of Commons in London with reference to the last election ?—Yes, this last election in 1859.

14,025. With reference to what took place in London ?—No, at this last election in 1859 here. It is an accusation which I think I am perfectly justified in bringing before you as Commissioners, in order that I may be exonerated from any charge of the sort.

14,026. We will allow you the opportunity of denying any statement that has been made which you consider reflects upon you ?—I did deny the statement at the time, and went so far as to tell the person who mentioned it to me that it was a mistake. He said, "It is down in our committee book." I said, "Whoever has made the statement has made a mistake." He still persevered however, and I then said, "If you do not take my word, and if he still persists in his statement, you may tell him he is a liar." I never did such a thing in my life, and I should be very sorry to be supposed capable of it.

14,027. That is an emphatic denial, and I have no doubt it will go forth to the public ?—I hope it will.

JOHN HULLS sworn and examined.

14,028. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a solicitor at Gloucester ?—I am.

14,029. Were you employed professionally at the last election ?—I was.

14,030. On behalf of Sir Robert Carden ?—I was.

14,031. Have you received your fee ?—No.

14,032. How much do you consider is due to you ?—I claim fifteen guineas.

14,033. What was the duty which devolved upon you ?—To canvass some voters in the city and others in the country.

14,034. Were you engaged in canvassing for several days ?—I was.

14,035. What was the earliest period at which you began your canvass ?—I was canvassing as early as the canvass commonced. I do not recollect the date.

14,036. Were the persons you canvassed principally freemen ?—Many of them; some of them were householders.

14,037. What was the result of your canvass ?—I had as many promises as I expected.

14,038. As many promises as are usually given at contested elections ?—Yes.

14,039. And did you find that to be the case throughout the whole of your canvass ?—It was.

14,040. Did you receive intimations from voters that they would expect money for their votes ?—Certainly not.

14,041. In no case ?—In no case.

14,042. What were the districts that you generally canvassed ?—I went to Over, a place near the city and Highnam and Rudford. Those were the country places.

14,043. And in the city ?—In the city, Dockham, St. Mary's Square, Water Street, and Three Cocks Lane.

14,044. Those were the districts ?—Those were the districts.

14,045. In canvassing those districts did you canvass a considerable portion of what may be called the lower class of voters ?—I did.

14,046. And in no case during your canvass did you receive any intimation from them that they would require money for their votes ?—Not during the canvass.

14,047. Did your canvass continue from the beginning down to the time of polling ?—It did.

14,048. You say you did not receive any intimation that any voters would require money for their votes during your canvass, and that your canvass continued down to the time of polling ?—Yes.

14,049. Did you receive any intimation at all that

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J. Hulls.
11 Oct. 1859.

any of the voters required money for their votes ?—I ascertained on the day of polling that some two or three were paid or expected to be paid.

14,050. But not before that ?—No.

14,051. About how many persons did you canvass ?—I really cannot tell ; forty or fifty I suppose.

14,052. You made your return, I suppose, the same as the other canvassers, to Mr. Taynton ?—Precisely.

14,053. Do you know of any money having been expended in bribery at the last election ?—I am aware of two persons who received money, and only two, that is, of my own knowledge. I only know of my own knowledge of two persons having received money.

14,054. Did they receive money from you ?—No.

14,055. What are their names ?—One's name was Henry Meadows.

14,056. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does he live ?—In Westgate Street.

14,057. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the other ?—A man of the name of Bourn, in St. Mary's Square.

14,058. Are those persons, persons whose names have been before given to us ?—I do not know, indeed.

14,059. Who bribed them ?—I saw Mr. Whithorn give them some money ; two sovereigns to Bourn, I think it was, and, I believe, five sovereigns to Meadows.

14,060. Those are the only two cases you know of, of your own knowledge ?—Yes.

14,061. You did not give any money to any person ?—Not a fraction.

14,062. Did you offer any money to anybody ?—No.

14,063. Or offer anybody any inducements ?—No.

14,064. Did you offer to no persons an inducement by saying you would put them on the Blue committee ?—No.

14,065. Were you similarly engaged at the election of 1857 ?—I was.

14,066. Did you canvass, at that election, the districts that you have stated you canvassed in 1859 ?—I did.

14,067. Did you know of any bribery at that election ?—None.

14,068. You did not see any money given at that election to any voters ?—Never.

14,069. Do you know a place called the Upper George ?—I do.

14,070. Were you at the Upper George during the election day of 1857 ?—No, not in 1857 ; I was on the hustings.

14,071. All day ?—All day.

14,072. On the polling day ?—I was one of the inspectors.

14,073. You know that the Upper George, I suppose, was one of the houses which was frequented by Sir Robert Carden's friends in 1857 ?—Yes ; it was the committee room ; it was used as a committee room at that election.

14,074. So far as your knowledge extends, the election in 1857 was a pure election ?—To the best of my knowledge.

14,075. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where was it that you saw the two voters paid by Mr. Whithorn ?—At the committee room in Westgate Street.

14,076. On the polling day ?—On the polling day.

14,077. Did you take them in to Mr. Whithorn ?—No, I did not.

14,078. Do you know who did ?—No, I do not.

14,079. Were you in the room with Mr. Whithorn ?—I was during a minute or two, while that transaction occurred.

14,080. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you see any payments made in 1857 ?—None whatever.

14,081. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where were the payments made by Mr. Whithorn to Henry Meadows and Bourn ?—In the committee room,—in his room in Westgate Street.

14,082. In his own room ?—Yes.

14,083. Are you quite sure that the sum which was paid to Bourn was two sovereigns ?—That was the sum I saw handed to him.

14,084. Were you in the room when Bourn came in ?—He had been in there, it appeared, before I got there ; and then after I arrived I went into the room with him.

14,085. All you saw paid was two sovereigns ?—That was all.

14,086. Was Henry Meadows in the room when you came in ?—He was in the lobby outside.

14,087. He came into the room after you had been in the room ?—I think so.

14,088. And five sovereigns was the sum paid to him ?—Yes.

14,089. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it in consequence of anything you said to Mr. Whithorn that he paid this man ?—It was in consequence of what I said to Mr. Whithorn that he paid the man Bourn the two sovereigns. Bourn was complaining that he had not been paid his travelling expenses in coming to poll, and that his expenses were two sovereigns.

14,090. What did you then say ?—I said to Mr. Whithorn when I got in, "This man complains he has not been paid his two sovereigns for travelling expenses for coming to the election ;" and upon that Mr. Whithorn paid him.

14,091. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That was Bourn ?—Bourn.

14,092. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you say to him about Meadows ?—I did not say anything ; I had no conversation at all about Meadows, nor had I spoken to Meadows at all.

14,093. The payment made to Meadows was made independently of anything you said ?—Quite so.

E. Washbourne.

EDWARD WASHBOURNE sworn and examined.

14,094. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a solicitor ?—I am.

14,095. In Gloucester ?—Yes.

14,096. Were you retained on the part of Sir Robert Carden at the last election ?—No.

14,097. You were not retained ?—No.

14,098. You were a supporter of Sir Robert Carden ?—I voted for him.

14,099. Did you not assist in promoting his election ?—Not at all.

14,100. Did you not canvass ?—No.

14,101. Nor take any part in it ?—Not in the least.

14,102. Did you frequent the committee room ?—No, not once.

14,103. Were you a party to any of the transactions that took place ?—I was a party to no transaction whatever ; the only part I took was to record my vote.

14,104. Were you as little engaged in the election of 1857 as you were in that of 1859?—I was an agent in 1857.

14,105. With regard to 1859, are we to understand that you yourself are not cognizant of any corrupt practices that prevailed at that election ?—I had nothing whatever to do with it in any way whatever, either directly or indirectly.

14,106. With respect to the election of 1857, can you give us any information about that ?—No. I should be very happy to answer any questions you think it desirable to put.

14,107. You were retained in 1857 ?—I was retained.

14,108. Did you canvass in 1857 ?—Not much.

14,109. So far as your knowledge extended, were you of opinion that the election of 1857 was a pure election ?—I was fully of opinion that it was a pure election, although, of course, with my knowledge of

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electioneering matters, I thought it not at all unlikely that there might have been some indiscreet persons who had promised something.

14,110. But as far as regards the managers of the election in 1857, you are of opinion that that election was a pure one?—As far as I know.

14,111. You know nothing at all of the money arrangements in 1857?—Nothing whatever; the only money arrangement I knew of was, that I paid a few of the voters their travelling expenses who came from a distance. One voter who came from Oxford I remember, and two or three others from various distant places.

14,112. In paying the travelling expenses to those voters, did you pay the actual sums which were expended in their coach or railway fares?—I did, as nearly as I could well compute them.

14,113. You did not consider, in making those payments to them, that you were also making payments to them for their votes?—I considered that they were legal payments, which could not affect the election.

14,114. Can you state what the amount was which you paid those persons for their travelling expenses?—I think the total amount did not exceed 10*l.*; I think it was about 9*l.*

14,115. That is all the part you took in the monetary transactions of that election?—That is the only money that I expended.

14,116. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were the travelling expenses you paid included in the auditor's account?—I do not know.

14,117. From whom did you get the money to pay them?—I paid it out of my own pocket, but I subsequently received it from Mr. Lovegrove.

14,118. You do not recollect the names of the parties, I suppose, to whom you paid that money?—No, I really do not recollect.

14,119. The payment of travelling expenses to out-voters was a duty devolving upon you?—Not strictly; but I had corresponded with these parties before, and when they came and voted they naturally looked to me to reimburse them.

14,120. In the correspondence there was nothing said by you to convey an impression to them that if they would come they should receive a sum of money which should be something additional to their actual travelling expenses?—No; I took pretty good care not to do that.

14,121. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you see Mr. Whithorn on the polling day in 1857?—Yes, I do not think I saw him on the polling day in 1859; I merely walked to the poll and recorded my vote and returned.

14,122. In 1857 you saw him?—Yes, I know I did.

14,123. Did you see him in his room at the committee room in Westgate Street?—I do not think I did; I was pretty much occupied till the poll closed.

14,124. Did you take any voters in to him?—No.

JOSEPH HOOPER sworn and examined.

14,125. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A gentleman.

14,126. Are you in the corporation of this city?—I am.

14,127. Are you a town councillor or an alderman?—A town councillor.

14,128. You took some part, did you not, in the last election?—Yes, I did.

14,129. You canvassed, I suppose, all those persons you thought it desirable to canvass?—Not that; I merely canvassed in my own neighbourhood.

14,130. What neighbourhood was that?—In the neighbourhood of the docks and the Spa.

14,131. Did you canvass from the beginning of the contest to the end?—No, I did not. They requested me to canvass the voters in my neighbourhood, and I went with them, I think, for a day or two, or something of that sort.

14,132. Did you canvass privately?—Not at all.

14,133. You only canvassed in company with Sir Robert Carden and other gentlemen?—Yes.

14,134. And you did not canvass separately?—No.

14,135. Did you hold out any inducement to any person to vote?—Not the least.

14,136. Did you offer any money to them?—No.

14,137. Or promise them anything?—No.

14,138. Were you engaged with Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn and other gentlemen in organizing the arrangements?—Not at all.

14,139. Did you know anything at all about the provision of funds for the election?—Not the least.

14,140. Were the persons you canvassed for the most part householders or freemen?—Householders, I should say.

14,141. Did they generally say, in answer to your questions as to how they would vote, that they would vote, or that they would not vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I did not canvass them personally, I only went along with the party, and therefore I cannot say what their answers were.

14,142. Did you hear, or did you know yourself, that it would be necessary to purchase votes?—Not at all.

14,143. Did you hear during the election that it would be necessary to do so?—Of course the rumour was that votes would be bought on both sides.

14,144. That was the rumour?—The general rumour.

14,145. Was that the rumour in your committee room?—I did not attend the committee.

14,146. Did you not go to the committee room at all?—Yes, I did.

14,147. In the committee room did you hear that it would be necessary to purchase votes?—Not at all.

14,148. Are you very much surprised by the revelations which have been made before this Commission?—Yes, I am.

14,149. From what you had learned, either in the committee room or elsewhere, during the election, were you of opinion that Sir Robert Carden would be returned as member for this city without bribery?—Not going through the canvass I knew nothing about it.

14,150. At the committee room, or elsewhere?—No; I merely called in at the committee room occasionally, but I was not in the committee room. I merely saw Mr. Griffiths, and those who were sending out letters, and so on. I was not in the confidence of the committee at all.

14,151. You did not take the trouble to inquire what amount of bribery was necessary?—Nothing of the kind.

14,152. And you are much surprised to learn the amount of bribery that was practised?—Yes, as to the extent; no doubt bribery has been committed for many years.

14,153. Have you been for many years a resident in Gloucester?—I have.

14,154. Is it your opinion that all the elections of members of Parliament in this city have been more or less corrupt?—I think money has passed. There was a sort of head-money used to be paid.

14,155. When did that practice of head-money begin?—I cannot say that.

14,156. As far as your memory goes back, have you known it paid?—I have heard of the agent for Captain Berkeley paying head-money.

14,157. Was it general on both sides?—I cannot say that.

14,158. You do not know whether there was a system of head-money, that every person who voted should be paid?—No.

14,159. When you speak of head-money, does your memory carry you back to some time before the passing of the Reform Act?—I recollect the election in 1818.

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14,160. In 1818, and subsequent elections before the passing of the Reform Act, did the practice of giving head-money obtain?—I do not know it of my own knowledge, I only heard of it. I only know it from rumour. I never saw any money paid.

14,161. I thought you were speaking from custom and practice?—From what I have heard, but I do not know it.

14,162. From that period down to the present time is it your opinion that the elections of members to serve in Parliament for this city have been more or less distinguished by corruption?—There is no doubt money has been paid. That is my opinion; I cannot prove it.

14,163. Have you been a town councillor for many years?—No; for two years next November.

14,164. Had you a contest?—Yes.

14,165. Did it cost you any money?—It cost me 3*s.* 6*d.*

14,166. For what ward was that?—For the west ward.

14,167. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you recollect the election of 1818?—Yes.

14,168. Did you ever hear that that was a very costly election to Captain Berkeley?—I think that was the one that he said had cost him about 17,000*l.*

14,169. Did you hear him say that?—In one of his speeches he said something to that effect. I saw that stated in one of the papers.

14,170. He said it publicly?—Yes.

14,171. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did he say that?—I cannot tell the election.

14,172. But you say you saw it in a speech; when was it?—In one of the speeches he made at one of the nominations.

14,173. When?—I cannot say when.

G. Woodward.

GEORGE WOODWARD sworn and examined.

14,174. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Northgate Street.

14,175. What are you?—A bailiff.

14,176. What did you receive for your vote at the last election?—I received 5*s.* for being on the committee.

14,177. How many days were you on the committee?—Pretty nearly three weeks.

14,178. You received 5*s.*?—The first Saturday night I received 5*s.*, the next Saturday night 15*s.*, the next Saturday night 1*l.* That is all I received.

14,179. Did you receive anything for your vote?—I did not. My wife had a present sent her after the election was over.

14,180. Who sent it?—I cannot say; it was sent in a brown paper parcel containing 5*l.*

14,181. Did you keep it?—She brought it to me.

14,182. What did you do with it?—I paid it away as far as it went.

14,183. You did not return it?—No, I did not know where it came from.

14,184. Were you canvassed?—I was not canvassed by either party.

14,185. Did Mr. Butt canvass you?—No, he did not.

14,186. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

14,187. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You knew that your wife had received that paper parcel containing 5*l.*?—Not till she brought it to me.

14,188. When did she bring it to you?—About a week after the election.

14,189. Did she tell you where she got it from?—She had it from Mr. Maysey. She said Mr. Maysey called her in and said it was left there for me, but who left it he did not know.

14,190. It was left at Mr. Butt's; your wife got it from Mr. Butt?—No, from Mr. Maysey. It was left at Mr. Maysey's and given to my wife; my wife was called in.

14,191. Did you not know that it was for your vote?—No, I did not. I was not canvassed by the Blue party at all, nor the Yellow.

14,192. What did you think it was for?—Well, I thought it must be for that.

14,193. You thought it must be for that?—That I did.

14,194. You are not in the habit of getting 5*l.*, I suppose, in that way?—I always get something at every election; it is generally the case; it always was ever since I can remember.

14,195. Were you paid at the election in 1857?—All I had in 1857 was for being on the Blue committee.

14,196. How much did you get then?—3*s.* 6*d.* a-day for seven or nine days.

14,197. Was that all you got then?—That was all.

14,198. You thought you were badly paid then?—I thought I was very badly paid then.

14,199. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

14,200. Did you ever tell anybody you considered yourself badly treated?—No, never.

14,201. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were only paid 3*s.* 6*d.* a-day for eight or nine days in 1857?—For about nine days I think it was.

14,202. And were you paid at all the previous elections?—Whenever I was on the committee I always had something.

14,203. But besides being paid for being on the committee did you get anything?—When we came down from London we were paid our expenses up and down.

14,204. I am only talking about Gloucester; when an election took place at Gloucester, were you paid for your vote besides what you received for being on the Blue committee?—No further than for being on the committee. I always endeavoured to be on the committee.

14,205. Then this money in the paper parcel was rather an extraordinary windfall?—It was; it came unexpected.

14,206. But you knew what it was for?—I thought what it was for.

14,207. For your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I expected it was for that.

14,208. You knew Mr. Maysey was one of the great canvassers for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; but he did not canvass me or promise me.

14,209. Were you canvassed by Mr. Butt at all?—I do not recollect that I was.

14,210. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you considered a safe vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I was. I polled for Sir Robert Carden before, and would again.

14,211. Have you always belonged to that party?—Always.

14,212. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you remember being asked in London whether you voted Blue generally, and you said "Yes, I voted for Carden before, a plumper both times"?—I did.

14,213. And do you remember being asked "Did you get anything for voting for him?" And you said "No, I did not"?—I did not. It was given to my wife, I did not get it.

14,214. That is your explanation?—That is my explanation.

14,215. The money was given to your wife and not to you?—Yes; and I was very happy to see it, too.

14,216. You said you did not receive it?—No more I did not.

14,217. Who spent the money?—My wife paid some, and I paid some.

14,218. You do not call that getting the money?—No; my wife received the money, and I paid one part away, and my wife paid another.

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GEORGE BULLOCK sworn and examined. *G. Bullock.*

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14,219. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A solicitor.

14,220. At Gloucester ?—Yes.

14,221. Were you retained professionally at the last election ?—I was.

14,222. For Sir Robert Carden ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

14,223. Have you received your fee ?—I have.

14,224. What was the amount ?—Twelve guineas.

14,225. What part did you take in the election ?—I canvassed the Ryecroft district.

14,226. Is that a district which is inhabited principally by freemen or householders ?—By freemen.

14,227. What was the result of your canvass ?—Unfavourable rather to Sir Robert Carden—similar to what it was in 1857.

14,228. The result was unfavourable, but similar to what it was in 1857 ?—Yes, it was unfavourable ; many of the men being in the employment of Mr. Price.

14,229. Did you make a return of your canvass to the committee room ?—I did.

14,230. To Mr. Taynton ?—To Mr. Lovegrove.

14,231. Did you commence your canvass as soon as it was known that Sir Robert Carden would be a candidate ?—I did.

14,232. And did you continue it down to the time of the polling ?—I did.

14,233. Did you receive intimations from any of the voters that they would require money for their votes ?—I did not.

14,234. About how many voters should you think you canvassed ?—Between thirty and forty in that district.

14,235. Did you canvass any other district besides that ?—I did not.

14,236. Or any other persons living in any other part of Gloucester ?—There were two or three who had removed from that district.

14,237. But generally it was the case that you did not receive intimations from voters that they would require to be paid for their votes ?—No ; I did not receive intimations of that kind in any case.

14,238. Were you at all acquainted with the steps that were taken to secure the return of Sir Robert Carden ?—I was not at all.

14,239. Were you informed that an expenditure of money would be required to insure his return ?—I was not.

14,240. Did you yourself give any money to any voter, or offer to give any money to any voter ?—I did not.

14,241. Did you hold out any promise or inducement of any sort to any voter ?—Not any.

14,242. Are you very much surprised to find that so much bribery did prevail at the last election ?—Very much. I had no idea of it. I thought there might be solitary cases, but I had no idea of the extent to which it had been carried.

14,243. Were you considerably engaged in the election of 1857 ?—I was.

14,244. Did you canvass then the same district as you canvassed in 1859 ?—I did.

14,245. And you found very little alteration between the result of your canvass in 1857 and your canvass in 1859 ?—Very trifling.

14,246. Were you cognizant of any bribery having been committed in 1857 ?—I was not.

14,247. There were two committee rooms in 1857, were there not—one of them being at the Upper George ?—I was not aware of that. I only attended one committee room.

14,248. Where was that ?—In Bell Lane ; and it was removed at the time of the election to opposite the Shire Hall.

14,249. You only attended one committee ?—I attended each of those committee rooms, the one in Bell Lane and the one in Westgate Street.

14,250. You had nothing to do with the monetary arrangements in 1857 or in 1859 ?—Nothing.

14,251. Is there any information that you can communicate to the Commissioners ?—There is not.

CHARLES FREDERICK INNELL called and further examined. *C. F. Innell*

14,252. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you have some statement which you wish to make to the Commissioners ?—Yes; the statement that I have to make is, that I recived a letter from Mr. Monk this morning drawing my attention to a portion of the evidence of Mr. Lovegrove, which contains statements most derogatory to his character as a gentleman. The passage to which he refers is the following:—" I had made one or two allusions as to Mr. Monk and his position in holding certain ecclesiastical offices, and these were met, as I conceived, in such a peculiar way—such an evasive way—that I hesitated before entering into another correspondence with Mr. Monk. I had had no correspondence with him, but he had met my allegations in a way which was not truthful."

14,253. Have you received a communication from Mr. Monk with reference to that statement of Mr. Lovegrove's ?—Yes ; I have received a communication from him in which he expresses his regret that he cannot be present to-day to give the explanation himself ; but perhaps you will allow me to state, on his behalf, that, at a meeting at the Bell of Sir Robert Carden's friends, statements were made most derogatory to Mr. Monk as a gentleman, and hurtful to him as a candidate here. Those statements appeared in the " Gloucester Chronicle." I drew Mr. Monk's attention to them, and waited, with him, on Mr. Holt. He was from home, but he afterwards communicated, by letter, to Mr. Monk, stating that the statement which had been made by Mr. Lovegrove, that he had had a lucrative appointment of 800*l.* a year from an early age, was incorrect. That letter Mr. Monk sent to me, and it was published. Mr. Monk will be here in the course of a few days, and will be ready to go into further particulars ; and he will be ready also to give you information with regard to the Sandwich affair. If you will allow me, I will read Mr. Holt's letter.

14,254. I think we can hardly go into this with you ; it is enough for you to say that the statement which was made by Mr. Lovegrove, that Mr. Monk had met his allegations in a manner which was not truthful, is contradicted by you on behalf of Mr. Monk, and at his request ?—Mr. Monk is extremely anxious that the statement that he had been untruthful should be contradicted.

14,255. It will be quite sufficient for Mr. Monk's purpose that you have appeared here and stated that Mr. Monk will be here to contradict the statement made by Mr. Lovegrove ?—He will be here, and you will have the opportunity of examining him.

WILLIAM CURTIS sworn and examined. *W. Curtis*

14,256. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A wholesale grocer and provision merchant.

14,257. Living in Gloucester ?—In the Westgate Street, Gloucester.

14,258. Were you a supporter of Sir Robert Carden at the last election ?—Yes.

14,259. Were you in the habit of attending his committee room ?—Occasionally.

14,260. Did you canvass for him ?—I did, one afternoon only.

14,261. Was it in your own neighbourhood ?—I canvassed in the lower part of the Westgate Street,

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Quay Street, Longsmith Street, and terminated at the bottom of Southgate Street.

14,262. Did you go by yourself?—No; I went with Sir Robert Carden and several others.

14,263. You were in company with them?—Yes; a canvassing party.

14,264. You did not take any district yourself and canvass individually, did you?—I did not; I was asked to do so, but I would not take that duty upon myself.

14,265. Did you hear, during the progress of the canvass, that it would be necessary to resort to bribery?—I did not, until the eve of the election. I found that out myself. Throughout our canvass I was led to believe that Sir Robert Carden had a better canvass in 1859 than he had in 1857. We had a greater majority of promises, and if men had stood to their promises we should have gained the election.

14,266. You were led to believe that your canvass was more favourable in 1859 than it was in 1857?—I was; and it is a fact that it was so.

14,267. Throughout?—Throughout.

14,268. Down to the time of the election?—Down to the time of the election.

14,269. How came you to find out on the evening before the election that bribery would be necessary?—From what I heard in the committee room. I heard that parties who had promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden had said that they had been offered so much on the other side, and that unless Sir Robert Carden's party would do as much for them they should certainly poll on the Liberal interest.

14,270. That you heard for the first time on the Friday?—On the Friday evening.

14,271. Had you any conversation with Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject?—No; I was not on the committee at all.

14,272. Do you mean to say that, throughout the entire canvass, you had no communication with them upon the subject?—I had not. Bribing is a thing I never would do. I abhor the idea altogether. I never bribed any one in my life, and never offered a bribe to anybody.

14,273. Who was it who told you that offers were being made on the other side?—William Grey Allen, a blacksmith. He had to do with St. Katherine's parish, Water Street, and down there; and he told us that their voters had had offers; that parties who had generally polled for us had had these offers made to them, and that unless money was expended they certainly would poll (and they did poll) against us.

14,274. Where does William Grey Allen live?—In Water Street.

14,275. Did you believe until the Friday that Sir Robert Carden would be returned?—I did; I saw nothing that was not strictly honourable on the part of Sir Robert Carden and the whole party of his canvassers during the time I was with him, which was only a short time; but in 1857 I was with him canvassing most days, and I never saw anything but what was strictly honourable.

14,276. You did not yourself give any bribe to any person?—No.

14,277. Nor did you offer any bribe to any person?—I did not directly or indirectly.

14,278. Did you offer any inducement to any voter?—I did not; it is a thing I wish to see put an end to most certainly.

14,279. In 1857 you canvassed largely, did you not?—Yes.

14,280. Were you of opinion in 1857, as you were in 1859, that it was a pure election?—Yes; I saw no money pass, nor did I believe there was any money passed illegally. There was none to my knowledge.

14,281. Did you hear, on the Friday evening, to what extent your party intended to bribe?—No; Allen was answered (but by whom I cannot say now) that Sir Robert Carden would not shell out—that was the term that was used; that he would not submit to these high prices that were being given and offered on the other side. That was the answer that was given to Allen.

14,282. On finding that these high prices were being given and tendered, what conclusion was come to by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—That we must fight as well as we could without money. That is what I thoroughly understood. I went out the morning of the election to get up voters who had promised, and found that they had gone away. That was the case with men who had promised Sir Robert Carden in the same way tha I did myself, and with the same freeness as I did myself. They had said, "Yes, I will vote for you, Sir Robert Carden." Those men happened to be customers of mine. I went down to get them up to poll, and they were gone to poll for Price and Monk.

14,283. They were customers of yours?—Yes, they were customers of mine.

14,284. When you heard the statement made in 1859, about the promises that had been made by voters not being kept unless they received money for their votes, and when you heard it stated that Sir Robert Carden would not "shell out," did you not all come to the conclusion that the election was lost?—Yes; I did myself. I heard that prices as high as 15*l.* were being offered for votes; and I knew that in such a case as that there would be no chance of fair play.

14,285. Have you heard the prices that were paid for votes by the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—No; I have no knowledge of that.

14,286. Have you heard since this commission has been sitting, the prices that were paid at the last election to voters, if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; but only since I have been present in this court, and I was quite astounded when I heard it.

14,287. It was a matter of great surprise to you?—It was.

14,288. You do not appear to have been let into the secrets?—No; I was not let into the secrets. If there were any secrets, I was not let into them.

14,289. At all events, you were not let into any secrets about the provision of money?—No; the only thing I have ever thrown into the election has been hard work. Where I could influence a voter by fair and honourable means I would do so.

14,290. But you never bribed a voter?—I never bribed a voter, and I never would.

14,291. Are you a town councillor?—No; I am not. I have a brother in the body.

14,292. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were the people who you say had promised you to vote for Sir Robert Carden, in the same way as they had done before, persons who you knew had voted for Sir Robert Carden at the previous election?—Yes.

14,293. Do you know what party they had belonged to before that?—To the Conservative party.

14,294. They had always been Conservatives?—They had always been Conservatives.

14,295. You say you were engaged in the election of 1857?—Yes.

14,296. And you were afterwards aware that a petition had been presented against the return of Sir Robert Carden?—I was on that inquiry in 1857. There was an allegation made against me of having been present when Captain Bradley had remitted a bribe to a man named Joseph Clark. I had to go and refute or rebut that evidence. I was present in the tap of the King's Head, where it was said the bribery was committed. In fact, it was at my instigation that Captain Bradley came down to the King's Head tap. There was a voter there named Joseph Clark. I wanted to get him up to poll; and he said he wanted to see Captain Bradley, and so I fetched Captain Bradley down, and he went outside and spoke to Clark; but I am positive that no money passed. What the conversation was that took place I do not know. There was a man there who Captain Bradley spoke of this morning in his evidence, and who said he would poll for Sir Robert Carden, if he would give him a pilot's berth; but who that man was I do not

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know. Captain Bradley answered to that, and said that he could promise nothing of the kind.

14,297. You went up to London?—Yes. I was there to refute the evidence given against Captain Bradley, but my evidence was not required. The committee would not believe the witness.

14,298. What was your opinion after hearing the result of the petition?—In fact, it was decided quite in coincidence with my own opinion, that the election was carried on by those fair means that all elections should be.

14,299. You believe that the election of 1857 was perfectly pure?—I do not know of my knowledge of any act of bribery having been committed on behalf of the Conservatives at that election.

14,300. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you not aware that there are a considerable number of venal voters in Gloucester?—I believe there is a great number, and they want plucking out. I should think there are two or three hundred of them.

14,301. Do you think you canvassed any of those voters who you believe to be venal?—No; the persons I canvassed were chiefly householders, customers of mine. If I thought I had any influence with them I exercised it. I was not a general canvasser.

14,302. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the amount of the bribe said to have been offered by Captain Bradley to Joseph Clark?—No amount of bribe at all. Clark only wished to see Captain Bradley before he went to poll. I fetched Captain Bradley to him, and they went out into Three Cocks Lane, and I was with them at the time. Some conversation took place, which I did not hear; but I am positive that no money passed from Captain Bradley to Clark.

14,303. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You did not hear the conversation?—I did not.

14,304. Are you acquainted with Mr. Walter Clutterbuck?—Yes; I know him; and I was very much surprised to hear him give such evidence as he did, so derogatory to the honesty and honour of Gloucester. I should think he must measure every one by his own acts.

14,305. He told us that he never did anything himself?—Yes; but I do not believe him though.

14,306. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you were present during the whole time when Captain Bradley and Joseph Clark were at the King's Head tap?—Yes; it was not inside the tap where Captain Bradley met him. Captain Bradley stopped outside and Clark went out to him. Clark had then his eyesight; he is now blind. The conversation between them did not last two minutes I should think.

14,307. But you were not present when the conversation took place between them?—I was standing on the paving stone and they were out in the roadway. I was three or four yards from them.

14,308. You did not hear what conversation took place?—No.

14,309. Could you see what was done?—Yes; my eyes were directed to them.

14,310. What time in the day was this?—I should think between eleven and twelve o'clock in the morning.

14,311. Did the conversation take place out in the street?—Out in the street, in the Three Cocks Lane.

14,312. I suppose, if you did not hear the conversation, you could hardly undertake to swear that there was no promise of any sort made by Captain Bradley?—I could not.

14,313. Were you summoned to attend in London as a witness for the purpose of stating that no conversation took did place between Captain Bradley and Clark?—I was summoned to rebut the evidence of a man whose name I forget, but who is a relation of Clark.

14,314. Was the name Dowers?—No; Crewse, I think.

14,315. You were summoned to rebut his testimony?—Yes.

14,316. Did his testimony implicate Captain Bradley?—It did.

14,317. In what way?—I think to the extent that he had bribed Clark.

14,318. The Joseph Clark you have spoken of?—Yes; I cannot challenge my memory now to say exactly what his evidence was against the captain, but I know I had to go to rebut it, and my evidence would have been to the effect that he did not bribe him with money.

14,319. The only circumstance that you could have deposed to would have been that a conversation did take place between Captain Bradley and Joseph Clark, at the King's Head tap, on that day?—The conversation took place in the street.

14,320. But you did not hear it?—No.

14,321. That would have been the nature of your testimony, that you did not hear what was said?—Yes; Crewse having stated that I did, and that I saw everything that was done.

THOMAS BREWER MONK called and further examined.

T. B. Monk.

14,322. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you produce a list of the messengers which you were requested to make out?—I do. (*The witness delivered in the list.*)

14,323. I understand you have also an addition to make to the list with which you have furnished us of persons who were bribed?—Yes.

14,324. What are the additional cases?—I advanced to Mr. William Stephens, of Highnam, for bribery purposes, 10*l.*

14,325. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that the Mr. William Stephens who has been examined?—Yes.

14,326. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that 10*l.* advanced for the purpose of bribing voters?—Yes.

14,327. Did he tell you what voters?—Yes; he told me it was for the two Ferry's, father and son. It was to give them to promise to leave town.

14,328. Who was the next?—I paid Benjamin Bennett, late of Southgate Street, for the purpose of bribing Thomas Beard, of Barton Street, 6*l.*

14,329. Who was the next?—Hayward Coopey, of Barton Street.

14,330. How much did you give to him?—£1. I paid him after the election. He came to me and said he had polled for Price and Monk; I believe another witness, who has preceded me, has stated that he gave him 1*l.* as well as me.

14,331. He came to you after the election?—Yes, and I gave the money to him a fortnight after the election. I gave it to him more as a gratuity than for his vote.

14,332. (*Mr. Welford.*) You gave it to him because he had voted?—Yes.

14,333. He is one of the Coopey family of whom we have heard so much, I suppose?—Yes; but he is not so bad as the rest of them.

14,334. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is the next?—Joseph Lane, of Columbia Street.

14,335. How much did you give him?—Only 1*l.*

14,336. When was that?—At the same time that I gave it to Coopey, about a fortnight after the election; it was on the same occasion; they were at work together, and they applied to me after the election.

14,337. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was for having voted?—For having voted.

14,338. For Price and Monk?—Yes.

14,339. Since you have heard the evidence which has been produced before us, has the opinion which you before expressed, with regard to the number of venal voters, altered altogether?—Yes.

14,340. Are you of opinion that as many as from 300 to 330 persons having votes for this city are venal?—Yes, I think as many as that were venal at the last election.

14,341. Do you consider that as many as from 300 to 330 voters are open to money bribes apart from their employment as messengers?—No, I would not

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T. B. Monk.
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say apart from their being employed as messengers; I did not intend it in that way; you must be aware that all the messengers are not colourably employed, very few of them are; there are many men on that list who would refuse to take a bribe in any shape or form; they would not think it bribery if they were employed as messengers; some of those men would not take a bribe on any account.

14,342. They wish to be employed as messengers, but would not take a money bribe?—No, they would not. I assure you that many men who were employed as messengers, and whose names you will find in that list, if they had had any idea of its coming before the public, would have been glad to pay back the money they received—they would be very glad to do that rather than be exposed in this court; they have told me so, and I have said, "I have paid you the money, and you must come." They feel very much annoyed about it, showing that they are not willing to be bribed, and that they did not take employment as messengers with that view.

14,343. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do these lists, which you have handed in, give the names of all the persons who were employed as messengers by the committee of Price and Monk?—No; they state the names of all the persons who were voters or relations of voters, or who were asked to be employed by voters.

14,344. The list contains the names of those messengers who were voters, or the relatives of voters?—Yes; brothers, and sons, and so on.

14,345. Supposing these parties, who were either voters or the relatives of voters, had not been put upon the committee for Price and Monk, would they have gone over to the committee of Sir Robert Carden?—Some of them would, no doubt, but a very few. There are a great number of voters on that list who would not have gone to Sir Robert Carden whether I had employed them or not; some would, and some would not.

14,346. You have gone through the list carefully, I suppose?—Yes.

14,347. The number of voters among the messengers appears to be 70, and the sons and brothers of voters 17, making together 87?—Yes.

14,348. Out of those, how many do you think would have gone over to Sir Robert Carden if they had not been employed on your committee?—I cannot answer the question; it is impossible for me to answer it.

14,349. What number should you think?—I have no doubt that some of them would.

14,350. You know the feelings, do you not, of these persons who were employed as messengers?—I cannot always tell the feelings of them; it is generally the amount of money that is moving about that influences the feelings of these people.

14,351. Their feeling is very much governed by the money?—Exactly so.

14,352. I, therefore, want to press you upon that point; out of the 87 persons who are either voters, or the relatives of voters, how many do you think would have left your committee and gone over to Sir Robert Carden's committee, supposing you had told them that they could not be employed on your committee?—That is a question that I cannot possibly answer. There were some, as you will see, put down in that list who did go and vote for Sir Robert Carden after being employed on our committee, because they were offered better terms.

14,353. We have heard of a party of nine who did that?—Yes.

14,354. Independently of those who actually did go over, what would be your opinion with respect to the number of those that remained and did not go over?—I think the only way of getting at that would be to ask the question of the parties themselves.

14,355. Without asking the question of the parties themselves, I should like to ascertain what your opinion is upon the subject?—I cannot give a guess, I should not like to hazard an opinion; if I were to say five I might be under the mark, or if I were to say ten I might be above it; it is impossible to tell.

14,356. When you were examined here before, you stated that the employment of messengers who were voters was, in your opinion, indirect bribery?—I think so; I think there was no necessity for 112 messengers to be employed by me for the two candidates; nor do I think there was any necessity for 122 messengers to be employed by our opponents; but if they employ 122 messengers it is necessary that I should do the same, if we are to have a chance of winning the election.

14,357. You regard the employment of messengers as a means of bribery?—I do so.

14,358. That being so, I ask you if you cannot form some opinion as to the number of persons who, being employed as voters, or as the friends of voters, would not have adhered to your party if they had been removed from your committee?—There may have been half a dozen, perhaps. I think I may venture to say there would be six or seven.

14,359. Do I understand you to say, that with the exception of those six or seven, all the others, whether they had received the sums of money which are put against their names or not, would still have voted for Price and Monk?—No, I would not say that all of them would.

14,360. I say with the exception of six or seven?—From six to ten perhaps, but it it impossible I can form an opinion as to the number.

14,361. Do you consider if they would not have voted for Sir Robert Carden they would not have voted for Price and Monk?—The fact is, that if they had not been employed by me they would have been tempted by the other party, and I should have lost them. I knew the men were Liberals in principle, but in the midst of temptations which were then afloat I think I should not have seen them again if I had let them go.

14,362. (*Mr. Welford.*) That applies to them all?—To the great majority of them.

14,363. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Then under the circumstances of the case, we may take it that you considered it a matter of necessity that they should be employed?—Yes, I did.

14,364. For the purpose of securing their votes for Price and Monk?—For the purpose of being level with our opponents. I do not think there is any necessity to employ more than 20 or 30 on the one side or the other for the work that is done.

14,365. You think that for the work that there is to be done 20 or 30 would be quite sufficient?—Yes, on either side. We only employed them in self-defence.

P. J. W. Cooke.

PHILIP JOHN WILLIAM COOKE sworn and examined.

14,366. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor in this city?—I am.

14,367. Were you employed professionally at the last election?—I was.

14,368. For Sir Robert Carden?—I was.

14,369. Were you paid your fee?—No.

14,370. What was the amount?—I think our firm sent in a claim for thirty guineas or thirty sovereigns. I am not sure which it was. We wished to make no charge, and it was fixed at that, I think, at Mr. Lovegrove's desire.

14,371. Thirty guineas?—I think so.

14,372. What part did you take in the election?—I canvassed voters, attended at the committee rooms, and assisted generally in the election.

14,373. What district did you canvass?—I think it was the Kingsholm district principally; I think that was the list that was given to me. I canvassed with Sir Robert Carden.

14,374. Did you canvass also by yourself?—In Kingsholm I did.

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14,375. Is Kingsholm one of the out districts?—Yes, it is close to Gloucester.

14,376. Is it inhabited by the lower class of voters for the most part?—No, not so much by the lower orders as by the gentry.

14,377. It is inhabited generally by the superior classes?—Yes.

14,378. Was your canvass successful?—I think it was. I think it was, perhaps, from six to four—six for Carden and four for the other side. The books were returned; I have not seen them since.

14,379. Did you canvass the same district in 1857?—No, I did not.

14,380. You were not employed in 1857?—Yes, I was employed in 1857.

14,381. But you did not canvass the same district?—No.

14,382. Did you receive intimations from any voters that you canvassed, that they should expect to be paid for their votes?—No, certainly not.

14,383. Did you commence your canvass soon after Sir Robert Carden had declared himself as a candidate, and did you continue your canvass down to the time of the election?—I can hardly tell you when I began my canvass. I think Mr. Lovegrove saw me, and wished to retain us, the latter end of February. I can hardly tell you when I began the canvass. It is very likely I might have commenced immediately in the month of March. I might have done so; I cannot tell you. I had a book given me, but that possibly was given me after Sir Robert Carden had come down to Gloucester.

14,384. I suppose that, although a majority of the voters in the Kingsholm district are of a superior class, there are a number of voters also not of that class?—Very few. My list was a very short one.

14,385. Was that the only district that you canvassed?—That was the only district I canvassed alone.

14,386. Did you hear during your canvass, or during the time you were in the committee room, any statement made by any person that bribery would be necessary to be practised by Sir Robert Carden's party?—Certainly not. I had no idea that anything of the sort was going to be resorted to. I was not aware of anything of the kind.

14,387. You never heard that bribery would be necessary?—Certainly not.

14,388. Not down to the time of the election?—Not down to the time of the election. I did not interfere in any way whatever, and I heard nothing of it.

14,389. Did you not know that bribery was practised?—I have known it since.

14,390. Did you not know that bribery was practised on the day of the election?—I know it since.

14,391. But you did not know it at the time?—No.

14,392. No communication of that sort was made to you in the committee room?—Not at all.

14,393. Were you in frequent communication with parties who attended the committee room?—Yes; I was there daily.

14,394. Are you very much surprised now to learn that so much bribery did prevail at the last election?—No, I am not surprised at it. I beg your pardon, I am surprised to hear that there was so much, but I am not surprised to hear that bribery did take place.

14,395. You are not surprised to hear that bribery did take place?—No.

14,396. Why are you not surprised to hear that?—Merely from general observation, nothing further. No communication was ever made to me on the subject; but a man's eyes are generally open, and he can see a great many things which he cannot give you any account of at all. I could give you no reason why I formed that opinion, except from general observation.

14,397. General observation of what nature?—Whilst out—not in the committee room at all—whilst out in the city persons would talk, and so forth. I heard nothing that I could lay hold of. Some would say, perhaps, "Money must be used," and all that kind of thing. I paid no attention to it at all.

14,398. There seemed to be a general opinion that money would have to be employed?—Yes, there was a general opinion of that kind—not that it would have to be, but that it would be employed.

14,399. And from the expression of that opinion you were not surprised to find that bribery did prevail?—Not at all.

14,400. But you are surprised to find that so much prevailed?—I am, indeed.

14,401. (*Mr. Welford.*) And that it prevailed on both sides?—I am speaking generally of both sides.

14,402. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You took no part yourself in the money arrangement of the election?—Not at all.

14,403. And you did not promise any money, or hold out any inducement, to any voters to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

14,404. Nor give any bribe yourself?—Nor give any bribe myself.

14,405. Are you aware of any cases, other than those which have been disclosed before us, in which bribery was committed?—I know of no case at all.

14,406. You took part in the election of 1857, I believe?—I did.

14,407. Was the part which you took in that election similar to the part you took in the election which took place in 1859?—Yes.

14,408. Are you aware of any corrupt practices having existed at that election?—No.

14,409. Would you be surprised to find that they did exist at that election?—I am rather surprised to find it. I thought it had been a pure election; I had no reason to believe the contrary.

14,410. You are surprised to find that corrupt practices did exist in 1857?—I am.

14,411. Did you make any offer or promise of money to any person at that election in 1857?—No.

14,412. Nor hold out any inducement?—No, certainly not.

14,413. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you see Mr. Whithorn on the polling day at the last election?—I do not think I did.

14,414. Or on the polling day in 1857?—Yes, I saw him on the polling day in 1857.

14,415. Where did you see him then?—I saw him at the committee rooms.

14,416. In his own room?—I did not see him there. If I saw him anywhere it must have been as I came in and out.

14,417. Was it in a room at the end of the passage; No, I did not see him there. I did not know that there was a room there for him.

14,418. Not at that time?—No.

14,419. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You said just now that you wished to make no charge, but that your fee was fixed at thirty guineas?—Yes.

14,420. By Mr. Lovegrove's desire?—Yes.

14,421. Do you mean that you wished to give your services gratuitously?—We should have done so. Mr. Lovegrove called on us, and we said we did not wish to interfere. He said, "You will do something to help us at the election, will you not?" and I said that we would do so willingly. When he spoke about our remuneration, we said we should wish to make no charge, and he agreed to give us thirty guineas as a fee for our services.

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C. J. Cooke.

11 Oct. 1859.

CHARLES JAMES COOKE sworn and examined.

14,422. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the brother of the last witness?—I am.

14,423. What district did you canvass?—I canvassed generally with Sir Robert Carden at first.

14,424. What district did you canvass?—The College Precincts.

14,425. What class of voters are they in that district?—The superior class; the return was, on an average twelve to two; twelve for Sir Robert Carden and two for the Liberal party.

14,426. What was the number of voters in that district?—I cannot say.

14,427. What was about the number? were there about twenty?—I should say so.

14,428. No intimation was made to you, I suppose, that any persons required to be paid?—Not the slightest.

14,429. Did you yourself offer any money to any person?—No.

14,430. Nor give any money?—No.

14,431. Or hold out any inducement?—Not the slightest.

14,432. Did you take the same busy part in the committee room that your brother did?—Yes; I also acted as inspector on the day of election.

14,433. Did you receive an intimation from Mr. Lovegrove or Mr. Whithorn, or from any of the more active managers, that it would be necessary to have a fund provided for the purpose of winning the election?—No.

14,434. Did you canvass in 1857?—Yes.

14,435. The same district?—I believe I did; I cannot say positively.

14,436. With the same result?—Yes.

14,437. Did you offer or promise anything to any voters at that election?—No.

14,438. Was it your opinion at the last election down to the day of polling that Sir Robert Carden would be returned?—Yes, it was.

14,439. And was it your opinion that he could be returned without bribery?—I knew nothing about bribery.

14,440. No communication was made to you that bribery would be necessary?—No. I wish to state that Mr. Biggs, in the evidence which he gave last week, stated that I had offered to distrain upon a person named Vick, a baker in Westgate Street, for a quarter's rent. I am not at all aware who the landlord is; I was not aware that Vick was the tenant of the premises, and I never offered him in any way, directly or indirectly, any money.

14,441. You never offered Vick anything?—No. Why I canvassed Mr. Vick for his vote was, that we had been professionally concerned for him, and I called and asked him for his vote, and he partly promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Price; so much so that I returned his name as a person who would vote for Sir Robert Carden.

14,442. How had he voted at previous elections?—I do not know; I had not known him before. On the evening of the nomination, as I was passing Vick's shop, somebody touched me on the shoulder and told me to look in at Vick's. I did so, and in an inner room I saw Mr. Pollard, Mr. Monk, and young Mr. Kendall, and I think Mr. Biggs was there, but I will not be certain. I saw them in the room. After they were gone, I saw Vick, and I said, "Of course you will keep to what you told me, that you would vote one and one." He said, "No," that he could do nothing of the sort.

14,443. Was it the fact that he was in arrear for rent?—I am not at all aware.

14,444. You were not concerned for his landlord?—Not in any way; I do not know who his landlord is.

14,445. And you knew nothing about any distress that was put into his premises?—I did not know that one had been put in, nor did I know that one had been threatened.

14,446. Did Vick intimate to you that the promise he had made to you to vote for Sir Robert Carden was at all conditional?—No.

14,447. It was a simple and positive promise?—I will not say that he positively promised, but he led me to believe that he would give Sir Robert Carden one vote. We had been very kind to him in assisting him out of some difficulties he was in, and I simply asked him in return. I did not say a word to him about that, but he said at once we had been very kind to him, and that he should not object to give Sir Robert Carden a vote; he did not promise that he would, but he led me to believe that he would vote for Sir Robert Carden.

14,448. From what he said, did you believe that he would want some compensation—some equivalent for his vote?—I told him I should see him again, and talk to him again on the subject.

14,449. Do you think he understood from what you said that you would give him something for his vote?—Oh no.

14,450. On the eve of the polling day you called on him, I suppose, to see whether he intended to redeem his promise?—I called on him after Mr. Monk and Mr. Pollard came out.

14,451. I suppose your object in calling on him was to ascertain whether he intended to redeem his promise?—Yes.

14,452. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And he said he did not?—He then positively refused, and I came to the conclusion that something had been offered to him not to do so.

J. Hanman, senior.

JOHN HANMAN, senior, sworn and examined.

14,453. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A gentleman.

14,454. Where do you live?—In Worcester Place.

14,455. You canvassed at the last election, did you not?—Very little.

14,456. For Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

14,457. Did you offer any money to any persons at the last election?—Yes.

14,458. To whom?—To Joseph Lodge.

14,459. Was that an offer, or a payment?—I offered it to him.

14,460. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where does Lodge live?—In Lady Belle Gate now.

14,461. Where was he living at the time of the election?—I think he had just gone to Lady Belle Gate. Previous to that he had been at Blackfriars. He appears on the register for Blackfriars.

14,462. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you offer him?—£3.

14,463. To vote for Carden?—To vote for Carden.

14,464. Did he accept your offer; did he say he would vote for Carden?—He was a tenant of mine previous to going to Lady Belle Gate, and I allowed him that amount in his rent.

14,465. Did he vote for Carden?—He did, I believe.

14,466. Then it was not an offer; it was in fact a payment to him of 3*l.*?—To him it was a payment, or the same thing.

14,467. You deducted 3*l.* from his rent?—Yes.

14,468. To whom else did you give any money?—To William Burgess, of Blackfriars.

14,469. Was he a tenant of yours?—Yes.

14,470. What did you do with him?—I paid him the money.

14,471. How much?—£4 10*s.*

14,472. For his vote for Carden?—For his vote for Carden.

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14,473. Did he vote for Carden ?—I believe he did. I have no doubt of it.

14,474. Who is the next ?—There was no other.

14,475. Only those two tenants?—Only those two tenants.

14,476. Did you offer any money to any other person ?—There was a sort of understanding between me and another of my tenants, that if he voted for Carden, which he promised to do, he should be allowed about 4*l.*

14,477. Who was that ?—That was John Alloway.

14,478. There was a sort of understanding that, if he voted for Carden, he should be allowed 4*l.* ?—Yes, or thereabouts ; there was no specific sum named.

14,479. Did he owe you that rent ?—Yes.

14,480. You say there was an understanding. Do you mean to say, you told him you would allow him that money ?—Yes.

14,481. And did he say he would ?—Yes.

14,482. And did he ?—He did not.

14,483. For whom did he vote ?—I believe he voted for Price and Monk, but I am not certain of that.

14,484. He did not vote, at all events, for Sir Robert Carden ?—He did not.

14,485. And you did not allow him the 4*l.* ?—No, nor any part of it.

14,486. Where does John Alloway live ?—In Blackfriars.

14,487. Is there any other tenant to whom you made a similar offer ?—No.

14,488. Were those the only parties with whom you had any arrangement about their votes) —Yes, they are.

14,489. Was the money which you paid to William Burgess, 4*l.* 10*s.*, your own money ?—Yes.

14,490. And you do not expect that to be repaid to you ?—I fear not now.

14,491. But you did at that time ?—I did at that time.

14,492. Who did you expect would pay you ?—I did not know who in particular. I expected it would come from the Conservative party. I did not know who would pay it.

14,493. You expected it to come from the Conservative party, did you ?—Yes, I did.

14,494. But you had made no previous arrangements with any person that you should be repaid ? —No.

14,495. No person told you that if you came to any arrangement of that kind with your tenants, any amount of money you were out of pocket should be repaid to you ?—No.

14,496. Nothing of that sort ?—No.

14,497. You forgave one of your tenants, Joseph Lodge, 3*l.* ?—I did.

14,498. And that you have not been repaid by any person ?—No, I have not been repaid it.

14,499. And I suppose you do not expect to be repaid that sum ?—I do not now.

14,500. That was not your expectation, I suppose, at the time you agreed with him ?—No ; that was not my expectation at the time I agreed with him.

14,501. I suppose you will be more careful another time ?—I rather suspect I shall.

14,502. With regard to this election of 1859 you were doing what you could for the purpose of securing votes for Sir Robert Carden, and making voters little presents. Do you know any other persons who did the same thing ?—I made no little presents except those two I have named.

14,503. To William Burgess ?—If you call that a little present, I did that. I thought you meant other voters.

14,504. Did you hear of other persons making presents of that sort to other voters ?—Only generally. I heard there was a great deal of corruption going on, but I did not hear of any particular instances.

14,505. Were you in the habit of going to the committee room ?—No.

14,506. You are quite sure that no person told you to offer bribes of that sort ?—No.

14,507. It was entirely out of your own head ?—Yes ; they were my own tenants. They told me they could have more on the other side.

14,508. Did you take part in the election in 1857 ? —Yes.

14,509. Had you the same tenants in 1857 that you had in 1859 ?—No.

14,510. They were different tenants ?—Yes ; some of them were different.

14,511. Had any of your tenants votes then ?—Yes.

14,512. Did you forgive any of them rent in 1857 ? —Yes.

14,513. Who ?—John Alloway.

14,514. How much did you forgive him then ?—At that time it was about 3*l.* 10*s.* ; he was to be cleared off up to a certain date, which amounted, I think, to about 3*l.* 10*s.*, or thereabouts.

14,515. If he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

14,516. And did he vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—He did.

14,517. And the rent was wiped off ?—Yes ; to that amount.

14,518. Who else ?—Joseph Lodge.

14,519. The same man that you have spoken of before ?—Yes ; the same man.

14,520. How much did you wipe off from him ?—3*l.* I am speaking now of 1857.

14,521. And that was also for his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

14,522. And he voted for him ?—He voted for him.

14,523. Who else ?—No one else.

14,524. No one but those two ?—No one but those two.

14,525. Did you make any offer to any one else ?—No. I had another tenant but it was of no use to offer him anything.

14,526. Who told you to make those offers which you made in 1857 ?—I do not know that anybody in particular did. I think I mentioned at the committee room that some of my tenants would go that way if they could have about a quarter's rent.

14,527. You mentioned at the committee room that they would vote for Carden if they they could have a quarter's rent ?—Yes.

14,528. Did you understand in the committee room that you were to let them have a quarter's rent ?—Yes.

14,529. Who did you understand that from ?—I cannot particularly say. It was a sort of general talk, that it would be all right, and so on.

14,530. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was it all right ?—Yes.

14,531. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who paid you the money ? —Alderman Whithorn.

14,532. He paid the money ?—He paid the money sometime afterwards,—not at the time of the election, but sometime afterwards.

14,533. How soon after the election ?—I should think it was nine or ten weeks after the election, as near as I can recollect.

14,534. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it after the petition was over ?—No ; I think it was before, but I am not sure. I could not be positive about that.

14,535. £6 10*s.* was it ?—Yes.

14,536. And you, having been repaid the 6*l.* 10*s.* in 1857, thought it would be all right in 1859 ?—That is one reason why I thought so, certainly.

14,537. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you apply to Alderman Whithorn in 1857 for the repayment of the money you had allowed to your tenants ?—Yes.

14,538. How came you to apply to him ?—Because I understood he was a sort of paymaster for the party.

14,539. Was that generally understood ?—I think it was. I should not like to say that positively.

14,540. Had you anything to do with canvassing at

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J. Hanman, senior.

11 Oct. 1859.

the election in 1857 ?—Very little. I have canvassed but very little of late years.

14,541. You confined your canvassing to those persons over whom you might be supposed to have some influence ?—Except one morning when I was with Sir Robert Carden for about two or three hours ; that was a general canvass I would call it. The other part of the business I did quietly by myself.

14,542. When you were paid the 6*l.* 10*s.* by Alderman Whithorn in 1857 had you any conversation with him about the election that was just over ? —Not that I recollect.

14,543. Did you understand from him that there had been a good deal of money expended at that election ?—I did not.

14,544. You received your 6*l.* 10*s.*—Yes.

14,545. Did you say nothing about the money that was spent at that election ?—No ; I do not think I did. It was in his own office, and we might have had a conversation of that kind, but if we did I cannot recollect it.

14,546. Are you quite sure you did not ?—I am not quite sure.

14,547. You cannot now recollect what it was that passed between you ?—No ; I cannot.

14,548. If there was any conversation upon the subject between you, you cannot recollect the purport of it ?—No ; I cannot.

14,549. Are you sure that Alderman Whithorn did not tell you on that occasion that a good deal of money had been spent on Sir Robert Carden's side in bribery ?—I do not believe he ever told me so.

14,550. When you went to him for this 6*l.* 10*s.* what did you say to him ?—I think he sent to me to say that I was to go to him. I had asked him once or twice before for the money and he did not pay me ; he made some excuse or some observation, and I think I had a message afterwards to say that I was to call upon him, which I did, and then I received my money.

14,551. You told him that there was 6*l.* 10*s.* due to you for payments made by you to two voters ?—Yes, I did.

14,552. And then you made an application to him for the repayment of that money, and afterwards received a letter from him desiring you to call upon him ?—I would not say whether it was a letter or a verbal message ; I almost think there was a message left for me at what is now my son's shop, where I formerly lived, that Alderman Whithorn wished to see me. I think that was it.

14,553. Why did you not apply to Mr. Lovegrove instead of to Alderman Whithorn ?—Because I understood that Mr. Whithorn was the paymaster.

14,554. Did you not know that Mr. Lovegrove was the authorized agent of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes ; I understood that Mr. Lovegrove was the agent of Sir Robert Carden.

14,555. Why then did you not apply to him ?—Because I understood that Mr. Whithorn was the paymaster, as I said before. I had nothing to do with Mr. Lovegrove in receiving money for electioneering transactions ; he is my private solicitor.

14,556. You thought that Mr. Whithorn managed the illegal part of the election ?—And the legal, so far as the payment went, I understood.

G. Curtis.

GEORGE CURTIS sworn and examined.

14,557. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ? — A hallier.

14,558. Where do you live ?—In the Island.

14,559. Are you the brother of Mr. William Curtis ?—I am.

14,560. You supported Sir Robert Carden at the last election ?—I did.

14,561. Did you canvass for him ?—I did.

14,562. What district ?—The lower part of Westgate Street, the Island, the Pool Meadow, and West End Terrace.

14,563. Are there a good many voters in those districts ?—Yes ; I suppose from thirty to forty.

14,564. Are they the lower class of voters ?—Chiefly.

14,565. When did you begin your canvass ?—I commenced the canvass with Sir Robert Carden—a general canvass.

14,566. Did you canvass by yourself ?—I canvassed some few voters ; those who were not at home on the general canvass.

14,567. Did you understand that money was to be paid for their votes ?—No.

14,568. You did not understand that throughout your canvass ?—No.

14,569. Was your canvass continued down to the time of the polling ?—It was ; but I had very little difficulty in my canvass. I knew the parties who would vote for and against, and when they had promised I left them alone.

14,570. Did you offer any money to any person ?—To no person.

14,571. Did you promise anything ? — Certainly not.

14,572. Did you hold out any inducement ?—Not any.

14,573. Were you in the committee room ?—I have been to the committee room.

14,574. Were you there frequently during the canvass ?—I may have gone eight or ten times, or something like that. I would not be positive as to the number of times I have gone there.

14,575. Did you ascertain, when you went to the committee room, that it was considered that bribery must be resorted to by Sir Robert Carden's friends ? —I never heard anything of it.

14,576. You never heard that from anyone in the committee room ?—No.

14,577. Nor anywhere else ?—Nor anywhere else, until the evening of the election.

14,578. Were you there upon that occasion with your brother ?—No ; I was told in my own district that money was being offered and given, but I was not told of it by any voter.

14,579. And that was the first time you heard of it ?—That was the first time.

14,580. On the evening of the nomination ?—On the evening of the nomination.

14,581. You heard of it only from some person who was not a voter ?—Yes.

14,582. Did you know of any fund being obtained for the purpose of bribery ?—Not any.

14,583. Do you know of any persons who were bribed by other parties, not by yourself, except those cases which we have had disclosed to us ?—I know of no persons, unless it is those I have heard disclosed ; but I did not know at the time of the election that they were bribed.

14,584. So far, then, as your knowledge extended, did you consider that the last election was a pure election ?—I did, so far as Sir Robert Carden was concerned.

14,585. Were you engaged in the election of 1857 ? —Yes.

14,586. Did you canvass then in the same way ?—In the same way, and very nearly the same people.

14,587. And were you of opinion that that election was pure ?—Yes ; I may say that my canvass in 1859 was far better than the one in 1857.

14,588. You found there was more alacrity in voters making promises ?—Yes ; I believe there were more promises on the general canvass than ever I knew on any canvass that was made.

14,589. And that continued to be the case down to the evening of the nomination day ?—Yes ; I did not find any alteration till the evening after the nomination.

14,590. Did any case of bribery come to your knowledge in the election of 1857 ?—Not any.

14,591. Are you a town councillor ?—I am.

14,592. For which ward ?—The west ward.

14,593. Were you elected after a contest ?—Yes ;

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I came forward in consequence of receiving a requisition, which I have in my pocket, if you wish to see it.

14,594. You were elected after a contest?—Yes.

14,595. What did it cost you?—Nothing at all.

14,596. Was it a strong contest?—Yes; I believe it was a pretty good one. Mr. Innell was my opponent.

14,597. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were the expenses of that contest paid by any subscription?—I believe there was some subscription; but I do not know what.

14,598. Do you know who were the treasurers of that subscription?—No, I do not; I cannot say who the parties were. I believe that money was subscribed; perhaps 8*l.* or 10*l.* in all was the amount paid for the election.

14,599. Although you paid nothing, there was an expense incurred in your election?—Yes; about 10*l.*

14,600. Do you know who subscribed that money?—No, I do not.

14,601. You say that at the last election you left the dishonest voters alone—How did you distinguish the honest from the dishonest?—I said I knew the principles of the parties; and those that would not promise I always knew to hold themselves open for bribery, and therefore I left them alone.

14,602. You knew those who were likely to vote for Sir Robert Carden, and those who were likely to vote the other way, and those who were likely to expect money?—Yes; those who were likely to expect money from both parties.

14,603. Or either?—Or either.

14,604. You did not receive intimations from those parties that money was expected by them because you knew those men beforehand and avoided them?—Yes. I can assure you that I did not go near them or offer them any inducements to vote.

14,605. But you could hardly expect a pure election when you knew that such electors were in the market?—It was, so far as I was concerned, a pure election.

14,606. But had you not a suspicion that corrupt practices would be adopted?—I have heard that there were corrupt practices adopted, and from the evidence I have heard here, I was right in the parties that I suspected.

14,607. You were quite aware that there were voters open to the suspicion of corruption?—Yes.

14,608. But you yourself canvassed none of those voters?—No, I did not.

14,609. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How were the promises that were made to you kept?—They were kept very well. Nearly the whole of those who promised me voted for Sir Robert Carden; I do not know of a voter who did not, unless it was two men who did not vote at all.

14,610. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many persons did you consider were dishonest among the voters you canvassed?—I made no calculation.

14,611. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many voters did you avoid canvassing?—That I cannot say.

14,612. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) About how many voters were there altogether in this district?—I think I polled about 27 out of that district.

14,613. Is it your wish to convey to us the impression that the remainder were persons that were not honest?—No; there were parties who voted on the other side. I calculated that, in the district I canvassed, we had two to one promises; and I think I calculated something like twenty-seven in the district that would vote for Sir Robert Carden, and that I could depend on.

14,614. To vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; I believe they all voted but two.

14,615. Can you not form any opinion as to about how many you avoided canvassing?—No, I cannot. In the general canvass, when I went with Sir Robert Carden, we called at every house except it was in Pool Meadow, and there I said to Mr. Lovegrove, it was of no use to canvass the voters beyond Mr. Bird's house, for they were all against us.

W. H. Hughes.

WILLIAM HENRY HUGHES sworn and examined.

14,616. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I am retired from business.

14,617. What part did you take in the last election?—Very little indeed.

14,618. Were you a supporter of Sir Robert Carden's?—Yes; I always voted for Sir Robert Carden.

14,619. Did you canvass with him?—I canvassed with him part of two afternoons.

14,620. Did you receive or pay any money?—No.

14,621. Did you bribe any person?—No.

14,622. Did you make any offer of money to any person?—No, I did not.

14,623. Did you canvass separately from Sir Robert Carden?—I canvassed one or two persons that were not at home when I went with Sir Robert Carden to their houses.

14,624. Did you afterwards canvass those voters?—Yes; I went to one or two houses afterwards.

14,625. What occurred with them. Did they intimate that they wanted money for their votes;—No; one man I promised to canvass because it was in my neighbourhood. I live at the Spa, and he promised me to vote a plumper for Sir Robert Carden, and voted both against him.

14,626. What is his name?—Ayers, junior.

14,627. Do you know his Christian name?—John, I think it is.

14,628. Did he intimate that he wanted any consideration for his vote?—No, he did not.

14,629 He promised you positively?—Yes.

14,630. Did you return him as a promise?—Yes, I returned him as a plumper. He was not at home when Sir Robert Carden called on him. I offered Mr. Lovegrove to see him in the evening; I did not see him that evening, but I did on another evening, and I asked him to give me a vote for Sir Robert Carden, and he said in return, "You know my circumstances." I said, "Well, I do know your circumstances; you can give me one vote if you like, and you can give Mr. Ellis the other vote."

14,631. Who is Mr. Ellis?—Mr. Price's agent. After some conversation he agreed to do so, and I was leaving him, but he followed me down the steps, and said, "Stop a minute;" he held his head on one side and considered for two or three minutes, and then said, "Well, I do not see why I should not give you a plumper." I said, "If you will, it will be so much the better." He said, "I will do so," and I then returned him as a plumper at the committee room.

14,632. Then nothing passed between you and him which led him to believe that he should receive anything for his vote?—I am quite sure of it.

14,633. Then as to the other man?—I went to Mr. Ayers' house, and did not see him, and passing by the door of another man, a freeman, I thought I would call and ask him for his vote.

14,634. What was his name?—John Lewis.

14,635. Where does he live?—In High Orchard.

14,636. What did you say to him?—When Sir Robert Carden called, his wife was very abusive to him. I was not in the house. When I saw him, he told me that at the last election in 1857, he got his name put down on Sir Robert Carden's list as a committee man or messenger, with some friends of his, and that when the election was over they had 2*l.* apiece for their services, and he had nothing. That was what he told me.

14,637. He complained of that?—Yes; and he told me that if he received that 2*l.* he would then vote for Sir Robert Carden. I said, "Very well, I have nothing to do with money matters, but I will report it in the proper quarter, and you will hear from

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W. H. Hughes. 11 Oct. 1859.

them." I reported it to the committee, and that is all I know about it. I do not know how he voted.

14,638. Whom did you report it to?—To Mr. Taynton—I think it was.

14,639. You reported that he would vote if he had the 2*l.*?—Yes, if he had the 2*l.* that was owing to him as he said.

14,640. If he was paid the 2*l.* that he considered was owing to him from the last election?—Exactly so.

14,641. Are those the only persons you canvassed?—Those are the only persons I canvassed, and that was voluntary on my part. Ayers never expected anything from me for his vote. I hardly expected him to give a plumper, and I did not wish him to give a plumper, for I knew him to be under obligations to Mr. Ellis, and I expected Mr. Ellis would put the screw on him, and I believe that was the case.

14,642. You asked him for one vote?—Yes.

14,643. And he voluntarily offered you a plumper?—Yes.

14,644. And you offered no inducement of a corrupt nature to lead him to do that?—No.

14,645. What Mr. Ellis is that you speak of?—The agent for Mr. Price.

14,646. Do you know whether he was paid the 2*l.*?—No, I do not, nor do I know how he voted; I took very little interest in it.

14,647. Did you attend the committee room?—I walked in there for five minutes several times.

14,648. Did you see Mr. Whithorn there?—Yes.

14,649. Did you see him on the day of polling?—No, I did not.

14,650. You did not go into any back room?—No.

14,651. Did you take any voters to him in the back room?—No; I gave my own vote at eight o'clock in the morning and went home at twelve, and was not out the rest of the day.

14,652. You are on the town council, are you not?—Yes.

14,653. When were you elected?—In the first place in 1842.

14,654. Had you a contest?—I have had several contests.

14,655. What have they cost you?—The last cost me 8*l.* 7*s.*

14,656. When was that?—Three years ago, in 1856.

14,657. What did the contest before that cost you?—I think the contest before that cost me 16*l.*

14,658. And the contest before that?—It has cost me as much as 30*l.* in a contest single handed.

14,659. That was the one before?—No, in 1847 I had a single-handed fight with a person named George Smith, who is now dead, and that cost me 30*l.* There was no division of the expenses. The last time it cost me 8*l.* 7*s.* Mr. Stafford was with me.

14,660. That was half the expenses?—Yes; I do not know what it cost him, but I suppose nearly the same.

14,661. Do you know how those sums were expended?—In printing partly; printing circulars and printing voting papers, and, I suppose, in bribery, and eating and drinking.

14,662. Do you consider that the bribery that is practised in the municipal elections has had anything to do with the corruption that has prevailed in the parliamentary elections?—I do not know that it has, for this reason: there was bribery in the parliamentary elections before the Reform Bill passed, and, consequently, bribery existed before there were any contests in municipal elections, but there is no doubt that one has helped the other.

14,663. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How many wards are there in Gloucester?—Three. I represent the East ward with 700 electors; and out of those 700, 100 may be bribed, and whoever will bribe them may be returned.

14,664. How many town councillors are there?—Eighteen councillors and six aldermen.

14,665. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the sum that is paid for a vote?—It used to be half-a-crown, that was called a day's work. Then it got to 3*s.* 6*d.* for a dinner; and now it has got to 5*s.*, 10*s.*, and even a sovereign, I believe, sometimes. I have never done it myself, but it has been done by other persons.

14,666. You say that the price of votes at municipal elections ranges from 2*s.* 6*d.* up to 1*l.*?—Yes, the price is what they can get, and it depends upon the contest. At my last contest I polled four to one, and yet money must be expended, but it was not a large sum for a ward of that extent.

14,667. Did you take any part in the parliamentary election of 1857?—No, I did not.

14,668. On neither side?—No, I had no vote. I have said that I believe the screw was put upon Ayers; if you would like to know my reason for saying so, perhaps you would like to look at a paper which I have here. When you look at that you will see there is no doubt about it. I do not wish it read in court, but I think it is right you should see it.

14,669. We will look at it, and if it is necessary hereafter we will call you at a future time. (*The witness delivers in the paper referred to.*) Was your knowledge of this paper the reason why you asked him only for a single vote?—Yes, it was in consequence of that.

W. Cooke.

WILLIAM COOKE sworn and examined.

14,670. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you? gardener.

14,671. Where do you live?—In Alvin Street.

14,672. What did you receive for your vote at the last election?—£8.

14,673. Who paid it to you?—A man named Probert.

14,674. What was it for? Was it to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes; I should not have thought of it if I had not been offered money by Mr. Maysey. He offered me 10*l.* at my own house.

14,675. Were you promised the 8*l.* before you had the offer of 10*l.* from Mr. Maysey?—No.

14,676. You were offered the 10*l.* by Maysey first?—Yes.

14,677. And you told Probert that you had been offered 10*l.*, and then he offered you 8*l.*, and you took it and voted?—Yes.

14,678. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always been a Liberal?—Yes.

14,679. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You preferred voting for 8*l.* for Price and Monk to voting for Sir Robert Carden for 10*l.*?—Yes.

J. Nash.

JOSEPH NASH sworn and examined.

14,680. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Staverton.

14,681. Did you receive any money at the last election?—No.

14,682. Do you know Walter Welch?—Yes.

14,683. Did you receive any money from him at the last election?—No; I did not.

14,684. Did you see the money paid to him?—No; I was not at Gloucester.

14,685. Were you not at Gloucester during the last election?—No.

14,686. Where were you?—At Staverton.

14,687. Did you see Walter Welch at Staverton?—Yes.

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14,688. Were you at the New Inn at Staverton?—There is no public-house of that name.

14,689. Were you at the New Inn at Gloucester during the last election?—No; I was not at Gloucester.

14,690. Were you at the election of 1857?—Yes.

14,691. Did you see Walter Welch then?—Yes.

14,692. At the New Inn?—No.

14,693. Where did you see him?—I saw him at the Upper George.

14,694. Did you see him receive any money then?—No.

14,695. Did you receive any money at the Upper George?—No; I did not.

14,696. Did you receive any money for Walter Welch?—No.

14,697. Did you receive any money for anybody else?—No.

14,698. Did you receive any money before the election of 1857?—Yes.

14,699. How much?—£3.

14,700. Who paid it to you?—I do not know; a strange man to me.

14,701. Were was it paid?—At the New Inn in Gloucester.

14,702. Who did you receive that money for?—Walter Welch.

14,703. And what did you do with it?—Gave it to him.

14,704. You gave it to him himself?—Yes.

14,705. How long was that before the election?—The day of the election, the polling day.

14,706. Was that for his vote?—Yes.

14,707. Where did you see this strange man?—At the New Inn.

14,708. Up stairs or down?—Down stairs.

14,709. How came he to give you the money?—I do not know.

14,710. Did he send up to you and say "Here is 3*l.*?"—No.

14,711. What happened?—It was a man by the name of Wilton asked him for his vote, and he said he should not vote unless he had something for it.

14,712. A man named Wilton canvassed Walter Welch?—Yes.

14,713. And he said he should not vote unless he had something for it?—Yes.

14,714. What did Wilton say then?—He offered him 2*l.*

14,715. What did Welch say?—He would not take it.

14,716. He refused to take it?—Yes.

14,717. And Wilton then offered him 3*l.*?—Then he offered him 50*s.*

14,718. And he would not take that?—No.

14,719. To vote for whom?—For Mr. Hope.

14,720. I am asking you about the election in 1857?—I said I did not receive any money at that election for him; it was the election before, at Mr. Hope's election.

14,721. When Mr. Hope was a candidate?—Yes.

14,722. Have you received any money since?—No; that is the only money that I ever received.

14,723. Did you ever tell a man named William Field that you received the money in 1857?—No.

14,724. If he has said so it is a mistake?—Yes.

14,725. The money you received was at the election before?—Yes.

14,726. When Mr. Hope was a candidate?—Yes.

14,727. And the money was to vote for Mr. Hope?—Yes.

14,728. Who was the other candidate at that time?—I believe Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price.

14,729. Can you tell how long it is since this happened?—No; I cannot.

14,730. How many years ago is it?—I should think six or seven years back.

14,731. Was it in 1853?—I cannot tell; it is very likely it might be that, as far as I know.

ISAAC WITHERS sworn and examined.

I. Withers.

14,732. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Staverton?—Yes.

14,733. Do you keep an inn there?—A beerhouse.

14,734. What is the name of it?—The Waggoner's Arms.

14,735. Do you know Walter Welch?—Yes.

14,736. And do you know a person of the name of Harry Jacobs?—Yes.

14,737. Do you remember Mr. Jacobs coming to your house in the month of April last?—Yes, I do.

14,738. And do you remember Walter Welch being there?—Yes.

14,739. Do you remember any money being offered by Harry Jacobs to Welch for his vote?—No; I did not hear any money offered, nor anything said about money, not from Mr. Jacobs to Mr. Welch.

14,740. Was there any sign made by the hand by Welch?—Not in my presence; there may have been, but not in my presence.

14,741. You saw nothing of the sort?—No.

14,742. Do you remember a sovereign being found on the mantelpiece?—I do not know where it was found. I had a sovereign from my sister, and she told me she found it on the mantelpiece. My sister is living with me as housekeeper.

14,743. Do you know how that sovereign came upon the mantelpiece?—Mr. Welch told me it was to bear his and my expenses to Gloucester and back. This was the nomination day. We came down to Gloucester. He told me there was something; he did not tell me what it was. He said, "There is something left to bear our expenses to Gloucester and back. Mr. Jacobs seems determined that we should go to Gloucester."

14,744. What did Welch say?—He refused to go repeatedly, and, in fact, he would not have gone at last if it had not been for me.

14,745. Did Welch say he would not go unless he had 1*l.* on account?—No; I heard nothing said about money matters.

14,746. You did not hear why the sovereign was put upon the mantelpiece, or anything about it?—I did not.

RICHARD HODGES CARTER called and further examined.

R. H. Carter.

14,747. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were the auditor of election expenses in 1857?—I was.

14,748. Can you produce the accounts or the statements rendered to you by the different agents at the election?—Yes (*producing them*). There are the whole of the accounts, with the different receipts and bills. I have here the appointments.

14,749. Are those the statements of the accounts?—Yes.

14,750. Is that an analysis of the different payments?—Yes. The total amount of the audited expenses of Sir Robert Carden was 616*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*; Mr. Price, 233*l.* 16*s.*; and Sir Maurice Berkeley, 239*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*

14,751. Do you know what were the numbers polled by each candidate?—Sir Robert Carden, 742; Mr. Price, 717; and Sir Maurice Berkeley, 710. I do not know whether you want the appointments of the agents.

14,752. You may put them all in, if you please. (*The several documents referred to are handed in.*)

14,753. Was Mr. Lovegrove the agent for Sir Robert Carden at that time?—Yes.

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14,754. Was Mr. Ellis the agent for Mr. Price?—Yes.

14,755. And Mr. Wilton for Admiral Berkeley?—Yes.

14,756. Did you take any active part in that election?—None whatever.

14,757. Did you know of any of the arrangements that were entered into by any party?—Nothing whatever. We were rather more particular about observing the Act of Parliament in 1857 than we were in 1859 with regard to auditing accounts and payments, as you will see by the receipts.

14,758. The moneys, I believe, after that election, were paid into the bankers to the joint credit of yourself and the different agents?—Yes; and I gave cheques upon that account.

14,759. So that, in fact, at that time the payments were really made through you?—Yes, through me, many of them. But you will observe that the expenses last time were very nearly double what they were in 1859.

14,760. You told us, on a former occasion, that you have been very long acquainted with the character of elections in this city?—I took no part whatever in the last five elections, but up to that time I was agent, from the time of the passing of the Reform Bill, for Admiral Berkeley, to 1843, I think it was.

14,761. From 1843 to 1852 were you agent for any person?—No.

14,762. But you took part in the elections, did you not?—No, I did not.

14,763. Not from 1843 down to 1852?—No.

14,764. In 1852 you were for the first time appointed auditor?—In 1853, I think it was.

14,765. Were you acquainted with Gloucester and its elections prior to the passing of the Reform Act?—Yes, from the year 1816.

14,766. We have heard from time to time during this inquiry that a practice of giving head money existed in Gloucester. Was that practice of giving head money a practice that was universal prior to the Reform Act?—I did not exactly understand it in that way. A great number of persons were employed on both sides and paid, and they were generally paid much at the same rate by either party.

14,767. Do I understand you to say, that if it was known that a candidate on one side was paying 10*s.*, the candidate on the other side would pay 10*s.*?—It was certainly very much in that way.

14,768. Was that payment made to a large proportion of those persons who voted?—That is a difficult question to answer with regard to the elections before the Reform Bill, because, as I have before stated, the number of out-voters was 1,200, and the number of voters in the neighbourhood would be about 800, and out of that number of 800 a great number of persons would be employed, some as clerks, some on committees, some as messengers, bearers of flags, and so on; so that the employed in that way would be considerable, and it is impossible for me to say exactly the proportion, or to give you anything more than a mere guess.

14,769. Is it within your own knowledge that before the passing of the Reform Act there was a general understanding that a large number of voters should receive money for their votes?—I cannot say it was exactly for their votes; that is to say, they did not bargain for their votes, but they were employed. If they would begin employing so many messengers on one side we would do the same on ours; if we began putting people down as clerks they would feel called on to do the same; and so with the band, and everything else.

14,770. Do I understand you to say, that messengers and clerks were employed prior to the Reform Act in the same manner as they have been employed subsequently?—I should say so, certainly. Indeed, there was a much greater necessity for their employment then than there has been of late; the labour was much greater of getting up votes, and taking up freedoms, which were always paid for by the candidates.

14,771. Messengers, clerks, and bandsmen were employed and paid?—Yes; and I should state to you that I believe in 1816 (I am not quite sure whether it existed in 1818 or not), the fashion was to swear them in as constables to keep the peace, which produced on one or two occasions a most tremendous fight.

14,772. (*Mr. Welford.*) There were constables sworn in on each side?—On each side.

14,773. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were they paid?—They were paid 5*s.* a day.

14,774. As special constables?—Yes; in 1816 we had 700 sworn in our side, and 500 were sworn in, I think, on the other side.

14,775. Were they all paid 5*s.* a day?—Yes.

14,776. Did that practice of swearing in special constables on both sides prevail down to the time of the Reform Act?—I do not think there was so much of it in 1818, nor am I aware that it was wholly discontinued; but I can say that the election in 1816 cost about 40,000*l.*

14,777. To each candidate?—No; on both sides.

14,778. Who were the candidates in that election?—In 1816. Colonel Webb and Mr. Cooper were the candidates.

14,779. Were those the only two candidates?—Yes; it was a vacancy occasioned by the death of Colonel Maurice.

14,780. A large amount of that expenditure, I understand you to say, would have been caused by the necessity of bringing a great number of out-voters from a considerable distance?—Yes, the expense of that was very heavy indeed, and the usual course was for the freemen not to take up their freedom until they came to Gloucester at the time of the election. The expenses of taking up their freedom, that is the stamp duty and the fees of office and so on, were paid by the candidates; and there were flags and ribbons, and so on.

14,781. The candidates had first of all to bring the men here, and then to take up their freedom?—Yes.

14,782. And they had to pay for that?—Yes; and to open public houses for them during the time. The poll lasted, I think, seven or eight days then, but I am not quite sure about that.

14,783. In addition to that, they had to pay for special constables and clerks, messengers, and bandsmen?—Yes; and colours and flags and bills at the houses that were opened. I think I remember one of our coaches coming down from London with four freemen and fifteen passengers. The voters brought with them the whole of their families.

14,784. Was the practice of swearing in special constables and of paying clerks and messengers continued from that time down to the time of the Reform Act?—I am not quite sure of that. I think it was much lessened in 1818, and subsequently to 1818 it has been managed in this way:—A certain number of constables were placed under the control of the Sheriff, and the former mode of proceeding has been totally discontinued.

14,785. So that after that time the payment of special constables was not a payment made directly by the candidates?—It was in 1816.

14,786. But subsequently to 1818?—Subsequently to 1818 it was managed in the way I describe. A certain number of constables were placed under the control of the Sheriff, and the charges were paid equally by the candidates.

14,787. At all events that is an item to be excluded from the consideration of the cost of elections since 1818?—Yes.

14,788. Then it comes to this, there were messengers appointed and clerks and bandsmen?—Yes.

14,789. And how long were they continued?—That was continued down to within the last six or seven years, down to the time of the passing of the Corrupt Practices Act.

14,790. But we find that it is continued to the present time?—Not the colours and bands and so on.

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14,791. But the messengers and clerks?—Yes.

14,792. From 1818 down to the passing of the Reform Act, was it not the practice to employ a very large number of freemen as messengers and clerks?—To the best of my recollection there was no contest from 1818 down to the contest immediately following the Reform Act.

14,793. From 1818?—Yes, there was one when Mr. Phillpotts was elected, but I do not think there was much employment of constables at that time.

14,794. In what year was that?—A few years before the passing of the Reform Act.

14,795. I was asking now what was the state of things with regard to the appointment of messengers and clerks; you said there was no contest you thought?—I beg your pardon; I remember there was a contest when Mr. Phillpotts was elected and Mr. Cooper was defeated.

14,796. In what year was that?—I do not recollect; some two years before the passing of the Reform Act.

14,797. Was that a strong contest?—No, it was not.

14,798. Can you charge your memory at all to say what was the expenditure upon that occasion?—No, I cannot; as far as my information went, it cost Mr. Phillpotts, I should suppose, about 8,000*l.*

14,799. As far as your memory goes?—As far as the information I could obtain goes.

14,800. You say you believe it cost about 8,000*l.*?—I should say that certainly. Now I remember, there was another contest following that, in which Admiral Berkeley and Colonel Webb were returned, and Mr. Phillpotts was defeated. I believe that was the last election previous to the passing of the Reform Act. I may be wrong as to the dates.

14,801. You can refresh your memory as to these dates, and if you find you are incorrect you will be so good as to inform us of it?—I will do so.

14,802. Are you of opinion that there was a notion in the minds of the freemen of the city that they ought to receive something for their votes when they voted?—I believe that what they received, they received more in the way I have stated than in any other,—for being put down as messengers, or being employed in some way or another; I do not know that there was any other opinion.

14,803. Has there been for a considerable period, as far as you know, a feeling existing among the freemen that in some way or another they ought to receive some compensation or remuneration for their votes?—I do not know; it was more a feeling of this description, I think, that everybody wished to get something out of a contested election; it was more in that way.

14,804. Are you confining yourself now to the elections that took place before the Reform Act?—I am referring to the whole of the elections.

14,805. (*Mr. Welford.*) They liked to make it appear that there was some kind of employment?—Yes; indeed as far as my observations went, the partisans on each side were treated pretty much alike; that is to say, if a voter was a Blue he went and supported Mr. Cooper, or if he was a Yellow he would support the other candidate, because we paid pretty much the same on both sides, and gave pretty much the same advantages.

14,806. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That being the practice, was there an expectation generally prevailing that the voters should receive something for their votes?—Certainly, in the way I have stated.

14 807. That is in the way of being employed either as clerks, messengers, or bandsmen before the Reform Act?—Yes, and since that up to a certain date.

14,808. Do you think that that expectation existing amongst the voters before the Reform Act gave rise to a like expectation among the voters that were created under the Reform Act?—I should think so, certainly; but my opinion is (though I may be very wrong) that what I call direct bribery, that is bargaining for votes, came in with the householders.

14,809. (*Mr. Welford.*) That is under the Reform Act?—Yes, because, as I have before stated, the freemen took their own side always. They calculated that they could receive pretty much the same on one side as they could on the other, and, therefore, they took their own choice.

14,810. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There was no inducement to them, so far as money was concerned, to go on one side or on the other?—I should say that I never knew much of the introduction of direct bribery until after the passing of the Reform Act.

14,811. The bribery you speak of before the Reform Act was manifested in the employment of voters in some way, although their services were not required?—Yes, what I call indirect bribery.

14,812. Are you of opinion that the practices which existed before the Reform Act led to that demoralization which appears to have existed after the passing of the Reform Act?—I certainly do think that that was a leading feature in the affair. My belief is, that with regard to two or three elections subsequent to the Reform Act, save and except by employment in the way I have described, the elections were tolerably pure.

14,813. Do you think that the corrupt practices that existed before the Reform Act infected the purity of those who were made voters under the Reform Act for the first time, and who belonged to the same class of persons as the voters who were freemen?—Pretty much in that way, I should say.

14,814. What elections since the Reform Act do you refer to as being pure?—I think the first two or three elections were comparatively pure; that to say, I never heard much of any direct bribery.

14,815. Just tell me what those elections were?—In 1832, 1833, and 1835.

14,816. Were they pure elections?—Yes; I do not think there was much bribery then.

14,817. You think that the elections in 1832, 1833, and 1835 were comparatively pure?—Yes, I think they were comparatively pure. I do not think there was much bribery then.

14,818. Were they contested elections?—They were all of them contested.

14,819. Which is the election you speak of as being decidedly impure, the first after the Reform Act?—I should say the election in 1837.

14,820. Is there any cause to which you can attribute the positive impurity of that election?—We stood on the canvass with a very considerable majority.

14,821. When you say "We," who do you mean?—Berkeley; and I believe in the first hour or three-quarters of an hour's polling we lost about ninety votes, which rather beat the election in 1859.

14,822. Do you mean you lost ninety votes out of promises?—Yes, out of our promises; and I have great reason to believe that, on that occasion, we were regularly bought out of the market.

14,823. Who was the candidate opposed to Admiral Berkeley upon that occasion?—The candidates were, Hope, Phillpotts, and Berkeley.

14,824. And who did you consider bought you out of the market?—Mr. Phillpotts was not opposed to us, therefore it could be no other than the friends of Mr. Hope; but I was told (though I cannot speak of it with any reliance) what sum was expended by Mr. Hope upon that occasion, and if that was at all correct there would be no doubt at all about it.

14,825. That is rumour, I suppose?—It was more than rumour, but it was confided to me.

14,826. What was the sum that was stated?—4,000*l.*

14,827. That was the first what you would call impure election; what do you consider the next?—I do not know much of any impurity with regard to the next, which I had very little to do with.

14,828. Who were the candidates?—Mr. Hope and Colonel Webb; Admiral Berkeley retired upon that

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H. Carter.
11 Oct. 1859.

occasion. Colonel Webb was brought in as a candidate, and I did not interfere at all in that election.

14,829. And the next election in 1839 was not contested, I understand?—The next election was in 1841; and the candidates then were, Phillpotts, Berkeley, Hope, and Loftus.

14,830. The election between Hope and Webb was not contested, was it?—Yes; Mr. Hope polled 685, and Colonel Webb 579. I did not take any part in that election, and I cannot say much about it.

14,831. Then came the election of 1841; was that pure or impure?—I have no reason to say there was much bribery in that election.

14,832. What was the next?—I think the next election was in 1843, and that was the last in which I was engaged. I have no recollection of any direct bribery at that election. The election in 1852, in which I did not take much part, I understand to have been decidedly a pure election; and the reason that I give for that is, that it was distinctly understood that the three candidates would not supply any money.

14,833. You have no knowledge about that, have you?—No; except from rumour.

14,834. Then, with regard to the elections of which you have some knowledge of your own, it appears that the election of 1837 was the only one that you speak of where great bribery was practised?—Yes; I speak of it upon two grounds; first, from the statement made to me of the expenses incurred on the other side; and, secondly, from the extraordinary difference between the canvass and the poll; but as to distinct cases of bribery as to *A. B.*, *C. D.*, and *E. F.*, I cannot speak to anything of the sort.

14,835. We do not ask you to do that. Although you speak of the election in 1837 as being the one in which the greatest amount of bribery was displayed, do you mean to except the other previous elections in 1832, 1833, and 1835 from the the observation you before made with regard to the employment of messengers and clerks?—No; they were employed in all those elections pretty much in the same style; indeed, I may go further, and say that, in those elections there were, what does not exist I believe in the same degree at the present time, that is to say they opened houses and we did the same,—and we gave away ribbons and they did the same. In fact, my belief is this, that if there was no money supplied the voters would come up and poll, but at present there is always discontent, because, if you employ six the other side will employ twelve, and if they employ twelve you will employ twenty-four, and so on.

14,836. Messengers and clerks were employed at those elections after the Reform Act?—Yes.

14,837. And in addition to the employment of those persons you opened public-houses, and gave away ribbons?—Exactly. I remember at one contested election there was a flag hoisted in almost every public-house in the town, and they were flying in the street all day long.

14,838. Do you consider that the practices which existed at those early elections after the Reform Act were a continuation of the practices that prevailed at the elections before the Reform Act?—I should consider so, certainly. With regard to the freemen, I was asked in my first examination as to the privileges they have, and I forgot to mention that there is an exemption from toll, which, to persons who are dealers, s somewhat valuable. I mention that; I do not know that it is of much consequence in this inquiry. With regard to the treating in the municipal elections, my opinion is decidedly that which has been stated to-day, that it originated from the bribery which prevailed in parliamentary elections, and that it commenced precisely (as was stated by one of the witnesses) by the payment, in the first instance, of loss of time for the day, and that it has gone on from time to time, till the money expended in some of the contests has been very great indeed.

14,839. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is it your opinion, if the candidates and their friends on both sides would agree to pay no more than necessary expenses there would be no difficulty in putting an end to the bribery?—That is precisely my opinion, because, as I have already said, the discontent begins by your employing two or three and paying two or three.

14,840. You think that if no more messengers and no more clerks than necessary were employed there would be no great difficulty in putting down bribery?—Not at all.

14,841. And in that case these men who are now called venal voters would soon cease to expect money for their votes?—Certainly; that is to say, if there were no money to pay they would not expect it; they could not get it.

14,842. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In point of fact, venality is not so much the fault of the persons who are bribed as it is of those who bribe?—That is pretty much the case, but I make a distinction all the way through between indirect and direct bribery. My opinion, as the result of great experience and observation, is, that indirect is worse than direct bribery.

14,843. (*Mr. Welford.*) And are you of opinion that indirect bribery leads to direct bribery?—Undoubtedly; and perhaps the bribery which is practised at the parliamentary elections fosters that which is practised at the municipal elections, and the bribery practised at the municipal elections acts again on the parliamentary, so that the one supports and encourages the other.

14,844. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) They act and react, in fact?—Yes, precisely. I stated in my examination that the contest between Hope and Webb was occasioned by our petition against the return of Mr. Hope, and upon the opening speech of counsel Mr. Hope agreed to accept the Chiltern Hundreds. There are two other circumstances which I may as well mention. A petition was presented soon after the passing of the Reform Act against Captain Berkeley's return; but it was an informal petition, and the recognizances were not entered into, and it dropped. But there was a petition afterwards against Phillpotts and Admiral Berkeley, presented by the friends of Mr. Hope, and we swopped that against the Shrewsbury case.

14,845. You compromised?—Yes; we went three of us to London, one representing the Shrewsbury parties, and myself and Mr. Lovegrove (the elder brother of the present Mr. Lovegrove) representing Mr. Phillipotts and Admiral Berkeley. We went down to the Speaker's room, and announced that the petitions were withdrawn, and he announced it to the House, and so the business ended.

14,846. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Supposing no money was forthcoming, do you think that the class of voters who now accept money for their votes would abstain from voting?—No; I have heard that said again and again, but I did not find that was the case in 1852, and I was on the hustings the whole of the day assisting the Sheriff.

14,847. Do you think the out-voters, who live at a distance, would be so anxious to poll if they could get nothing for their votes?—I do not believe they would come unless their expenses were paid, or unless they got something. Everybody must be well aware that the consideration of paying travelling expenses is a great inlet to bribery.

14,848. The out-voter would only lose his day's work?—I do not think they would take the trouble to come and poll unless they were paid.

14,849. Not those living within seven miles?—Some of the more respectable persons would, but not the more indigent; in fact, they do not feel much interest in it.

14,850. You have spoken of 4,000*l.* being expended by Mr. Hope at one election, do you suppose that that sum was expended in direct bribery?—There must have been a good deal both of direct and indirect bribery, for indirect bribery would never amount to any such sum as that, to the best of my belief.

(Adjourned to to-morrow, at ten o'clock.)

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Fifteenth Day.—12th October 1859.

Sir ROBERT WALTER CARDEN sworn and examined.

Sir R. W. Carden.

12 Oct. 1859.

14,851. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were a candidate for this city at the last election, and also in 1857?—I was.

14,852. Have you any local or commercial connexion with this city?—None whatever.

14,853. How came you first of all to become a candidate in 1857?—I received a deputation in London requesting that I would offer myself as a candidate.

14,854. When was that?—That must have been, I suppose, about a month or two before the election in 1857, or it might have been more; previous to 1857; before that time, I should think; many months before, perhaps.

14,855. Many months before the election of 1857?—Before the election of 1857.

14,856. Then it would have been in the year 1856?—It might be. I really do not know what time it was.

14,857. Was that the first communication that you received respecting your becoming a candidate for this city?—That was the first communication.

14,858. Had you not before that been applied to by Mr. Cooke to become a candidate?—I had not.

14,859. Had you had no conversation with Mr. Cooke respecting your coming to Gloucester as a candidate?—I think not.

14,860. Had you no correspondence with him on the subject?—None; I do not think I knew Mr. Cooke by name.

14,861. Then the first communication you had was from the deputation?—Yes; from the deputation.

14,862. Of whom did that deputation consist?—I think the first deputation consisted of about four or five, but I really can hardly tell you who they were.

14,863. Can you give me their names?—I do not know that I could. I think Mr. Matthews was one, if I recollect rightly, and Mr. Lovegrove, I think, and Mr. Smith (Mr. R. T. Smith); but I really do not know who the others were.

14,864. Was Mr. Whithorn one?—I think Mr. Whithorn might have been one; I know he was of the second. Those gentlemen, knowing the names, will be able better to tell you who they were.

14,865. Was the second deputation composed pretty much of the same gentlemen as formed the first?—Yes; the same gentlemen, with a few additions.

14,866. Who were the additions that you remember?—That I cannot tell you; I only know they were more in number.

14,867. Upon your being solicited by them, either at the first or second interview which they had with you, did you request them to go into particulars with respect to the nature of the constituency and the chances of your success?—I did.

14,868. What did you learn from them with respect to those matters?—My first question to them was, that as there had been two Liberal members for a great number of years, I should like to be informed what it was that gave them the opinion that there was an opening and a fair chance for a Conservative candidate.

14,869. What answer did they make to that question?—They showed me the register and the poll-book. No; the register, I think, of voters; and they stated to me, upon my asking the question, that a very great change had taken place in the constituency of Gloucester; that formerly the whole corporation, with one or two exceptions, were Liberals, and that at the present time, the time I have mentioned, 1847, nearly the whole corporation, with a few exceptions, were Conservatives, and they brought forward that argument to prove the great change of feeling in the constituency of Gloucester.

14,870. Was it upon that change, and upon that change solely, that they founded their statement to you that you would have a good chance of success?—It was. I was a long time before I was convinced. I had every proof that they could give me as to the change which they stated had taken place in the constituency.

14,871. You tested them by a variety of questions upon the subject?—I did.

14,872. And the result of your examination of those gentlemen with reference to what they had stated was a persuasion that you would have a good chance of success in consequence of that change of opinion?—It was so.

14,873. Was anything said to you at that time with respect to the character of any portion of the constituency?—Not anything.

14,874. Did you make inquiry of them as to whether or not it would be necessary to resort to corrupt practices to ensure your return?—I did not. I did not contemplate such a thing. In fact I may say this, that I believed Gloucester to be so pure that I considered it an honour and a distinction to represent it in Parliament.

14,875. No inquiry was made by yourself as to whether such practices would be necessary to be resorted to?—Not any.

14,876. Nor was there any statement made by them to you that any portion of the constituency was venal?—No.

14,877. I understand you to say that?—Quite so.

14,878. Did any further communication take place between you and the members of the deputation, or between you and any other portion of the constituency, prior to your coming down and declaring yourself as a candidate?—No. I think the time that I am now referring to was the time when I made up my mind to stand on the next vacancy.

14,879. Then you declared yourself as a candidate?—I declared myself. There was no vacancy at that period.

14,880. Was anything said to you as to the sum of money that would be required to be expended at the election in 1857?—There was.

14,881. What was said upon that subject?—I was particularly desirous to know, after being satisfied as to the probability of success, what would be the cost of insuring that success; and I was told by Mr. Helps, who was one of the deputation at that time, on the last occasion, upon my stating the difficulty which I fancied would be incurred by opposing such a man as Admiral Berkeley, "All I can say to you, Sir Robert, "is this:—I believe, morally, that there is as good a "chance of your success at Gloucester as any candi-"date who has stood for the representation, and not "only that, but I believe at a smaller cost than "usual." I was not satisfied with that answer; but I said, "Well, may I ask you what is your idea of a "smaller cost?" He said to me, "I should say be-"tween 500*l.* and 600*l.*; I should say it would not "cost you more than between 500*l.* and 600*l.* to be "successful in the city of Gloucester."

14,882. Did you understand that that sum of money was the total amount that would be required to be expended from the commencement of your canvass until your return, if you were returned?—The total amount.

14,883. Inclusive of every charge?—Including everything.

14,884. And that I presume you considered would be the necessary expenditure supposing the election were conducted upon purity principles?—Quite so; I told him I did not at all object to such an expenditure.

14,885. How long were you in Gloucester at the

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Sir R. W. Carden.

12 Oct. 1859.

election of 1857? I suppose you made a personal canvass?—When the dissolution took place I came down the following day, and met my constituents at the Bell Hotel, and I was very favourably received. I may say that everything I had heard previously was confirmed by the approval of that meeting. The next morning I started on my canvass, and I believe I was for 10 days occupied 10 hours a day; in fact, I tired all my canvassers; they were obliged to go home and get a relay. I believe I called on every constituent in Gloucester.

14,886. Did you in the course of your canvass learn from any person that it would be necessary to resort to bribery?—From no one whatever.

14,887. Was it communicated to you in any way that such a course would be necessary?—Not at all.

14,888. You were returned to Parliament in 1857?—I was.

14,889. And after that there were cross petitions?—There were.

14,890. They were tried before a committee of the House of Commons?—They were.

14,891. Before the petitions came on to be heard in the House, had you received any statement from Mr. Lovegrove of the expenditure at your election?—I have never had a statement up to the present time.

14,892. You have never had a statement of the expenditure in 1857?—No.

14,893. Have you no reason to believe what the expenditure was at that election?—Do you mean regarding the election alone?

14,894. Yes; in 1857?—None at all.

14,895. Have you not received any statement from Mr. Lovegrove as to the amount which was stated to the election auditor as being the amount of the election expenses?—I have had no statement.

14,896. No statement of any sort?—No statement of any sort. I had the fullest confidence in my agent, and I never asked him for any account.

14,897. What payments have you made to Mr. Lovegrove in respect of the election of 1857?—The total amount paid in the election of 1857 was 4,115*l.* 13*s.* You ask me payments?

14,898. Yes; I ask you payments. I am speaking now of 1857. 4,115*l.* 13*s.*?—Yes.

14,899. That is the gross total. I suppose that is the amount which you paid, not only for the election but for the petition?—It is all my expenses at Gloucester in the year 1857.

14,900. All the expenses connected with Gloucester in 1857?—Yes.

14,901. (*Mr. Welford.*) Including the petition?—Including the election and two petitions.

14,902. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you make that payment in one gross sum or in different sums?—In different sums as Mr. Lovegrove required them.

14,903. Can you tell me the dates of those payments?—I can. The 26th of March, 300*l.*; that payment was made on account of the preliminary expenses, and I thought it a fair part of the 500*l.* which the election was to cost me.

14,904. When was it that you came to Gloucester on your canvass first?—I do not know when the dissolution of Parliament was; it was almost immediately on the dissolution of Parliament; I came down on the following day, I think, and had a meeting at Gloucester, and the next day I began my canvass.

14,905. Would the circumstance of your finding that the 26th March was the day on which you paid 300*l.* afford you any information as to when you came to Gloucester?—No, it would not; but I was engaged ten days, and I suppose the ten days expired pretty nearly on the 28th of March; therefore it would bring me somewhere about the 16th or 18th of March, because I went up on the Saturday and came down on the Monday. I may say the first payment was not asked for at all; it must have been about the 16th of March, I think. I believe I volunteered it to Mr. Lovegrove saying, "You must have some payments to make "out of pocket, I had better let you have a cheque." He said, "I have no objection;" and I wrote him a cheque for 300*l.*

14,906. When was the next payment?—The 15th of May, 200*l.*; 25th July, 300*l.*; 15th August, 1,000*l.*; then on the same date, 200*l.*; but that sum it appears was given to Mr. Bernard, I see by the cheque. I was not aware of the circumstance till I saw the cheque.

14,907. That was your own cheque for 200*l.*?—Yes.

14,908. (*Mr. Welford.*) Drawn in favour of Mr. Bernard?—Yes.

14,909. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was the next?—The next was 20th August, 924*l.* 18*s.*; the first of October, 40*l.* 15*s.*; and some time in December, 1,150*l.*; that you will find makes a total of 4,115*l.* 13*s.*

14,910. With the exception of the first 300*l.*, you made the other payments to Mr. Lovegrove as he required them?—As he required them.

14,911. Did you never ask him what those payments were for?—No. I imagined they were payments on account of the expenses.

14,912. Did you never ask him for any bill of costs?—No, I never did.

14,913. And never received one?—And never received one.

14,914. Did you ever ask him for any cash account?—No, I never did.

14,915. Did you ever ask him to distinguish between the monies that were required for the election proper and the monies which were required for the petition?—I never did.

14,916. If Mr. Lovegrove had requested further payments from you with regard to the election of 1857, would you have made them in the same manner?—I have no doubt I should.

14,917. Without inquiry?—I have no doubt I should, unless it had come to some very excessive amount, and then I might have requested to know something about it.

14,918. With regard to the cheque for 200*l.* which was drawn in favour of Mr. Bernard, what explanation are you able to give respecting it?—I really was not aware of it, until, looking over my cheques, the other day, to see the payments, I saw a cheque to Mr. Bernard. I suppose he stated that he had paid it, or something or other. He will be able to explain it.

14,919. You mean until you were looking over your cheques the other day you were not aware you had paid a cheque for 200*l.* to Mr. Bernard?—Not at all.

14,920. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then you supposed the whole amount was paid to Mr. Lovegrove?—No, I must have paid the 200*l.* to Mr. Bernard himself, I suppose. I see in my cheque-book: "Paid J. Bernard;" which is distinguished from all other cheques that have been drawn.

14,921. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you remember whether that cheque was drawn in consequence of any communication made to you by Mr. Bernard?—I should think he must have made a communication to me.

14,922. Are you sure that a communication came either from Mr. Bernard or from Mr. Lovegrove?—I should say from Mr. Bernard, as the cheque was paid to Mr. Bernard. I see the cheque was: "Pay bank." I think I must have gone and got the 200*l.*, and given it to Mr. Bernard in cash. It did not pass through a banker.

14,923. Is Mr. Bernard a friend of yours?—He is.

14,924. Did he accompany you to Gloucester in the election of 1857?—He did.

14,925. Was he with you here during your canvass in 1857?—He was; he occasionally went out; he was not with me all the time; but he was constantly with me.

14,926. What part did Mr. Bernard take when he was with you?—Merely walking with me as a friend.

14,927. Simply walking with you?—Yes.

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14,928. Did you discuss with him your chances of success?—I daresay I did.

14,929. Had you any conversation with him relating to money matters?—None whatever. I brought him down here for the purpose of having a companion at the "Bell" in the morning and evening when I was not canvassing. I had no other motive in bringing him down here.

14,930. You are quite sure you did not give Mr. Lovegrove, or any one in your interest, to understand that if any communications were to be made of a private nature they should be made to Mr. Bernard?—Certainly not. I did not consider that he had anything to do with the election at all, except as my friend to be with me.

14,931. Do you remember whether the fact of the payment of 200*l.* to Mr. Bernard induced you to make any inquiry as to the object for which it was given?—I have no recollection of that cheque at all, except that I saw it in my cheque book. Mr. Bernard, I daresay, can tell you what was the cause of his asking me for it.

14,932. But you yourself do not remember to have had any communication at all with Mr. Bernard from first to last with respect to the object for which he required that 200*l.*?—Quite so; in fact if I had been asked a few days ago whether I had ever given Mr. Bernard anything I should have declared no.

14,933. Were you of opinion, after the payment of these various sums to Mr. Lovegrove, that your election in 1857 had been a pure election?—I did think so, and not only did I think so, but I solemnly declare that I thought so, till the time when I heard of the evidence which Mr. Lovegrove gave here a few days ago. I am sure that no man in Gloucester was more astonished at the revelations which were made in Gloucester than I was when I read it.

14,934. I have been confining your attention hitherto to the election of 1857?—I understand that.

14,935. Now, as to the election of 1859; when did you come to Gloucester to canvass in 1859?—I should think a day or two after the dissolution. I do not think I lost any time after the dissolution.

14,936. It was in the early part of April?—In the early part of April. I do not know what the date of the dissolution was.

14,937. Did you canvass again then?—With some intermissions, I canvassed up to the time of the polling, and pursued the same course at the second election as I did at the first.

14,938. Had you any reason to believe, from either what you saw, or what was stated to you when you were in Gloucester in 1859, that your popularity had diminished here?—Not the slightest; on the contrary, I believed that it had increased.

14,939. Did you look upon yourself in 1859 as the popular candidate?—Well, I did; I should say, in conjunction with Mr. Price. I was elected in 1857, and did not feel that I had done anything to justify any change in opinion in my constituents in the two years I had represented them in Parliament; and therefore I had a right to feel, having done nothing to justify any change, that they had the same feeling towards me as they had in 1857.

14,940. Had you any conversation before you commenced your canvass in 1859 with Mr. Lovegrove, or with any one else, in respect to the expenditure of money?—No, not at all. You mean previous to the election?

14,941. With respect to your expenditure in 1859, in the coming contest?—No, none at all.

14,942. Did you make any reference to the expenditure of 1857, and suggest that it would be necessary that less money should be spent in 1859 than had been spent in 1857?—Not at all. I did not consider the expenditure in 1857 very large, considering there were two petitions. I knew what petitions were, and I did not see anything to justify any suspicion of anything wrong.

14,943. You do not seem to have distinguished at all, or to have requested any explanation of the sums that were expended upon the election and upon the petition in 1857?—No.

14,944. You therefore are unable to state what the amount was that really was spent upon the election in 1857?—No; I have not the slightest idea. I took the auditor's report, and I really was innocent enough to suppose that that was the expenditure.

14,945. I thought you said you had not seen any statement whatever?—I saw the auditor's report advertised in the local papers here; I saw that.

14,946. You saw the published returns made by your election agent to the election auditor?—Yes; and I supposed that that really was the expenditure. I do not know what an election auditor means. I understood that that was the intention; to limit the expenses to a certain amount.

14,947. "I thought that the amount returned to "the election auditor was the true amount expended "on my election." Is that what you say?—Yes; I thought that it was the true amount expended on my election.

14,948. Then you put down the balance between that amount and the 4,115*l.* to the account of the election petition?—Yes; I never took one from the other. I do not know what the election petition even was at the present time. I mean I do not know what the auditor's report was. I remember reading it at the time, but I have not the least idea what it was.

14,949. You did not consider it necessary to impose any restrictions on your election agent when you came to Gloucester at the last election with regard to the expenditure of money?—Not at all; I never mentioned anything about money, that I am aware of. I may have said, "You must not "make this more expensive than you can help," or something of that kind; a natural instruction to an agent. I do not remember saying so, but it is very probable that I did say so.

14,950. Did you tell Mr. Lovegrove that he might be liberal?—I said, "Pay everybody liberally; everything that is legal; pay everybody liberally."

14,951. You did say, "Everything that is legal," did you?—I would not swear that I said "legal;" but I said, "Pay everybody who renders me a service liberally."

14,952. But you are not certain that you coupled that expression with the reservation that the expenses should be legal?—I cannot really say; it is two and a half years ago, and I do not recollect exactly the conversation that occurred.

14,953. I am speaking now of the last election?—I do not know that I made use of the word; I certainly intended it.

14,954. Did you take any trouble whatever to inquire whether or not your election had been conducted upon the foundation of legal expenditure?—Are you alluding to 1857 or 1859?

14,955. 1857?—I never had any reason to doubt it. I had not a doubt on my own mind, and therefore I could not have raised it; in fact I had a better opinion of the people of Gloucester than to imagine it.

14,956. Was it intimated to you in the course of your canvass that the returns that were made were not favourable?—At the last election?

14,957. At the last election?—At first they were not favourable; they came in very slowly; but afterwards I had every reason to be satisfied. The result of the promises which I had received justified a supposition that I should still be returned in 1859. Looking over carefully, with my agent, the promises made in 1859, I found I had 16 more promises in 1859 than I had in 1857, when I was 33 at the head of the poll; and on the day of nomination, as all those who in 1857 had promised me had faithfully performed their promises, I believed that the same result would have accrued in the year 1859.

14,958. You say that the returns were at first not favourable?—No, I did not say that. They came in slowly; the promises were slow.

14,959. I thought you said the returns at first were

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Sir R. W. Carden. 12 Oct. 1859.

not favourable?—No. They were not unfavourable; that is to say, they would give no promises; they did not say they would vote against me, and in favour of the others; but the returns as to what they intended to do came in slowly; in fact they hardly knew at that time who the candidates might be.

14,960. But afterwards the promises came in more rapidly?—More rapidly, and ended in the promises of 16 more than I had at the previous election.

14,961. About what time in your canvass was it that an alteration took place in the character of the returns?—I really can hardly tell you; that is more for my agent to tell you. I did not have them daily.

14,962. Just give us your opinion as far as you can upon the subject?—I could not give you any opinion. I know very well that I had to call two or three times upon parties, and at first they would not give any answer as to what they intended to do.

14,963. Would you say that after the first eight or nine days you found a change?—I really cannot tell you at what time the change took place. I only took the result when the canvass had finished.

14,964. Were you informed that Mr. Bernard had been at Gloucester in 1859?—Not at all.

14,965. You were not at all informed of it?—No, I was not. I should have thought if he had been here he would have called upon me.

14,966. You do not remember Mr. Lovegrove telling you that Mr. Bernard had come to Gloucester, and that he (Mr. Lovegrove) had had an interview with him?—After the election, I think.

14,967. I am speaking now of during the election. Do you remember Mr. Lovegrove telling you during the election that Mr. Bernard had been at Gloucester, and that he had had an interview with him?—I do not remember the circumstance, but he might have done so.

14,968. Do you remember expressing surprise to Mr. Lovegrove, on receiving a communication of that sort, that Mr. Bernard had not come to see you?—I do not remember that; but it is very likely that if he had told me I should have expressed surprise.

14,969. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you recollect that taking place some time after the election?—I think it was communicated to me.

14,970. You think it was?—Yes; but I do not know when.

14,971. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How soon afterwards was it that you heard that Mr. Bernard had been here?—I cannot tell you the time at all.

14,972. You cannot say how soon after the election?—No. I cannot say even whether it was before or after the election; I really have no recollection at all.

14,973. Have you no recollection of hearing that Mr. Bernard had been here?—No. I think I heard he had been here, but I do not know at what period I heard it, whether at the election or after the election.

14,974. You cannot fix the date when you heard of Mr. Bernard having been here?—No.

14,975. Did you receive any communication from any one before the last election, that it would be necessary to resort to bribery in order to insure your return?—Certainly not.

14,976. Before you came down to Gloucester in 1859, had you any communication with Mr. Bernard?—None at all.

14,977. Did you give him any instructions whatever to come to Gloucester?—Certainly not.

14,978. Did you give him no instructions to make any inquiry respecting your prospects of success?—Certainly not.

14,979. Do I understand you to say you had no conversation with Mr. Bernard of any sort before the election, respecting the election at Gloucester?—It is very likely, as a friend, I might have said, "I am going down to Gloucester," or something of that sort, but nothing with reference to instructions. I may have had a mere casual conversation with him, but I do not know that I had. It is not an unusual thing for two friends to talk over matters of that sort.

14,980. If anything did take place between you and Mr. Bernard, it was of a casual nature, I understand you to say?—Quite so.

14,981. Nothing took place from which he might infer that it was your wish that he should come to Gloucester to make inquiry as to any money that might be required?—Certainly not.

14,982. You are aware, are you not, that Mr. Bernard did advance a sum of 500*l.* during the progress of the election?—I was aware of it afterwards.

14,983. When did you first become aware of it?—It was between the second and the seventh or eighth of May; I cannot tell the date; it was somewhere about that date. I think he came to condole with me upon my defeat.

14,984. Was it upon that occasion that he told you he had paid 500*l.* for you?—It was upon that occasion; that is to say, I got it out of him in fact; he did not volunteer it; there was some hesitation about it.

14,985. How came you to get it out of him?—He said something about expenses. I said, "What do you "mean about expenses?" He said "Oh, nothing." I said, "Yes; you said something sufficient to induce "me to ask more;" and then he told me that he had taken five hundred pounds on his own responsibility, at which I was extremely disgusted.

14,986. What did he say about expenses?—I was talking of the money which Mr. Lovegrove had asked me for. There was a question of 675*l.* I think. I do not know how the conversation arose, but he did not volunteer; he did not come to me for the money, but I found out he had paid 500*l.*

14,987. You were talking to him about money that Mr. Lovegrove had asked for; is that so?—Yes. I do not know how the conversation arose, really.

14,988. When you mentioned the sum that Mr. Lovegrove had asked for, did he then make a statement with regard to any further expenditure?—No. He said, "All I can say is, I have deposited "500*l.*;" or, "I have given 500*l.* at Gloucester;" or, "I have spent 500*l.*;" or something of that kind.

14,989. You said you had been asked for money by Mr. Lovegrove—600*l.* and odd,—and he said, "I "have spent 500*l.*;" would that be it?—Yes; it was something of that kind. However, he intimated to me that he had given somebody in Gloucester 500*l.*; he did not say who. I am not sure about the date of that conversation at all.

14,990. Had you some difficulty in getting that out of him?—He was reluctant to mention it. I believe he knew it would offend me; he appeared very reluctant, at all events, at that time to let me know anything about it. He knew my wishes.

14,991. Did you understand anything from him as to what that money was wanted for?—Not at all.

14,992. Was he ignorant of the purpose for which that money was wanted?—I cannot tell you.

14,993. He did not express any opinion as to the way in which it had been expended?—Not at all.

14,994. Were you not then of opinion that there had been improper practices at the last election?—No. I thought there had been a very improper expenditure somewhere, but I did not know how.

14,995. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you inquire of Mr. Bernard if he knew what it was wanted for?—I did not.

14,996. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Bernard made no statement to you about it, and you put no question to him upon the subject?—Not at all, except expressing my indignation at his doing such a thing for me without my knowledge.

14,997. Did he say to whom he paid the money?—I do not think he did. I think he said he sent it to Gloucester.

14,998. Did he not tell you that application had been made to him for the money?—I do not think he did.

14,999. Did you not consider it a very extraordinary thing, that, you being in Gloucester, 500*l.*

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should be sent down to Gloucester without your knowledge?—If I had known it when I was in Gloucester I should.

15,000. But afterwards?—I thought it a very improper mode of payment, certainly.

15,001. Did it not suggest to your mind that that money must have been expended in illegal practices?—No.

15,002. It did not?—No. I could not tell what it was spent in. I thought it was a very lavish expenditure; but whether the professional gentlemen got it or the voters got it, or who got it, I could not tell. t was a very improper expenditure; I knew that, nd I told him so at the time.

15,003. You told Mr. Bernard so?—Yes.

15,004. What is the amount you paid Mr. Lovegrove in respect of the last election?—Am I to include that 500*l.*?

15,005. Give us the dates of the various payments?—April 25th, 500*l.*; and some time in the early part of May I gave Mr. Bernard 500*l.*, which I presume is to be accounted for as the expenditure at Gloucester; then on the 11th of May, 675*l.*

15,006. To Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; I think it was the 11th of May; on the 1st of July, 70*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*; on the 13th of July, 400*l.*; August 2d, 400*l.*; which makes, I think, 2,545*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, including the 500*l.* to Mr. Bernard.

15,007. I may as well ask you whether any intimation was given to you by Mr. Lovegrove as to the mode in which those different sums were expended?—Not at all.

15,008. He did not distinguish between the election expenses and the expenses of the petition?—No, not at all.

15,009. So far as you knew the whole of that money might have been expended for the election?—The election and petition.

15,010. You did not ask him to distinguish between the two?—No. It might have been all the petition, or all the election, for what I knew.

15,011. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) As to that 70*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* on the 1st of July, had that anything to do with the election?—I do not not know. It was paid to Mr. Lovegrove. Mr. Lovegrove will state what it was for. I think it was for a subscription to some charity in the place. I have some little recollection of it, but Mr. Lovegrove can tell you.

15,012. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You seem to have paid on the 25th April 500*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes.

15,013. You having paid that sum of 500*l.* on the 25th April, did it not appear to you extraordinary that there was a further sum of 500*l.* which you were to pay to Mr. Bernard in consequence of an advance made by him during your canvass?—It did.

15,014. Did not that circumstance cause you to suspect that the money must have been expended in illegal practices?—I felt it was very improperly expended.

15,015. Did you make no inquiry of Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject?—I did not. I may say, with regard to all those sums, that my impression is that the two four hundreds were more in relation to the petition; from the date I think it must have been so.

15,016. We have it from Mr. Lovegrove that those two sums of 400*l.* were devoted to the petition; but your suspicion was not at all excited by the revelation made by Mr. Bernard to yourself about the 500*l.*?—My suspicions were that some very lavish expenditure had been made.

15,017. Did you not suspect that bribery had been practised?—I did not. I had no reason to suppose, from the previous election, that there was any necessity for bribery to gain my election.

15,018. Did you not look upon this mysterious advance of 500*l.* by Mr. Bernard, your friend, (you being in Gloucester,) as a most extraordinary circumstance, and did you not make inquiry?—No, I did not make any inquiry. I thought it a very suspicious circumstance, and a very lavish and unwarrantable expenditure of money.

15,019. And that being your opinion, you made no inquiry of Mr. Lovegrove?—No. When I was paying the 675*l.* I expostulated with Mr. Lovegrove upon the extra expenses.

15,020. What was the nature of your expostulation?—I said, "This is more money than ought to "have been spent."

15,021. What did Mr. Lovegrove say?—He said it was a very expensive election; that there were a great many people employed. I believe every professional man in Gloucester was employed on one side or the other.

15,022. You having expostulated, and Mr. Lovegrove having given you that explanation, you were satisfied with it?—Yes. I believe I refused, first of all, and said I would not pay it.

15,023. Have you any knowledge what the expenses of your last election here amounted to?—I have no knowledge whatever. I see three sums here of 500*l.*, 500*l.*, and 675*l.*; that is all the knowledge I have. I have read in Mr. Lovegrove's examination that all the bills are not paid, which I am very sorry to hear.

15,024. Would it surprise you to learn that the expenses of the election amounted to something more than 1,000*l.* beyond what you have paid?—It would surprise me very much indeed.

15,025. I mean as to the election proper?—It would surprise me very much.

15,026. Probably after the disclosures that have been made here you are no longer of opinion that your last election was a pure one?—I think not.

15,027. Until the disclosures that have been made before us, were you really of opinion that no bribery of any sort had been committed here on your part?—I had no suspicion with regard to the election of 1857.

15,028. I am speaking of the election of 1859?—In 1859, with these large expenditures I did think, as I have said before, that there were extra expenses that were unwarranted; but I could not say that any one man was bribed.

15,029. You are not asked at all whether you could say that any one man was bribed?—But my saying there was an improper and lavish expenditure of money would bring me to the fact that money was paid to somebody that it ought not to have been paid to. I have no doubt now, from what has been revealed here, that money was spent in bribery; not the slightest.

15,030. I suppose there is no person in this Court who would have any doubt about it?—I am afraid there are too many recipients of it in the Court.

15,031. Have you received any statement at all from Mr. Lovegrove, either with regard to the expenses of the last election, or with regard to the expenses of the petition?—None at all.

15,032. Then you paid these various sums on account as Mr. Lovegrove asked for them?—I have been a great deal too good natured. I wish I had had in 1857 a statement of what then took place. If I had I never would have been a candidate in 1859, I pledge my word to you. I wish I had not had so much confidence in Mr. Lovegrove. If I had had an account of my expenditure in 1857 I most solemnly say I would not have been a candidate under those circumstances in 1859.

15,033. Were you given to understand that during any of the elections it was the practice in Gloucester to employ a great number of persons as messengers?—No, I really was not. I saw a great many people. I was once or twice in the committee-room. I saw a great many people there; but I never made any inquiry as to expenses, or messengers or anything else; I left that entirely to my agent.

15,034. Did you not hear in the course of the canvass, or while you were here in Gloucester, that it was the practice to employ a large number of voters as messengers?—No; I was not aware of it. I believe the last election would have been considerably purer than it was if it had not been that inducements were

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Sir R. W. Carden.
12 Oct. 1859.

held out that a gentleman was coming who was determined to win the election at any cost. That raised the expectations of the unfortunate voters of receiving money, and I have no doubt whatever that it induced a great many voters who had promised me, and who would have fulfilled their pledges to give me their votes, to vote on the other side. I had 120 promises which had been faithfully and honestly performed, as I believed, in 1857, but which were broken, and they voted for the other two parties. That 120 turned the scale by 240 votes; and that proved that my calculation was correct, namely, that if all those who had promised had performed their promises there would have been 16 more than the 33, my majority in 1857, making 49 votes; the 120 just made the majority which my opponents obtained.

15,035. In making that calculation you probably did not take into your consideration that some of those voters upon whom you relied in 1859, in consequence of their having voted for you in 1857, voted for you in 1857 because they had received bribes?—I was not at all aware of it, or I should not have relied upon them. If a man would take a bribe to vote for me to-day I would never take his promise to vote for me the day after.

15,036. To what extent bribery was committed in 1857 you cannot state, but we have it in evidence already that there were persons bribed to vote for you in 1857?—I heard of it, from the examination of the witnesses. That was the first time I had any intimation of anything of the kind having occurred.

15,037. Have you seen the account rendered to the election auditor of the expenses of the last election?—I have not read over the account. I have seen the total in the Chronicle.

15,038. Was not 1,021*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* a considerably larger return than was made by the auditor in 1857?—Yes.

15,039. Did you make any inquiry of Mr. Lovegrove about it?—Not the slightest. I hope he will honestly account for it all; I dare say he will. As I said before, I had implicit confidence in my agent.

15,040. Was it in consequence of the confidence you reposed in Mr. Lovegrove with regard to the mode in which he would conduct your election that you abstained from putting questions to him as to the manner in which the money was expended?—Quite so.

15,041. I understood you to say that if you had considered that to gain your election it would be necessary to resort to illegal practices you would not have come to Gloucester as a candidate?—I would not, either the first or the second time. A member of parliament has hard work enough without paying for it. A man who sacrifices his time till 2 o'clock every morning during the whole session I think ought to be paid, instead of paying for it; and I think any honest constituency ought to be glad to get a hard working honest man to see after their interests.

15,042. Are you at all aware what further sums of money you will have to pay in respect of this last election?—I am not indeed. If they never bring any accounts I shall never ask any questions.

15,043. But if they do bring accounts?—I shall look a little more narrowly into them than I did before.

15,044. And as far as your knowledge at present goes, you are ignorant what is the amount of money outstanding?—Except what I have seen in the examinations here; and I hope that some of those gentlemen who are sending in accounts will consider the state of the case, and refrain from asking for them.

15,045. (*Mr. Welford.*) I think you once were a candidate at St. Alban's?—I was.

15,046. And I think that there you heard something of bribery?—Yes.

15,047. Then, when you were told that the change which had taken place in the character of the municipal corporation indicated a change in the opinions of the constituency of Gloucester, did you inquire how that change had been brought about?—I did not.

15,048. Did it not occur to you to inquire whether that change had been brought about by the expenditure of money in municipal elections?—No.

15,049. Did it not occur to you to ask whether that change had been brought about by the expenditure of money?—No.

15,050. Were you not informed that considerable sums of money had been expended in municipal elections?—Never. If I had been I should have had less faith than I had in the representation that was made to me. I think that what has taken place at the municipal elections has been the cause of all the mischief.

15,051. It did not occur to you to inquire whether there had been corruption in municipal elections?—I had not the slightest reason to suppose that there had been.

15,052. You were informed that the change which had taken place in the constitution of the municipal corporation formed the ground upon which your friends recommended you to become a candidate at Gloucester?—Yes. I thought that a better feeling prevailed, and that they were coming to a good sound judgment.

15,053. And it did not occur to you to inquire whether money had anything to do with it?—Not at all; it never suggested itself to me; in fact, until lately, I had no idea that money was ever paid at municipal elections.

15,054. You were told in 1857 that 500*l.* would be the probable amount of the expenditure?—About 500*l.*

15,055. And you say you paid Mr. Lovegrove 300*l.*?—Yes; previous to the election.

15,056. Did you at first offer him a sum of 500*l.*?—I think I did.

15,057. Did you draw a cheque for that amount?—No; I think I proposed to give him a cheque for 500*l.*, and he said 300*l.* would do; to the best of my recollection that was it.

15,058. You did not draw a cheque for 500*l.*, and afterwards cancel it, and give him one for 300*l.*?—I really cannot tell you whether I did or not. I do not remember the circumstance. I might have drawn a cheque for 500*l.* at the Bell, and he may have then said "300*l.* will be quite enough." I know I gave him a cheque for 300*l.*, but whether I drew a cheque for 500*l.* before it, and then cancelled it, I do not know.

15,059. You were afterwards required to pay the further sums you have mentioned, and you paid them without making any inquiry?—Yes.

15,060. Did it not occur to you as somewhat strange, after having been told that 500*l.* would be sufficient, that you should be called on for the payment of so much larger an amount?—You are speaking of the first election?

15,061. Yes. You say that first of all you paid on the 26th of March 300*l.*?—Yes.

15,062. On the 15th of May you paid 200*l.*?—Yes.

15,063. On the 15th of July 300*l.*?—Yes.

15,064. On the 15th of August 1,000*l.*?—Yes.

15,065. And about the same date 200*l.* more to Mr. Bernard?—Yes.

15,066. And subsequently some further sums?—Yes.

15,067. Did it not occur to you, when all those demands were made upon you, that there must have been some larger expenditure than the 500*l.* which you had been told would be necessary for the purpose of your election?—I think the petition was going on then.

15,068. You saw the auditor's account, and knew the amount of it?—I saw the total; I was satisfied with it; I seldom look at items.

15,069. Did you believe that the money you were called on to pay beyond the amount of the audited account was to pay the expenses of the petition?—I thought so; I had no reason to suppose anything else.

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15,070. And when you had occasion to contest Gloucester again, it did not occur to you to inquire how much of that large sum of 4,115*l.* was the cost of the election, and how much of it was the cost of the petition ?—Never.

15,071. Perhaps you thought it more prudent not to inquire ?—I did not inquire. I do not know about prudence. I do not think I have shown much prudence here.

15,072. You trusted to your agent ?—Entirely.

15,073. You trusted to him so much that you left it to him to take what means he thought proper to procure your election, and you were not curious afterwards to inquire how it was procured ; is not that the result of your evidence ?—I believed it was fairly won. I had no suspicion to the contrary.

15,074. It was won at all events, and you were quite satisfied ?—Quite.

15,075. And you were not very curious to inquire by what means it had been won ?—No. I had no suspicion that it was not won by fair means.

15,076. At the last election the demands came upon you a little more rapidly than they had done after your first election ?—Yes, they did.

15,077. And do I understand you to say that you still had no suspicion ?—I do not say I had no suspicion. I tell you that I believed there had been a very lavish and unwarrantable expenditure of money.

15,078. Did not that lead you to a suspicion of bribery ?—No. When I say I believed there had been an unwarrantable and lavish expenditure, that must mean an improper expenditure.

15,079. Illegal expenditure ?—I could not tell what they did with it. I had not the slightest idea.

15,080. You trusted entirely to your agent ?—Entirely.

15,081. And left it to him to win the election by any means he thought proper ?—I left it to him to win the election in the best way he could, but by honest and fair means. He knew what my feelings were.

15,082. But you were not very curious to inquire by what means the election was won ?—I do not know why I should suspect anything.

15,083. You just now told me that you thought the expenditure was lavish and unwarrantable ?—I have said so from the beginning.

15,084. Was it not then almost time for you to make some inquiry ?—But it was too late. If these had been expenditures before the election, then, I think, it would have been time to inquire, but it was too late to do so afterwards.

15,085. You thought it was done, and could not be undone ?—Certainly. It was not done with my consent or approval, or wish ; that I declare.

15,086. You saw a great number of people about the committee-room, I think ?—I do not think I was there more than twice. I went more to see the newspaper than anything else.

15,087. Were you in communication with Mr. Whithorn during the election ?—I do not think I was. I think I must have seen him, probably with Mr. Lovegrove.

15,088. Did you see Mr. Whithorn at the committee-room ? I am confining myself to the last election, at present ?—I dare say I may have seen him, but I cannot tell you.

15,089. Where were you during the polling day chiefly at the last election ?—Till 9 o'clock I was at the polling booth.

15,090. Do you think that before 9 o'clock you were not at the committee-room ?—I do not think I went to the committee-room all that day.

15,091. You have said that you have seen the amount of the auditor's account of expenses incurred at the last election, and that you looked at the total, and you said you seldom look at items. You were satisfied with the total ?—Yes.

15,092. Does it not strike you that the facility with which you have allowed your agent to receive money from you, on application, has led to all this improper expenditure of money ?—No ; because this money that has been paid has been after the election. There is not a man who, if it had not been considered a debt of honour (which I hardly consider it is), could have any claim at all upon me.

15,093. Did not the facility with which you allowed money to be drawn from you at the former election lead to the improper expenditure of money that prevailed at the last election ?—I really cannot tell.

15,094. Does it not appear to you, from the evidence now being disclosed to the public, that that must necessarily be the case ?—I dare say they felt that I was extremely good-natured, and I having paid everything in 1857, they probably believed that I should be equally good-natured and pay everything in 1859.

15,095. Has not that which you are pleased to call good nature led to all this corruption ?—I cannot tell you, I am sure ; you must draw your own conclusion as to that.

15,096. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were brought down to St. Alban's, were you not, much in the same way as you were brought down here ?—Yes.

15,097. On a representation, not that the borough was perfectly pure, but that the election was intended to be pure ?—Yes.

15,098. Were you not in that case made the victim of the hypocrisy of other people ?—I was.

15,099. And were you not so described in the report ?—I was.

15,100. Did not that circumstance lead you to think you ought to be more than usually careful when you stood as a candidate at another election ?—I thought the knowledge that I had disfranchised a borough in consequence of bribery would prevent anybody who sought me as a candidate from ever thinking that I would gain any election by any other than honourable and honest means.

15,101. I am asking you what the effect of those circumstances was upon your own mind ?—The constituency of St. Alban's was the most debased and depraved probably in the whole of England, but when things get to the worst they sometimes improve, and they led me to believe that they were heartily sorry for all their past misdoings, and that they had sought me out because they intended to have a pure and honest member of parliament ; and the principal reason why I petitioned and disfranchised St. Alban's was that a certain number of gentlemen signed a requisition to me, asking me to stand for St. Alban's upon pure principles, and those very men voted against me. I told them that for that act they never should have another vote for St. Alban's, and at my own cost and charges I disfranchised the borough, and I did the public good service by it.

15,102. What I asked you was, what was the effect produced upon your own mind when you found that you had been made at St. Alban's the victim of the hypocrisy of others ?—If I knew that St. Alban's was venal that was no reason why I should suppose that Gloucester was venal.

15,103. Did not the knowledge which you had acquired at St. Alban's induce you to be more careful when you became a candidate at another place ?—No.

15,104. I suppose you have read the report of the St. Alban's commissioners ?—I did, some years back.

15,105. You read it at the time ?—Yes, I fancy so.

15,106. Did not that report let you a little into the secrets of electioneering practices ?—As far as regards St. Alban's it did ; not as to any other place.

15,107. Did you not there gain a knowledge of the difference between direct bribery and the illegal employment of messengers ?—No, I did not know anything about messengers.

15,108. But you say you read the report of the St. Alban's commissioners ?—Yes ; and I heard extracts from it read by Admiral Berkeley at the election in 1857.

15,109. Did you not gain a knowledge from that

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report that illegal practices might be resorted to without direct bribery ?—No.

15,110. Did not the St. Alban's report inform your mind that there were other illegal expenses besides direct bribery ?—No, I do not think so.

15,111. The payment of messengers, for instance ?—I was not at all aware of it.

15,112. Are you not aware that the commissioners in that case placed those who had received illegal payments in a separate schedule by themselves ?—No; if they did it is so long ago that I have forgotten it.

15,113. Then we may take it that the experience of St. Alban's was entirely lost upon you ?—I do not know why, because St. Alban's was shown to be venal, I should suppose that Gloucester was venal.

15,114. Sir William Hayter told us that the venality of Gloucester was notorious; was not it known to you ?—Most assuredly not.

15,115. Was there nothing within your knowledge with reference to Gloucester, or was there nothing in the experience which you had derived at St. Alban's, that induced you to look into the expenditure which was made on your behalf at the election in Gloucester ?—No, nothing at all.

15,116. I presume that if you should hereafter become a candidate for any other place you will not act on the same principle as that on which you acted at the last election here ?—I think I have gained a little experience. I think I shall act very differently another time.

15,117. I believe when you first came down to Gloucester you made a speech in which you stated that you were standing on principles of purity ?—Quite so.

15,118. Did you think it consistent with those principles to make no inquiry how your agent was conducting your election ?—Why should I inquire about a man's character of whose character I had no doubt.

15,119. You allude to Mr. Lovegrove ?—No, not at all; I am alluding to the constituency. When I found that Mr. Lovegrove and a number of gentlemen of respectability from Gloucester, came up and said that my election would not cost more than 500*l.* or 600*l.* (which I knew would be the probable amount of the legal expenses), I had no suspicion of anything wrong; bribery never came into my thoughts.

15,120. Your knowledge of human nature is such that you think that in the case of a constituency it ought to be presumed to be perfectly pure until the contrary is shown ?—Every man's character, I think, ought to be considered pure until it is shown not to be so.

15,121. Did you know anything of the parties who came to you from Gloucester before they came ?—No. I knew they were gentlemen who were well connected in Gloucester, and I supposed I might take for granted everything they said. If the parties who came to me had been of a suspicious character I should have made further inquiry, but as they were of the highest respectability in Gloucester I placed great faith in everything they told me.

15,122. Mr. Lovegrove wishes you to be asked whether in 1857 he did not propose to you that his accounts should be laid before some indifferent person ?—I think Mr. Lovegrove did say that he would send his accounts to me, if I wished it. I have no doubt he did that; and I may say this, positively, that there was no backwardness on the part of Mr. Lovegrove to give me the accounts.

15,123. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were not the accounts offered to you ?—I do not think they were.

15,124. Did not Mr. Lovegrove suggest to you that the accounts should be referred to somebody or other to be audited ?—I think he might say, "If "you are not satisfied, I shall be very happy to give "you the accounts, and they may be sent to any "friend to be looked at."

15,125. And you declined to have the accounts ?—I declined to have the accounts.

15,126. Are you aware of the Act under which election agents and an election auditor are appointed at each election ?—I believe that an election auditor is appointed.

15,127. Are you aware that it is the duty of election agents to make all payments that are necessary to be made on behalf of the candidate through the auditor, and that a penalty is imposed in case of any other mode of payment ?—That penalty, I suppose, is attached to the agent, if there is an agent.

15,128. Are you aware of that sort of machinery ?—I cannot say I am not aware of it, because either here or at Wakefield that question, I believe, has been discussed; but before that I thought you appointed your agent, and he superintended and directed everything in accordance with the Act of Parliament.

15,129. Were you not aware that any payments not made through the auditor were improper payments ?—I never thought upon the subject.

15,130. In this case you trusted implicitly to your agent, and whatever he required you to pay you paid ?—Yes.

15,131. And that is the whole explanation you can give of your Gloucester expenditure?—That is everything, I assure you.

15,132. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you suppose that so large a sum as 3,499*l.* could be spent before a Committee of the House of Commons in four days ?—There were two petitions.

15,133. You have told us that you had seen the election auditor's account published in the newspapers ?—Yes.

15,134. Deducting the amount of that account from the whole sum you paid, 3,499*l.* must have been spent in the committee?—I do not know how it was spent; I only know that I paid it.

15,135. You told the Chief Commissioner that you supposed your expenditnre on account of the election was the expenditure which appeared in the election auditor's account; that expenditure amounts to 639*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, then the balance must have been spent on the petition ?—Yes.

15,136. That is 3,499*l.*?—That is not much for two petitions, I think.

15,137. You do not think that is much for two petitions which occupied four days ?—I think at St. Alban's one petition was more than half that; that was nearly 3,000*l.*, I think. Mr. Lovegrove can give you an account of that. I really know nothing about it. All I know is that I paid it.

15,138. It did not appear to you to be an extraordinary sum ?—Having paid the St. Alban's bill, I did not think it so much out of the way.

15,139. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you hear during your canvass before the last election any rumours that the other side intended to expend money ?—I did; it was generally circulated over the town that a large expenditure of money was to take place.

15,140. And that expenditure you understood was to be a corrupt expenditure ?—It was not for me to say. I understood that a large expenditure was going to be made.

15,141. And when you found that your own expenditure was large also, did you not think that your friends might have been acting in the same way ?—Yes; but I did not know that till afterwards. If any one had dared to come to me during the election, and say, "We want 1,000*l.* or 500*l.*", I should have supposed for what purpose it was wanted; but I do not believe that any one of my agents, or any man in this place, dared to come to ask me for money during the election.

15,142. If on the Saturday preceding the election your agents had agreed that it was necessary to provide a fund of 1,000*l.* for corrupt practices, and that had been communicated to you, would you have retired from the contest ?—I should not have retired from the contest, but I should have said, "You shall "not have the money."

15,143. In that case your confidence in your agent

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might have been shaken?—If he had asked me for money for illegal purposes.

15,144. If he had asked you for 1,000*l.* on the Saturday preceding the election?—Yes.

15,145. Might you not in your innocence have reposed in him the same confidence that you had done before?—No.

15,146. You think not?—Certainly not. My confidence was with reference to things past as well as things present.

15,147. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did pay a sum of 500*l.* during the election?—Previous to the election.

15,148. The last election I am speaking of?—Yes.

15,149. On the 25th of April you paid 500*l.*?—Yes.

15,150. For what purpose did you consider that money was required?—I had been canvassing for five or six days, and there were outgoings and payments to be made to different parties, I supposed. There were advertisements, and a great many other things that I did not choose my agent to be out of pocket for.

15,151. Did you not know that the expenses of advertisements and other expenses connected with the election would not be payable until after the election, and would have to be included in the account of the election auditor?—But I did not know who paid them.

15,152. Did you not know that all payments for advertisements and matters connected with your election would be payable after the election?—It never struck me, whether they would be payable before or after. I knew I was answerable for them.

15,153. My question refers to what your knowledge was with regard to payments that had to be made either during or after the election. Did you not know that all those expenses, such as advertisements and matters of that sort, would be payable after the election by the election agent, through the election auditor?—I was not aware of it. I thought there were a great many preliminary expenses to be paid.

15,154. Do I understand you to say that the 500*l.* cheque which was drawn on the 25th of April was given by you to Mr. Lovegrove with the intention that it should be disbursed in incidental expenses?—Certainly.

15,155. You were informed that the probable expenditure of a contested election would be from 500*l.* to 600*l.* Having ascertained, after the election in 1857, that the amount of money expended was considerably greater than that, did you not then surmise or suspect that a considerable sum had been expended illegally?—I never ascertained that a greater amount had been paid than 500*l.* or 600*l.* I had never any means of ascertaining.

15,156. With reference to your experience as a candidate for St. Alban's, and with reference to the questions which have been put to you by my friend Mr. Fitzgerald, do you not think you ought to have made inquiry as to the mode in which that larger sum had been expended in 1857?—It would have been better if I had made inquiry, certainly, because then I candidly say I should not have been a candidate in 1859; that is, if I had had a truthful account.

15,157. Ought not your experience at that time to have suggested to you not only the propriety of but the necessity for making those inquiries?—I do not think so. I had such confidence in my agent that I was satisfied he would do nothing wrong.

15,158. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you not the same confidence in the agent you appointed at St. Alban's?—I had confidence in him, too.

15,159. Had you not the same reason for placing confidence in him that you had for placing confidence in your agent here?—I think so.

15,160. You had found yourself taken in by your agent in that case?—No. I was not taken in by my agent at St. Alban's. I was taken in by the constituency. They all promised to vote for me, and none of them did.

15,161. Although the Commissioners in that case acquitted you of any direct participation in bribery, did they not find that your agent had made illegal payments?—I suppose the illegal payments were payments to messengers, or something of that kind, which he did not understand to be illegal.

15,162. I will read you a passage from the report. I am told you read it yourself at Gloucester?—Admiral Berkeley read all that was against me; and I read out that part of the report which acquitted me of any impropriety.

15,163. The Commissioners say, "While we entirely acquit Alderman Carden of any participation, direct or indirect, in bribery, we are bound to say that practices the reverse of pure were resorted to by some of those who brought him forward, and that some very improper payments were made by his agent, Mr. Lowe." Did not that bring to your knowledge the fact that your election at St. Alban's had not been conducted on perfectly pure principles?—No; it did not. Those payments were made after the election was over, I suppose.

15,164. You were aware, were you not, that Mr. Lowe, your agent at St. Alban's, was put in the schedule of parties who had given bribes on your behalf?—I was not aware of it.

15,165. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you inquire, when the deputation first came to you in London, who had been the previous conservative candidate, or member for this city?—I do not think I did. I knew that Admiral Berkeley had been a member for many years.

15,166. Was nothing said to you respecting Mr. Hope having been a member for this city?—Yes; I think I heard that Mr. Hope had been a member. I do not know whether it was before or after. Nothing at that time occurred, I think, upon the subject. I have heard since that Mr. Hope was a member.

15,167. Did it not occur to you to inquire why Mr. Hope did not come forward again as a candidate?—I do not know whether I did inquire or not. It is very likely I might have inquired.

15,168. Did you inquire?—I cannot say whether I did or not.

15,169. Are you prepared to say that no inquiry with respect to Mr. Hope was made by yourself, or that no information as to Mr. Hope was furnished to you by the deputation?—Certainly not by the deputation.

15,170. No information was furnished to you by them?—Not that I am aware of.

15,171. Did you inquire from any person, except from the members of the deputation, what the character of the constituency in Gloucester was?—Never. I never had any thought about it.

15,172. And you never took any pains to ascertain whether money had been largely expended in Gloucester at previous elections or not?—No, not at all. I had heard that in former times, before the passing of the Reform Act, when people paid for colours, music, and many other things, that the expenditure was very large. I heard that with reference to Gloucester as well as with reference to other places.

15,173. In point of fact you intended to start for Gloucester upon the purest principles, and you thought you were coming to a place where the election would be conducted in accordance with those principles?—I did, or I would never have come at all.

15,174. Did you, after the election of 1857, receive any communication from Gloucester, to the effect that your election in 1857 had been obtained by notoriously illegal practices?—I do not think I did; I do not remember it.

15,175. Are you quite sure that no communication of that sort was made to you?—I do not remember such a communication being made to me. I had some anonymous letters, I believe.

15,176. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was not your return

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petitioned against on the ground of bribery?—It was.

15,177. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Let me call your attention to this? Did you not learn by a letter addressed to you from Gloucester, or by letters, that your return in 1857 was effected by illegal practices?—I do not remember receiving such letters; I may have done so.

15,178. If you did receive any such letters was it not a circumstance that ought to have made a considerable impression on your mind?—No; and I will tell you why. I was petitioned against. There were large premiums or rewards offered to any man in Gloucester who would come forward and assist the parliamentary committee to find a case of bribery against me or my party. I believe as much as 10*l.* or 20*l.* was offered; that was stated to me; and in all the inquiry on the petition against me there was not a scintilla of evidence to raise even a doubt as to any bribe having been given. More than that; I was in the House of Commons when the report of the parliamentary committee of inquiry as to the charge of bribery against me was brought up, and I remember Mr. Roebuck (who, though as honest a man as any in the House of Commons, is politically opposed to me,) getting up, and saying, on the report of the committee being read, "Then the petition ought to have been returned frivolous and vexatious." I say, therefore, that, whatever letters I may have received (and I am not at all aware I received any), having been purged by a committee of investigation in the House of Commons, I would certainly rather pay respect to their decision than I would to any anonymous letters I might have received.

15,179. After the election of 1857, and prior to the petition having been heard, did you not receive a letter or letters informing you that your election had been obtained by corrupt practices?—I am not aware of it.

15,180. Will you say that you did not receive such letters?—I cannot say whether, two years and a half ago, I received such letters or not.

15,181. Did you at all events make any inquiry whatever of Mr. Lovegrove as to whether there was any ground for any belief or surmise that corrupt practices had existed?—I do not think I did. I am sure I did not.

15,182. A note is put into my hand upon which I wish to found this question. Did you not, in 1857, on the Tuesday succeeding the day of the election, receive a letter, signed by A. H. Philpotts, to the effect that your election had been obtained by corrupt practices?—I do not remember it.

15,183. Do you mean to swear that you received no letter upon the subject?—You have no right to ask me to swear that. I swear that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, I did not receive the letter. I have no recollection of it.

15,184. Of course I ask you to speak to the best of your knowledge and belief?—That is to the best of my belief. I do not mean to say positively that I did not receive it.

15,185. You have no recollection of having received such a letter?—No.

15,186. If you had received such a letter would it have made upon your mind at that time a considerable impression?—I do not think it would. It came from a political opponent, if it came from the party you name. There is no man who has been elected as purely as possible who, where there has been a contest, does not receive letters and hear representations made that he has been grossly deceived, and that his return was procured by means of bribery and so on.

15,187. Do you not think that if you did receive such a letter it ought to have put you on inquiry, with a view to ascertain from your agent whether it was the fact that your election had been so obtained?—If I received such a letter I certainly made no inquiry upon the subject.

15,188. Have you ever been applied to for the purpose of obtaining from you any subscriptions towards the payment of expenses incurred by your friends or partisans in contests, at municipal elections?—I think I have.

15,189. Have you paid money in consequence of such applications?—I would refer you to Mr. Lovegrove. He has the whole account of any such payments I may have made. I paid only in lumps. I do not know what the amounts are, but Mr. Lovegrove will give you the account, no doubt.

15,190. But you remember applications being made to you for that purpose?—I think Mr. Lovegrove did mention to me that it was usual for the members for the city to contribute towards the expenses incurred at municipal elections; I think so.

15,191. Mr. Lovegrove told you it was usual for members to contribute towards the expenses incurred at municipal elections?—I think those were his words, or "you had better do so," or something of that kind.

15,192. Did he tell you what those expenses were?—I said "whatever is usual," or "whatever you "think right, I beg you will pay for me."

15,193. Did he tell you how those expenses were incurred?—Not at all.

15,194. Did he give you to understand in any way that those expenses were largely made up by the payment of bribes or by treating?—He did not indeed. I did not ask him how they should be appropriated.

15,195. Did you make any inquiry of him with respect to them?—I did not.

15,196. How did you think those expenses could be incurred?—I never thought about it.

15,197. You do not seem to have made any inquiry as to items. You paid, you say, "in lumps?"—That is the fact, which I will never do again.

15,198. You were not at all led to believe that by your yielding to the applications made to you for those "lumps" of money that you were covertly promoting a course of bribery in this city?—No, I was not, indeed.

15,199. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you make any inquiry how the cheque which you gave for 70*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* was disposed of?—My recollection is that Mr. Lovegrove gave me the figures at the time, and then took them back with him.

15,200. Was any part of the money for which that cheque was given appropriated, so far as you know, towards the payment of the expenses incurred at municipal elections?—I think that is very likely; but Mr. Lovegrove can tell you better than I can. I think you will find from Mr. Lovegrove that it was given for the charities in the town.

Mr. Lovegrove.—And for various other things.

The Witness.—My impression is that there was an application made to me to contribute something towards the expense of municipal elections.

15,201. And you assented to that application?—I did; I assented to it so far as to say, "Whatever is "necessary I hope you will give."

15,202. Is it your practice to make payments of considerable sums of money without inquiry as to the purpose for which they are required, or as to the manner in which they have been expended?—Not in a usual way, certainly.

15,203. You apply a different principle when an application is made to you for money for election purposes to what you apply when an application is made for the ordinary purposes of life?—Yes. I did not want to have any trouble about it. I wished to know what the sum total was, and when I knew that I gave a cheque and paid it.

15,204. Was that your wish, regardless of whether the money was spent properly or improperly?—It was not for me to inquire at all.

15,205. May we take it that you do not consider it the duty of a candidate or member of parliament to inquire into the mode in which the money expended in his election has been applied?—It ought to be his duty, and he ought to do it; I am quite sure of that; but with regard to accounts I have had lawyers' bills, a whole pile of them, and I never look

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through the accounts, but I look at the sum total, and pay it. To look into them only gives one useless trouble.

15,206. Do you mean lawyers' bills generally, or lawyers' bills connected with elections?—Lawyers' bills generally. A man who wants to be at peace will just see what the sum total is, and pay it, and make no inquiries at all.

15,207. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it your opinion that if you had made inquiries as to the expenditure of those several sums of money of which you have spoken disclosures might have been made to you which it would have been rather inconvenient for you to deal with?—I do not think they would have been made to me.

15,208. Did you purposely abstain from making any inquiry because you thought it might be inconvenient to know the mode in which the money had been expended?—No, certainly not.

15,209. Was Mr. Bernard with you at St. Alban's?—He was not.

15,210. Do I gather from your examination that when you made payments to Mr. Bernard of the 500*l.* and 200*l.* respectively you made no inquiry of him with respect to either of those sums as to the purpose for which that money had been paid by him?—I did not.

15,211. (*Mr. Welford.*) Nor as to the circumstances under which the money had been paid?—No. I was satisfied that it was paid, as he said it was. At first I demurred; and said, "You paid it on your own "responsibility; I shall not recognize it at all."

15,212. How soon after you knew that he had advanced it for you did you repay him?—Almost immediately.

15,213. The same day?—I think almost the same day.

15,214. I think you mentioned the cheque to him as being given in August?—No; that was the 200*l.* cheque; the other was in May. I did not like to be under an obligation to a man who said he had paid money on my account.

15,215. Shall you feel bound to pay the accounts which you now hear are outstanding in Gloucester?—I shall look at them very closely first. I shall not pay them without looking at them, you may depend upon it; and whether I am bound to pay them or not will depend on what the nature of them is. I will pay every honourable engagement that any man has entered into for me.

15,216. If you should find the accounts outstanding against you to have been so marshalled that the illegal expenditure has been paid, and that the only unpaid sums are sums which might originally have been legal, shall you feel bound to pay them?—I should imagine that all bribery is ready money, and that all the accounts you allude to would be upon trust, and therefore, naturally, the illegal part would be paid and the legal part would have to be paid; that is the common position in which we are placed.

15,217. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you consider the payment of messengers and other persons of that description to be legal?—Really I cannot answer that question.

15,218. (*Mr. Welford.*) You left that to your agent?—Yes.

15,219. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I will read you another extract from the report of the St. Alban's Commissioners: "We find that large sums were paid by "Mr. Lowe to parties who voted for Sir Robert Car-"den, by way of payment for their services or in "payment of bills sent in for goods supplied. We "find that these payments were made without the "knowledge of Sir Robert Carden; and that they "did not receive his sanction, and were made in "violation of the principle upon which Mr. Lowe "well knew Sir Robert Carden had come forward as "a candidate." Did not that lead you to suppose that there might be illegal payments, though not direct bribery?—It was impossible for me to suppose what there might or might not be.

15,220. An examination of the accounts shows there were a great many payments of the description referred to in this report?—I really believed that they were legal payments, or else the auditor ought not to have passed them. I imagined that if the auditor passed an account including the payment of messengers that was a legal authentication of the payment, showing it to be correct, or else I do not know what is the use of the auditor.

15,221. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are aware, are you not, that a very much larger sum has been or is to be paid for messengers than is included in the account that was sent in to the auditor?—No; I am not aware of it. If they do not ask me any questions I shall never ask any, and I shall never request any bills to be sent in to me. I hope they will not come; but if they do, as I have said before, I will look at them very sharply.

15,222. You do not expect that hope to be realized, do you?—I do not.

15,223. Having studiously abstained from making any inquiries as to the mode in which these large sums of money have been expended, do you not consider that you have been the victim of your own innocence and good nature?—I think I have been imposed upon, I must confess. I believe they have acted with the best intentions, but they have acted, I think, very improperly, and certainly contrary to my wishes.

15,224. And contrary to the wishes which you have ever expressed?—Yes.

15,225. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you of opinion that when people spend more than 1,000*l.* in bribery they can be properly said to have spent it "with the best "intentions?"—I did not know that they had spent it in that way.

15,226. You say you believe they acted with the best intentions, and I ask you whether, when people spend more than 1,000*l.* in bribery, they can be properly said to have spent it with the best intentions?—I do not believe that a farthing would have been expended by our party in bribery if it had not been for the lavish expenditure of money on the other side; they began it.

12,227. Do you think the expenditure of money in 1857 in bribery was money spent with the best intentions?—I suppose it was.

15,228. You still think it was?—With the best intentions of the party who spent it.

15,229. You think that the term "good intention" can apply to the expenditure of money corruptly?—It may be an act of goodwill towards the party. It may be done through a wish that he may succeed.

15,230.—You think they may be properly said to have acted with the best intentions, the money being expended merely to effect the purpose they have in view, the return of the candidate?—I cannot tell what their views were. I only know my own views. I cannot surmise what was passing in their minds.

15,231. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I think you said you went through your own canvass book, and that you found that there were twelve broken promises?—I understand so; I only speak from what I have heard.

15,232. Can you furnish the Commissioners with a list of the broken promises?—Not one. I only know it from the evidence here. I have no means of ascertaining. I do not know who was bribed, and I hope I never shall.

15,233. (*Mr. Welford.*) I am afraid we shall have to publish a very long list?—If you will give a recommendation that there shall be no canvassing hereafter it would be a very good thing. Mr. Smith has suggested to me that I was wrong in saying that I did not know Mr. W. H. Cooke, and that it was Mr. W. H. Cooke who first introduced the deputation to me. I did not know that it was so, and I do not remember the circumstance now; but as Mr. Smith says it is so I have no doubt it is.

15,234. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I put the question to you because I understood that that was the mode in which you first became introduced to Gloucester?—I was

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Sir R. W. Carden.

12 Oct. 1859.

not aware of it at all, till Mr. Smith mentioned the circumstance.

15,235. In what way you became introduced to Mr. Cooke you are entirely ignorant?—Quite; I do not know at all. I was not at all aware of the circumstance till Mr. Smith mentioned it.

15,236. You do not remember whether you had a personal interview with Mr. Cooke, or whether what passed between you and him passed by letter or in some other way?—No. I have not the slightest recollection of Mr. Cooke being concerned in the matter.

15,237. And you have no recollection of any conversation between Mr. Cooke and yourself with reference to the election, or with reference to your becoming a candidate?—I do not recollect it. Mr. Cooke may have been to me, to ask me whether I was willing to canvass Gloucester; it is not at all improbable that he may. He was a perfect stranger to me. He probably asked me whether, in the event of a vacancy occurring for Gloucester, I should be willing to become a candidate. I think something of that kind must have occurred, because he would not have brought the deputation to me unless he had had some previous communication with me.

15,238. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was Mr. Cooke a friend of Mr. Bernard's?—I have heard Mr. Bernard mention Mr. Cooke's name. I do not know that he is a friend of his.

15,239. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you preserved the correspondence that has taken place between yourself and a gentleman at Gloucester, with reference to the election?—No, not at all. I never had any correspondence of any moment; it has always been personal.

15,240. Any letters written to yourself have been destroyed by you?—Yes; at the time. If there was anything of importance upon which Mr. Lovegrove wished to consult me, he generally came up himself.

15,241. In addition to what you have stated, do you wish to make any addition to the evidence you have given, or to give any explanation with reference to the two last elections?—No; I do not think I do. I have explained everying that I am aware of.

15,242. Although you do not know Mr. Cooke by name, have you any reason to believe that the gentleman who introduced the deputation to you acted on behalf of the Carlton Club?—No; I do not even know whether he is a member of the Carlton Club.

15,243. At the time when that gentleman (though you did not know his name) came to you, was there anything said at all as to his being an agent for or acting on behalf of the Carlton Club?—No; I never heard he was one.

J. Hooper.

JOSEPH HOOPER called, and further examined.

15,244. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were the sheriff in 1857?—Yes.

15,245. Do you produce a signed copy of the register of voters for the years 1857 and 1858?—Yes; signed by Mr. Matthews, the under sheriff.

15,246. Is that which you have put in a correct copy of the original register?—Yes. In my evidence of yesterday there is one little correction which I wish to make; in answer to a question which you put to me, whether I had canvassed privately or not, I believe I said "No." That is not correct. I canvassed, I believe, two or three voters, and wrote one letter. I also referred to Admiral Berkeley's account of the expense of his election in 1818.

15,247. We shall be able to obtain that from Admiral Berkeley himself, who will come here?—I can state the amount correctly now. At a dinner given at the King's Head on the 19th December 1852, when Mr. Washbourne was in the chair, Admiral Berkeley said he had stood forward eleven times, and was defeated twice. In 1818 his brother the earl gave him 5,000*l.*, and he had spent 11,000*l.* more, making 16,000*l.* for one contest.

15,248. That was in 1818?—That was in 1818.

15,249. That is the correction which you wish to make?—Yes.

15,250. You canvassed two or three persons?—Yes, I did; and sent one letter.

15,251. Although you canvassed two or three persons privately, you did not make them any offer of money?—Certainly not.

15,252. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive from them any intimation that they expected money?—No. They were merely working for me, and they said they had not been canvassed; and I said, "Then I will canvass "you, and I will ask you for your vote."

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called, and further examined.

15,253. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have heard the evidence which has been given by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. Will you permit me to say, with respect to some of the observations that have been made by Sir Robert Carden, that with regard to the accounts and with regard to everything that has ever taken place between Sir Robert Carden and myself, I invite the fullest investigation. Before the accounts were settled in 1857 I waited myself personally upon Mr. Bernard, as the medium between Sir Robert Carden and me, with a view to his auditing those accounts, but he refused to do so.

15,254. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Bernard did?—Mr. Bernard did. I waited personally upom him, to ask him to audit them, which he declined to do. Then, with regard to the money expended here at the last election, I wish to state that the 1,000*l.* would never have been expended had not Mr. Bernard acted upon the suggestion thrown, that a fund should be provided by sending down the 500*l.*; that was the inducement to me to add my 500*l.* to his, to form that fund; but for Mr. Bernard sending the 500*l.* there would have been no illegal expenditure of money whatever.

15,255. At the time when you offered Mr. Bernard your accounts to be audited by him on behalf of Sir Robert Carden, had you your accounts with you already made out?—I had them made out in the rough at that time, and he declined to enter into the matter.

15,256. You would then have shown how much had been expended for the election and how much for the petition?—To a farthing, as I can now; and I can account for every farthing that ever came to my hands from Sir Robert Carden in 1859, and the expenditure of every sixpence.

15,257. And the time when each sum was expended?—I could.

15,258. You could give a full and correct account of everything?—I could, of everything; and my books are at the disposal of the Court, so that they may investigate every item.

15,259. Mr. Bernard having declined to audit the account, did you then mention the matter to Sir Robert Carden?—I told him I had proposed that to Mr. Bernard.

15,260. What did Sir Robert Carden say?—He said he had perfect confidence in me, and did not want anything of the kind.

15,261. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He always refused to enter into the accounts?—He has gone to some extent into the accounts, but not to examine the figures.

15,262. (*Mr. Welford.*) To what extent has he gone into the account of 1857?—The totals.

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15,263. Did he inquire from you how much money you had expended in the election, and how much you had expended on the petition?—Yes, certainly.

15,264. In 1857?—Yes.

15,265. And you afforded him the information?—Certainly.

15,266. How much did you tell him the election of 1857 had cost?—I do not know that I told him the amount, but he could see upon the account how much it did cost. The total cost of the election would be 1,500*l.*, and the 200*l.* to Mr. Bernard, 1,700*l.*; that was the total cost of the election.

15,267. And the remainder?—That would be for the petitions; there were two petitions (every item of expenditure on those petitions you can see); they cost 3,892*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* I will tell you, if you please, how that sum was made up.

15,268. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are we to understand that you did tell Sir Robert Carden what the cost of the election was and what the cost of the petitions were?—I had an account similar to this (*referring to a paper*) before me at the time we settled the accounts.

15,269. At the time you were with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

15,270. (*Mr. Welford.*) And did you explain it to him in general terms?—Sir Robert Carden is a man of business, and I should say he understood figures as well as any man in England.

15,271. In all matters not connected with elections?—(*No answer*).

15,272. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are we to understand that that account which you have have now before you was laid before Sir Robert Carden, showing how much was applicable to the election and how much was applicable to the petitions?—He could have ascertained it from the account. I cannot charge my memory whether I specifically stated it, but I will tell you exactly how it is made up.

15,273. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The figures I have taken down are 1,500*l.* and 200*l.* as the cost of the election, and 3,892*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* as the cost of the petitions?—Yes.

15,274. (*Mr. Welford.*) I understand you to say you had that account before you when you settled the expenses with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. I never settled any account with him without having it with me.

15,275. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the date of that?—This would be about December; that would be about the date when the account was settled; December 1857.

15,276. Where was that account settled?—At Sir Robert Carden's office.

15,277. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Sir Robert Carden pay you the whole of that amount?—Yes.

17,278. That is 5,592*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*?—I do not know what the totals are.

15,279. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you tell me what was the amount paid on the final settlement?—I will give you the figures exactly, if you please.

15,280. We will have the account, perhaps, presently. The question I wish to address your attention to now is this: What was the balance paid to you at the time of the settlement of that account by Sir Robert Carden?—The account would be settled between me and Sir Robert Carden on the 21st of August; that is the time when he paid me a sum of 924*l.* 18*s.*; all the accounts were settled on the same day; on the 21st of August.

15,281. £924 18*s.* was the balance?—Yes; but there was the account of the parliamentary agent still outstanding, in which I was endeavouring to get some reduction; but Mr. Rose being from home I could not communicate with him, and consequently the account of the parliamentary agent was not settled till December, when Sir Robert Carden gave 1,150*l.* to settle that account.

15,282. That was the final settlement of the account between you and him?—It was, for that election.

15,283. Then the payment to you of 924*l.* 18*s.* was for the balance of your account against Sir Robert Carden, excluding the parliamentary agent's account?—Excluding that.

15,284. And he paid that sum as the balance of that account?—Yes; as the balance of that account

15,285. Excluding the parliamentary agent's account?—Yes. I see in this account the two are added together. There must be a deduction from the sum I have given you of 1,508*l.* 9*l.* 9*d.*; 2,314*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* is the cost of the petition, and the other sum of 3,892*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* is the total cost.

15,286. The total cost of the election and the petition?—Yes.

15,287. And does that include the parliamentary agent's account too?—Yes; but it does not include Mr. Bernard's 200*l.*

15,288. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understood you to say that 1,700*l.* was the expense of the election?—With Mr. Bernard's 200*l.*, that is the amount spent upon that election.

15,289. You said that the cost of the petition was 3,892*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*?—Yes; but I see that in this account the two sums are added together. You will please to put it in this way: 1,508*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* was the amount expended at the election, exclusive of Mr. Bernard's 200*l.* That would make the election cost Sir Robert Carden, altogether, including Mr. Bernard's 200*l.*, 1,708*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*

15,290. On the 24th of August or in December did you leave Sir Robert Carden a copy of that account?—I am not quite sure; but I do not think I did.

15,291. But you had an account which you were ready to hand to him if he wished it?—As I have now.

15,292. Now give us the expenses of the petition?—The general disbursements with reference to the petition amounted to 514*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* The witnesses expenses amounted to 319*l.* 16*s.* My costs amounted to upwards of 400*l.*, and if I charged upon the scale charged by parliamentary agents they would have amounted to at least 1,000*l.*; but for the whole amount I received 250*l.* I took 250*l.* in settlement of my costs. If I had made out my costs on the parliamentary scale they would have amounted to 800*l.* or 1,000*l.* The parliamentary agent's costs amounted to 1,447*l.*; and at my instance and request they accepted 1,300*l.* I have all the accounts with me, and am ready to hand them all in.

15,293. Those various sums make up the total. do they?—They make up the total.

15,294. What was the total expense of the petition?—£2,384 8*s.* 1*d.* I should like the public to understand that for conducting Sir Robert Carden's election in 1857, and for the prosecution of one petition and the defence of another, I received a fee of 100 guineas for the election and 250*l.* for the petition, and that is all.

15,295. When that statement of account was laid before Sir Robert Carden, or when he had an opportunity of examining it, was any inquiry made by him as to the cause of the expenses of the election being so great as they were?—No. Sir Robert Carden never made any inquiry, or, as, I remember, made any complaint.

15,296. He has neither made inquiry nor complaint?—No.

15,297. Did he not express any astonishment to you that the amount was so much larger than the amount of the election auditor's account?—I never remember his referring to the election auditor's account.

15,298. In 1857, I mean?—In 1857.

15,299. We understand from Sir Robert Carden himself that he saw the published account of the election auditor. Do you not remember whether he said anything to you on the subject of the difference between the election auditor's account and the account which you then presented to him for election expenses?—No; I do not think he ever did.

15,300. Did he ask you at all whether any portion of that money had been spent illegally?—Well. I

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J. Lovegrove.

12 Oct. 1859.

think it must have been from a suspicion that he must have had that he preferred not to have any accounts.

15,301. You think that was in consequence of some suspicion that he had?—I think that is the right construction.

15,302. And you think that in consequence of that suspicion he preferred not to make any inquiry with reference to the difference existing between the two accounts?—I really think so.

15,303. The total amount of the election auditor's account at that time was 639*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*?—That was it.

15,304. Do you remember whether or not the payment of the 200*l.* to Mr. Bernard was made by Sir Walter Carden through you?—It was not; it was made to Mr. Bernard direct; the repayment of it.

15,305. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Why do you say the repayment of it?—Mr. Bernard had spent the money, I suppose, and was repaid it.

15,306. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Sir Robert Carden say anything to you with regard to that money?—I think he mentioned that he had paid Mr. Bernard the 200*l.*

15,307. Would that be at one of your earlier meetings, or in December?—It would have been in August, when we finally settled.

15,308. Did he ask you if you knew anything about it?—No; I do not think he did.

15,309. As far as your memory goes, what was the nature of the communication?—I really could not charge my memory with that which took place upon the occasion, it being now two years ago; but I have a recollection that he told me he had paid Mr. Bernard the 200*l.*

15,310. I understand you to say that the 200*l.* you know nothing at all about?—I will tell you all I do know about it precisely. When the canvass had proceeded to the 26th of March in 1857, and there were Mr. Washbourne, Mr. Helps, Mr. Whithorn, and several others at the Bell Hotel, in a room, Sir Robert Carden said, "You really must want some money; "you have been doing all this kind of thing now for "sixteen or eighteen days, and you have asked me "for no money; you really must want some. I will "give you a cheque for 500*l.*"

15,311. I am not speaking about that?—I am going to explain to you what I know about Mr. Bernard's advance. Sir Robert Carden said, "I will "give you a cheque for 500*l.*," and he wrote a cheque out. It then occurred to me that the election would not cost more than five or six hundred pounds, for the canvass had been so good, and the expenses had been kept down in accordance with Mr. Helps's notion at the time; and after the cheque had been written out for 500*l.*, I said, "Sir Robert Carden, I think 300*l.* "will be quite sufficient." Accordingly a cheque for 300*l.* was drawn, which I carried to his credit. Mr. Whithorn, who was in the room, came up to me, and said, "I shall want at least 100*l.* of that money." I said, "What for?" "Why" (he said) "I have spent "more than that already upon the canvass, and so "on; I shall want at least that." I thought that it would be an awkward thing to ask Sir Robert Carden for more money after I had refused to take his cheque for 500*l.*, and said that 300*l.* would do, and I called Mr. Bernard out of the room, and told him exactly what Mr. Whithorn had told me; that he was out of pocket 100*l.* or more at that time upon the canvass; and I asked Mr. Bernard, as a friend of Sir Robert Carden, whether I should mention it to Sir Robert Carden or not. He said, "Well, I think you had better "not trouble him. I will give Whithorn a cheque "for the 100*l.*," and accordingly a cheque was drawn for 100*l.*, which he handed to Mr. Whithorn, and which never came into my hands at all. That was the commencement of Mr. Bernard's advance of 200*l.*

15,312. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Bernard drew that cheque in favor of Mr. Whithorn?—Yes. I did not see the cheque.

15,313. It was handed to Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

15,314. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) A cheque for 100*l.*?—Yes.

15,315. What do you say about the other cheque?—To the best of my recollection, I do not know that that cheque was drawn, or that any other cheque was given, till some time afterwards; that cheque was given by Mr. Bernard to Mr. Whithorn.

15,316. (*Mr. Welford.*) Without your intervention?—Without my intervention at all.

15,317. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not know of that second cheque for 100*l.*?—To the best of my recollection, I did not know of it at all. I am quite sure that it never came into my hands.

15,318. Sir Robert Carden offered you a cheque which he had written for 500*l.*; you said 300*l.* would be enough, and then he gave you a cheque for 300*l.* instead?—Yes.

15,319. And then Mr. Whithorn told you he wanted at least 100*l.*?—Yes.

15,320. When Mr. Whithorn told you that, why did you not tell Sir Robert Carden that you now found, what you had not known before, that Mr. Whithorn had spent 100*l.*, and that you ought to have a cheque for 500*l.* instead of the cheque for 300*l.* which he had given you?—I consulted Mr. Bernard upon it. I thought it would look absurd, first to refuse his cheque for 500*l.* and ask for one for 300*l.*, and then, having done that, to go back to the 500*l.*

15,321. But all this occurred at the same meeting, did it not?—It occurred the same afternoon.

15,322. At the same time?—Yes.

15,323. Should you not have thought, under those circumstances, that the best way was to say to Sir Robert Carden that you found that more money had been expended than you had been aware of, and that, therefore, it would be better to have a cheque for 500*l.*?—No doubt it would have been better.

15,324. Did you not know, when you called upon Mr. Bernard, and he gave you a cheque for 100*l.*, that the 100*l.* which Mr. Whithorn spent, or a part of it, had been spent in bribery?—No; certainly not in bribery. I understood from Mr. Whithorn that it had been spent upon the canvass, in treating, and all that kind of thing.

15,325. You understood that it had been spent in corruption, in fact?—Yes.

15,326. What did you do with the cheque for 300*l.*; did you hand over any portion of that money to Mr. Whithorn?—Not a farthing.

15,327. Was that spent at the time?—No; it went into the account, to pay messengers, and to pay the general expenses. I had paid a lot of money out of my pocket, for we had been canvassing then three weeks.

15,328. That 300*l.* cheque went to pay messengers and your own advances?—Certainly.

15,329. When did you first become apprized of the fact that the second 100*l.* had been advanced by Mr. Bernard to Mr. Whithorn?—I am not quite sure whether I became acquainted with that fact until the settlement of accounts in August.

15,330. When was it that you first became aware that the return which you had made of the expenditure in 1857 was not an accurate return?—At the time. You mean the return which was made to the election auditor?

15,331. Yes. At the time when you sent in that account to the election auditor you knew that it did not contain all the payments or all the expenditure?—Yes.

15,332. I am speaking of 1857?—Yes.

15,333. Did you know at that time that, irrespective of that money of Mr. Bernard's, it was short by nearly 900*l.*?—No.

15,334. When did you first ascertain the real discrepancy?—When I was going into the accounts fully in August, prior to their settlement by Sir Robert Carden.

15,335. May I say, "I then learnt that nearly 900*l.*

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" more had been expended than I had returned " ?—Yes ; I think it was in August.

15,336. I suppose you have the various accounts, have you not ?—I have.

15,337. How much of that sum would you put down for the purpose of bribery ?—Mr. Whithorn said there was a couple of hundred pounds due to him.

15,338. Did Mr. Whithorn tell you in August that 200*l.* was due to him ?—Yes.

15,339. For money spent in bribery ?—He did not tell me that even then, but that it was an expenditure at the election.

15,340. Have you any reason now to doubt that it was so spent ?—I have none.

15,341. Did he tell you whether there was any other sum ?—In addition to the 200*l.* received from Mr. Bernard there was 100*l.* that he had borrowed from Mr. Cooke.

15,342. From Mr. Cooke, the barrister ?—Yes.

15,343. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was he here in 1857 ?—I think he was.

15,344. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That was Mr. Whithorn's statement to you ?—Yes.

15,345. In what way do you make up the balance ? You now account for about 300*l.* ?—I will hand you in the account.

15,346. Just give me the gross items, if you please, first, and we can go into the account in detail afterwards ?—There is 75*l.* to various parties, extending over the whole time.

15,347. For what purpose ?—For canvassing ; to canvassers for services rendered.

15,348. You are now giving me the particulars of those accounts which were not returned to the election auditor ?—Yes, I am. There were various expenses, travelling expenses, and some witnesses, a few I see, and petty disbursements in the committee-room ; they amount to 75*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

15,349. Will you have the kindness to hand in those different accounts as you go through them ?—I have them all together.

15,350. That is a summary, is it not ?—This is a summary.

15,351. Have you not the accounts in detail ?—This is a detailed account.

15,352. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you any voucher for that 75*l.* ?—Oh, yes ; there are vouchers for most of them.

15,353. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now give me the next ?—Then there were messengers.

15,354. How much ?—£45 10*s.* 11*d.*, and for restoring the committee-rooms, and some voters' travelling expenses.

15,355. Does that sum of 45*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* include messengers, the restoration of committee-room, and voters' travelling expenses ?—Exactly. This account comprises also 40*l.* paid to Mr. Whithorn on the day of the election, to pay out-voters their travelling expenses ; there were parties residing at Newport, Cardiff, Bristol, Birmingham, and other places.

15,356. (*Mr. Welford.*) Does the 45*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* comprise that ?—No ; the 45*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* comprises the messengers and the other items I have given you ; and this 40*l.* was handed to Mr. Whithorn to satisfy the travelling expenses of the out-voters. The remainder of the account consists of several publicans' bills sent in to me after the hearing of the petitions in town, and which I had not the slightest notion were outstanding.

15,357. What was the amount of the publicans' bills ?—I was not aware that they were outstanding, except as to one. Shall I give the details of them ?

15,358. Give me the total amount, first of all ?—62*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* Then there is a charge of 27*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for services rendered during the election.

15,359. By whom ?—Services in canvassing and all that kind of thing. These are things that came in after the hearing of the petition.

15,360. Additional services for canvassing ?—Yes ; 27*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

15,361. These came in after the petition ?—Yes. Then, when I settled up with Sir Robert Carden, I left my fee, and those who were associated with me left their fees, to Sir Robert Carden's discretion ; and he told me to debit him with 100 guineas for my services at the election, 50 guineas to Mr. Washbourne, 50 guineas to Mr. Matthews, 30*l.* 10*s.* to Mr. Taynton, and 25 guineas to Mr. Maysey.

15,362. Mr. James Maysey ?—Yes.

15,363. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were those sums paid to the different persons you have mentioned at the request of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

15,364. How much do they come to ?—£264 10*s.*, I think.

15,365. Was Maysey looked on as a professional agent ?—No. He had been very active indeed in the election, as also with the petition, and I gave him 35*l.* for his services upon the two.

15,366. With regard to the election itself he was to have 25 guineas ?—Yes.

15,367. Was it represented by you to Sir Robert Carden that Maysey was entitled to some extra payment ?—Oh yes.

15,368. That was represented by you to Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes. Sir Robert Carden expressed a wish that any one I thought should be paid for their services should be put down in the account.

15,369. And you thought that Maysey was specially entitled to this sum for his services ?—There was Mr. Ward. I thought he should have 25*l.* ; but he would not take it. He said he was entitled to more, or not anything.

15,370. It was more or nothing with him ?—Yes.

15,371. And he got nothing ?—He had nothing.

15,372. Did you consider that Ward also had been very active at that election ?—Very.

15,373. What other sums were there ?—That is the total.

15,374. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you suggest Ward's name to Sir Robert Carden ?—Oh, yes.

15,375. As a person who should be paid ?—Yes.

15,376. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That does not exactly make up the total sum ?—You will see at once that these later items could not have gone into the auditor's account, because they were not sent in at that time.

15,377. You have spoken of the restoration of the committee-room ; what was required to be done to it ?—It was a very old house, and there were windows that were shattered to pieces, and we had to restore the house to the same state in which we found it.

15,378. Which committee-room was it that you had to restore ?—Throughout the house generally.

15,379. Which committee-room ?—The lower one ; the one we were in on the nomination and polling day.

15,380. Where was that ?—In the Westgate-street.

15,381. Opposite the Shire-hall ?—Opposite the Shire-hall.

15,382. We have heard it stated that the windows in that committee-room were purposely obscured, in order that what was going on in the interior might not be seen from the outside ?—It was not so.

15,383. Were blinds put to screen from observation those who were inside ?—There were several shattered windows outside, with the glass falling out, and so on, and little pieces of calico were pasted against those, to prevent the air from getting to the other rooms where the people were sitting.

15,384. You mean that instead of putting in glass pieces of calico were put up to prevent the entrance of the air, is that it ?—Yes ; and that was the room in which Mr. Helps sat during the whole of the day. The calico was put there for the purpose I have stated, and for that purpose only.

15,385. Will you state that the windows were not covered with calico, which was pasted or fastened on to the windows, to the extent of one half their height from the bottom ?—No ; they were pasted all over ; they were small windows, and very shattered.

15,386. Then, as far as you know, whatever was

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done with regard to covering the windows with calico was not done in order to prevent persons looking into the room, and seeing what was going on there?—Certainly not; that was made a great point before the committee.

15,387. You give to that a denial?—A most emphatic denial. Mr. Helps was sitting in the room taking the state of the poll, and no one else was in the room where the windows were blocked up during the whole of the day.

15,388. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did those windows look into the passage leading to Mr. Whithorn's room?—No. Mr. Whithorn had not a room in 1857. Mr. Whithorn was all over the house, and about. I was there very little of the time on the polling day; I should say not half an hour during the whole day. I should say that in the early part of the canvass I asked Mr. Whithorn to take charge of all the petty canvassing expenses, and so on, and on the day of the election the expenses attending the out-voters, for the reason that I was wholly engaged in the canvass with Sir Robert Carden, and on the day of the polling in getting up the voters and seeing that they were polled, and so on.

15,389. Did you ask Mr. Whithorn to become the treasurer?—No; nothing whatever of that kind. I did not ask him to act in that character at all.

15,390. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you understand, when Mr. Whithorn told you he required those monies, that any portion of those sums was to be expended in bribery?—Not one farthing.

15,391. You did not understand that?—Certainly not; on the contrary, that was the first election I had ever conducted, and I was very particular in what I did.

15,392. You did not inquire of Mr. Whithorn why it was that he wanted the money?—He said he had spent money on the canvass.

15,393. That was with regard to the 100*l.*?—Yes.

15,394. Was it not till after the election was over that you became aware that Mr. Whithorn had spent these other sums of money in bribery?—It was not till after the petitions had been heard, and we were going into a settlement of accounts, that I first became aware that direct bribery had been practised.

15,395. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you prepared your brief on the petition, did you know that bribery had been practised?—No, I did not. I knew of irregular practices; that is to say, I knew there had been treating, and so on. I knew that; but I knew of no direct bribery.

15,396. No direct money bribery?—No.

15,397. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you observe at that election that there were a great many persons employed as messengers?—There were not so many messengers employed by two thirds as there were in 1859.

15,398. Do you mean that in 1857 there was only one third the number of messengers employed that were employed in 1859?—I should say scarcely that.

15,399. What committee-rooms had you in 1857? You had one in Bell Lane?—Yes, for a short time; and from thence we removed to Mr. Reynolds's house in the Westgate Street.

15,400. Had you a committee-room at the "Upper George"?—No.

15,401. You had no committee-room there?—No; none whatever. I was never in the "Upper George" during the whole of the contest, to the best of my recollection.

15,402. Where is the "Upper George"?—In the Westgate Street; some little distance from Mr. Reynold's house.

15,403. Does there appear to be any account among the accounts of the publicans for refreshments supplied at the "Upper George"?—No, none whatever.

15,404. No account at all?—I do not remember any.

15,405. Have you heard during this inquiry that voters were taken to the "Upper George," and there paid monies?—I have not heard it during this inquiry; but I heard it asserted before the committee of the House of Commons.

15,406. But you have not heard during this inquiry that voters were taken there?—No. I have not been able to attend here every day, but I know that that has been asserted.

15,407. It has been proved here?—Very likely.

15,408. But you know nothing about that?—I do not.

15,409. And you do not know anything about the person who was appointed to pay money to voters at the "Upper George?"—No, nothing whatever.

15,410. I see that in the return made to the auditor there is an item of 132*l.* 2*s.* for professional agents and assistants?—Yes.

15,411. How many professional gentleman were included in that charge of 132*l.* 2*s.*?—Seven.

15,412. I suppose the vouchers for the payments to them will be found among the receipts you put in?—I think they were filed with the auditor at the time of the account being sent to him. You will find them in the bundle that was handed in to you. Here they are, all of them (*referring to a bundle of papers before produced*).

15,413. That is the total amount?—Yes. These are vouchers for all the professional agents' charges that were included in the auditor's account.

15,414. Were the messengers who were employed in 1857 mostly voters?—No; I should think not more than half of them were voters; probably half of them were.

15,415. Can you supply us with a list of them?—I will do so.

15,416. And state, if you please, as you did with reference to the messengers employed in 1859, whether they were voters, or related to voters?—Yes.

15,417. Will you also furnish us with a list of the clerks who were employed?—They are in the auditor's account.

15,418. All of them?—Every one.

15,419. (*Mr. Welford.*) There were no other clerks?—None whatever.

15,420. They are stated at 65*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes; that would comprise the whole of them.

15,421. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Will you furnish us with a list of the clerks, and say whether they are voters or not voters?—I will do so.

15,422. I do not think you handed in just now the statement of the account which you rendered to Sir Robert Carden? You had before you a paper when you were giving your evidence?—Yes, of which I will hand you a copy.

15,423. I understand you to say that the particulars which made up the gross sums you have given us appeared in the account which you settled with Sir Robert Carden?—No. This which I have here is the full statement of the account.

15,424. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is this the account which you had before you?—Not that particular account; that is the substance of the account that I had before me when I was settling with Sir Robert Carden (*handing a paper to the Commissioners*); and that is the supplementary account, showing the gross total expense of the election (*handing in another paper*).

15,425. This supplementary account you had not with you when you settled with Sir Robert Carden?—No; that I could not have, for all those latter items as to remuneration and so on were decided upon at that interview.

15,426. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you any account of the cheques and the amounts which you received from Sir Robert Carden on account of the election?—Yes.

15,427. Is the statement which Sir Robert Carden has made with regard to them correct?—Yes, I think so.

15,428. Then the whole sum you received from him on account of the election and the petition was 4,115*l.* 13*s.*?—No. He has included in that sum a cheque for 40*l.* 15*s.* which did not at all relate to the

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election or petition; it was a subscription which I paid to the Indian Fund for him of 25*l.*, and subscriptions to the infirmary and dispensary to the amount of 15 guineas. Excluding that cheque of Mr. Bernard's, I received from him 3,874*l.* 18*s.* I did not, in fact, receive it from him, because he sent a cheque at my request to Messrs. Rose and Norton for the balance of their account.

15,429. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I see here an item, "Mr. Cooke's fees, 52*l.* 10*s.*" What Mr. Cooke is that?—Mr. Cooke, the counsel. I consulted Mr. Cooke. Mr. Cooke had brought Sir Robert Carden first to my notice, and as soon as the election commenced, it being my first election, I consulted Mr. Cooke, professionally, as to the conduct of the election.

15,430. And did he come to Gloucester for the purpose of assisting you in it?—No; not at all. I think he was once here, but not with any view to assist me.

15,431. He did not come down here professionally on a retainer?—No; nothing of that kind. I had various conferences with him; and when we settled up (I think it was my estimate) I put his fees at 50 guineas.

15,432. That fee of 50 guineas is irrespective of any fees with reference to the petition?—Yes.

15,433. You advised Sir Robert Carden, we understand, to contribute towards the payment of the expenses of the municipal contests here?—Only on one occasion. I asked him for a subscription, and he sent 50*l.*

15,434. (*Mr. Welford.*) That is not included in this account, is it?—No; it had nothing to do with that account.

15,435. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Upon what occasion was it that you asked him for that subscription?—In 1858.

14,436. What contest was it that you required it for; was it for any particular contest?—No; it was carried to the credit of the municipal elections.

15,437. £50?—£50. It was carried, I think, to the municipal election fund of 1858; it was to assist in the elections of that year.

15,438. It was to assist in securing the return of the conservative councillors?—Yes.

15,439. What was the amount of the fund which was subscribed in 1858 for that purpose?—I do not know at all.

15,440. Had you not the management of it?—No.

15,441. Who had?—I cannot tell you now how that was disposed of. I can by reference to my books.

15,442. You do not know what the amount of that fund is?—No.

15,443. Had you the management or have you a knowledge of that fund which will enable you by reference to any books or accounts to state what the amount was that was subscribed?—No. I can tell you what became of that 50*l.*, but I am not prepared to do so at this moment.

15,444. I understood you to say that the 50*l.* went to a fund?—I do not know what fund. I have no recollection what became of it.

15,445. If you have made an inaccurate statement you may correct it, but you said that the subscription was carried to the credit of the municipal fund?—It was to assist in the municipal elections, and no doubt it was an item, with others, in forming a fund for that purpose.

15,446. Was the management of that fund intrusted to yourself?—No. I do not know who had the fund.

15,447. Can you give us the name of the gentleman who would be likely to give us the most accurate information upon that subject?—I do not know. There is no one that has the management of any particular fund, it is so divided; but I can tell you what became of that 50*l.*, and I will do so if you wish to know to-morrow morning.

15,448. If you can furnish any particulars about it we shall be glad. It appears to have been a subscription, and we shall be glad if you will ascertain, as far as you can, what the nature of the subscription was?—I will do so as far as I can.

15,449. You told Sir Robert Carden that you wished him to subscribe that 50*l.* for that purpose, did you not?—Yes.

15,450. I suppose you considered it would be conducive to his success at a future election?—I do not think so. I disagree in the opinion which has been expressed here that it now forms an element in the success of the candidate. Some short time ago the corporation had various officers under their management; policemen and so on; and it might have influenced, some years ago, their votes to a certain extent; but now that they have not those policemen, and so on, I do not think it does, and in the present state of matters I think it rather detracts than otherwise.

15,451. Did you consider, when in 1858 you applied to Sir Robert Carden for 50*l.* that a subscription of 50*l.* for the purpose of municipal election contests would be conducive to his success at the parliamentary election?—No; I do not think so. It was an appeal made by local parties in Gloucester, and consequently he corresponded to it, by subscribing 50*l.*, but not to ensure or facilitate his election, for I think it has a contrary effect.

15,452. What do you mean by "local parties?"—Parties feeling a local interest in the result of these municipal contests.

15,453. But without reference at all to a parliamentary election?—Without reference at all to a parliamentary contest.

15,454. Is it your opinion that a preponderance of conservatives in the corporation of the city is an immaterial matter with respect to the probability of the return of a candidate to represent the city?—I do.

15,455. There was a sum of 70*l.* odd, referred to by Sir Robert Carden; was that sum devoted to subscriptions to charities?—To charities and other things. There is not one sixpence that has ever come to my hands that I cannot show the clear disposal of.

15,456. I do not think that there is any suggestion, that you cannot account for every farthing you have received. My question was only put with a view to ascertain in what way that money was disposed of?—The Benevolent Society, the Female Benevolent Society, the Lying-in Charity, subscription to the Soup Kitchen, various small sums in shillings and so on, subscription to the national school, subscription to the cricket club, and making up the alphabetical list of voters, canvass book, and so on. That is the class of items making up that 70*l.*

15,457. Is that entirely voluntary on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—Quite so.

15,458. There was no arrangement with him before he became a candidate that he should make those contributions?—No. It has been thus: when parties have applied to me, if I have considered the object has been useful or charitable, I have put his name down for a subscription, and paid it out of my own pocket; and when the account has arrived at a given total I have asked him for a cheque for the amount, which he has sent me.

15,459. Has a payment of that sort been made more than once?—Hundreds of times.

15,460. A much larger sum than 70*l.* has been expended by him in that way?—I gave to the Benevolent Society 50*l.* for him on two occasions, and various other charities. The Dispensary and the Infirmary, and all the charities of the town, Sir Robert Carden has subscribed to through me, since he has been a member, or nearly all of them.

15,461. Is it a usual thing in Gloucester that the member for the city should subscribe to those charities?—It is considered usual that they should.

15,462. And that without any reference to politics?—Without the slightest reference to politics at all.

15,463. What would be the annual amount of such

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subscriptions?—In 1858 he paid, I should think, in respect of his representation, between 300*l.* and 400*l.*

15,464. As member for the city?—Yes.

15,465. He paid between 300*l.* and 400*l.* as subscriptions to charities?—Yes.

15,466. (*Mr. Welford.*) Since he has been a member?—Yes, I should think so. I have not gone into a particular calculation. I am speaking generally.

15,467. You think they would amount to somewhere between 300*l.* and 400*l.*?—I should think so.

15,468. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Before Sir Robert Carden became a candidate for this city had you any communication with Mr. Cooke upon the subject?—It was in consequence of a communication which I had with Mr. Cooke that Sir Robert Carden came down here.

15,469. Prior to that had you been in communication with Mr. Cooke about it?—No; that was the commencement.

15,470. You did not yourself suggest to Mr. Cooke the propriety of seeing Sir Robert Carden upon the subject?—No. It arose in this way: one day Mr. Cooke was visiting me; when we were walking about the garden I was saying that we were in want of a candidate; Mr. Cooke heard this, and it appears that some little time afterwards he saw Mr. Bernard, and Mr. Bernard suggested Sir Robert Carden, and then Mr. Cooke communicated with me, and I went up to London, and saw Sir Robert Carden. I think that was in July 1856.

15,471. Mr. Cooke saw Mr. Bernard?—I should judge so.

15,472. And after that, in consequence of some communication, a deputation went up to London to Sir Robert Carden?—Yes. I should say that neither party became pledged in July 1856; but as there was a chance of a dissolution approaching in 1857, I think in February 1857, or somewhere thereabouts, a larger deputation waited on Sir Robert Carden; a dissolution took place, and down he came.

15,473. Did you tell Mr. Cooke at that time what might be the probable sum that would be required to be expended to secure his return?—No conversation on that subject took place between us.

15,474. As to the expenditure of the 500*l.* that passed through the hands of Mr. Whithorn, I understand you to say you can give no account of it?—I cannot. I never received any account from him, and I am unable to give you any account of it.

15,475. (*Mr. Welford.*) I understand you to say, that when you settled this account with Sir Robert Carden every thing was settled with him, except Baxter, Rose, and Norton's account?—Every farthing.

15,476. These sums do not appear quite to balance?—I think there is a balance due to me; there is a loss upon the account, I think, of 16*l.*

15,477. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was Mr. Cooke repaid the 100*l.* he had advanced to Mr. Whithorn?—Mr. Cooke received 1,000*l.* from Sir Robert Carden, and deducted the 100*l.* he had lent to Mr. Whithorn.

15,478. He received 1,000*l.*?—Yes; on the 16th of August. I met him on the platform one day as he was going to town, soon after the election petitions had been heard, and I wished him to see Sir Robert Carden, and to have a remittance of money.

15,479. Did you mention a sum?—£1,000. Mr. Cooke waited upon him, and received 1,000*l.*, out of which he deducted the 100*l.* he had lent to Mr. Whithorn. I saw it stated in the report of the proceedings here the other day, that Mr. Henley had said he supported Sir Robert Carden in 1857 in consequence of the coercion of his landlord, and of his compulsion to pay his rent. As the agent, I beg to give that the most unqualified contradiction; and to state that Mr. Henley does rent under a client of mine, but that he got into the house in a manner that was anything but creditable to him. I have given him two notices to eject him. I have not been enabled to do so; and ever since he has been in the house I have been compelled, I should say, with the exception of two or three quarters, to levy distresses on his goods for the rent due from him; and the sole reason of his giving his support to Sir Robert Carden in 1857 was, as I believe, a matter of revenge towards the liberals, in consequence of some dispute which he had with them, and not from any desire on my part to have his support, or any pressure or coercion whatever.

15,480. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to say that it is not the fact that any coercion of any sort was exercised towards Mr. Henley at the election in 1857?—Not the slightest.

15,481. Was his landlord in 1857 the same landlord that he has now?—Yes. He is a liberal, and a very strong one; being no less than Mr. Whalley, who is, I may say, a strong reformer. If I could have prevented Mr. Henley going into the house I should never have allowed him to have gone there, and I have given him two notices to quit.

15,482. When the deputation went to London first of all, and saw Sir Robert Carden, was anything said to him by you as to the probable expense of the election?—Not one word; not upon that occasion.

15,483. Was there anything said upon the subject on the second occasion?—Yes. I remember Sir Robert inquiring what would be the probable expense, and Mr. Helps, who had conducted several elections at Gloucester, saying, he did not think that the expenses would be more than 500*l.* or 600*l.*, and I think he was guided in giving that opinion by the fact that the professional men did not intend to charge for their services as against Sir Robert Carden. Mr. Helps did not charge anything for the election, although I was instructed to offer him a fee. He would not charge anything; and it was Sir Robert Carden's own act my receiving 100 guineas, and Mr. Washbourne and the other professional gentlemen receiving theirs. They were quite content not to receive anything.

15,484. And was that statement as to the probable cost of the election assented to by the other gentlemen who were present?—Yes.

15,485. You at that time had had no experience in elections; you had taken no professional part in them?—I had never taken the conduct of any election. I had taken an interest in previous elections, but never of a responsible character.

15,486. You possibly had no means of knowing whether that was a correct estimate or not?—No, I had not, for I had never seen any cash account, or any account connected with an election.

15,487. You considered that Mr. Helps was much more likely than you were to form a proper estimate of the actual expenditure that would be necessary?—Yes.

15,488. Had Mr. Helps himself taken an active part before in elections?—Yes.

15,489. In what elections?—I think in all the preceding elections for several years.

15,490. Had he been an agent for any candidate?—For Mr. Hope.

15,491. And the knowledge which he had obtained at those elections made him more likely to know what the probable expense of an election would be than you, with the small experience which you had had?—Yes; and his opinion was borne out by the returns subsequently made, with a little exception; the legal expenses upon that occasion of Sir Robert Carden's election were not much more than about 700*l.*; that is the auditor's account, and the additional account which I put in this morning.

15,492. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know a gentleman named Hopkinson?—I know several persons of that name.

15,493. Do you know whether he advanced any money for the election?—Not one farthing.

15,494. You never repaid him anything?—No.

15,495. Besides the sums you have mentioned, do you know of any other money having been advanced for the purposes of the election in 1857?—I am sure there were not.

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HENRY KEAR WHITHORN called, and further examined. *H.K. Whithorn.*

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15,496. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In 1857, about 500*l.* came into your hands?—I received 540*l.* altogether.

15,497. From whom did you receive those monies?—I should state to you first of all, that as soon as the canvass commenced Mr. Lovegrove requested me to take the charge of the expenditure of the canvass upon myself, which I did, and which up to the end of the canvass I paid out of my own funds.

15,498. You paid out of your own funds the expense of the canvass?—The total expense of the canvass.

15,499. Up to the time of the election?—Up to the time of the election. On the evening of the nomination I received 100*l.* from Mr. Bernard. At that time I had expended on the canvass 120*l.* (as I have stated) out of my own funds, so that the election was indebted to me 20*l.* On the morning of the election, early, Mr. Lovegrove asked me to pay the out-voters, so as not to have to send them back to me after they had polled, and for that he gave me 40*l.*

15,500. He gave you that 40*l.* for the payment of the out-voters?—Yes; and that is all the money that I received till after the election.

15,501. After the election, what did you receive?—After the election, on the 3d of April, I received 100*l.* from Mr. Bernard. On the 17th of April I was in London; that of course was after the election was over. The election was then indebted to me, and I asked Mr. Cooke to give me 100*l.*, and to call on Sir Robert Carden, and get himself paid.

15,502. And you received 100*l.*?—I did. I should have called myself on Sir Robert Carden, but I was bound for time. I thought Mr. Cooke would do it, and he gave me the 100*l.* On the 19th of August I received 200*l.* from Mr. Lovegrove. That, I think, you will find to be 540*l.*

15,503. When you received, on the 3d of April, 100*l.* from Mr. Bernard, did you tell him for what purpose you wanted that money?—I did not tell him; but I apprehend that Mr. Bernard very well knew for what purpose it was wanted.

15,504. Did Mr. Bernard know, on the evening of the nomination, when he advanced you the first 100*l.*, for what purpose you wanted it?—I do not know. I will not say that he did not; it is possible he may; but the money was given to me as Mr. Lovegrove has stated to you. Sir Robert Carden (as you have heard) first of all gave a cheque to Mr. Lovegrove for 500*l.*, and then it was altered to 300*l.*; and then I suggested to Mr. Lovegrove that I did not see why I should be out of pocket, and that I ought to be reimbursed the money I had expended as well as other people; and then I had 100*l.*

15,505. You yourself are of opinion that Mr. Bernard knew very well for what purpose you wanted those monies?—I do not know that he did as to that first 100*l.* I probably may be wrong in what I said before as to that.

15,506. But with regard to the second 100*l.* you think he did know?—I think he must have known with regard to the second. I am quite certain, when I come to reflect, that he could not have known that the first 100*l.* was wanted for any illegal purpose, because, except what I knew would be required for out-voters, I am free to say I did not think that any money hardly would be required for bribery at that election.

15,507. Then, with regard to the first 100*l.*, you do not think he knew it was wanted for the purpose of bribery?—No, I do not think he did. I think I may have been wrong in saying that he did. I had better state to you, perhaps, what took place during the election, to show why I wanted that money. I have just stated that I did not think we should require any money, scarcely, for the purchase of votes, nor did I till the morning of the election, except for the out-voters. I knew that some payments would be required for them. I knew that the Coopey family, for instance, would require to be paid.

15,508. You knew that some payments for out-voters would be required to be made?—Yes; I felt satisfied they would not come without.

15,509. You knew, before the election, that money would be required for out-voters, but you did not think that money would be required for any other purpose?—Not to any extent. I thought it would be exceedingly moderate, at any rate; and as a proof of that I was not provided with any funds; I had no money at all in hand to dispose of in that way.

15,510. On the morning of the election a change took place in your opinion?—It did. I found that it was somewhat necessary. I was then informed by the various canvassers that there were some parties who required payments, and in order to furnish myself with funds I borrowed 100*l.* of Mr. John Michael Butt.

15,511. Was that on the morning of the election?—The day of the election; and I borrowed 40*l.* from Mr. John Biddle Hanman.

15,512. Was the Mr. Butt you mention the ironmonger?—Yes; and 50*l.* from Mr. Lee Viner.

15,513. You armed yourself with those funds for the purpose of bribing voters?—Certainly.

15,514. Did you give those gentlemen, Mr. Butt, Mr. Hanman, and Mr. Lee Viner to understand the purpose for which you wanted the money?—No; I asked them to lend me the money, and they lent it to me without asking me any question whatever.

15,515. Now as to the expenditure?—I gave on the day of the election to Mr. Maysey 60*l.*

15,516. (*Mr. Welford.*) James Maysey?—Yes. I gave to Mr. John Ward 35*l.*; to Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck, 20*l.*; to Mr. Parker, 15*l.*; to Mr. Charles William Castree, I think, 20*l.* (I could not be certain of the amount, but it was somewhere about 20*l.*); and I gave to Mr. John Biddle Hanman, in the course of the day, 23*l.* That was all the money I parted with to anybody on that day, except 40*l.*, and 10*l.* which I paid, to Mr. Maysey a day or two after the election. I paid, as well as I can calculate (I could not tell to a few pounds, for on the day of the election everything was in great confusion, and there was no time to think of anything that was paid), about 20*l.* to out-voters out of the 40*l.* that Mr. Lovegrove gave me; that was on the day of the election; there was one voter alone I gave almost 5*l.* to. I cannot give you the precise figures, but I am quite certain that I gave that amount.

15,517. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) About 20*l.* you paid yourself?—Yes; I paid myself to out-voters for travelling expenses. I have not gone into shillings. After the election I paid different parties, of which I will give you the names and particulars, 128*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*

15,518. Did you make any other payments?—Yes. Upon the canvass I expended, as I told you, out of my own funds, 120*l.*; of that, as I have stated, I kept no account at all. I cannot render you an account of it. I paid several sums which, I dare say, the parties here will come and explain to you. I paid to almost all the men on the canvass various sums, such as Mr. Maysey, Mr. Ward, Mr. Clutterbuck, and almost all in the same way as in the list I handed in to you before; but of this I kept no account.

15,519. You paid 120*l.* out of your own funds, of which you kept no account?—No.

15,520. What did you do with the remainder?—Here is a long list of small payments (*producing a paper*).

15,521. You have not accounted for the whole 540*l.* which you received?—No. I will give you this first, if you please, and go to that afterwards.

15,522. Are you now accounting for the sum which you have given us, of 128*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*?—Yes. A man, I think, of the name of George Drinkwater (the senior Drinkwater), and a man named Dawes, and

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T. K. Whithorn.

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another man, came to me on the night of the election, and said they were entitled for their services (I could not tell what) to 3*l.*, and I gave it them.

15,523. What Dawes was it?—I do not know his Christian name.

15,524. Were those men voters?—I think Drinkwater and Dawes were.

15,525. You gave to those three parties, 3*l.*?—Yes. That 3*l.* I think was paid late in the evening of the election, but now I am beginning two or three days after the election. Charles Oakey had 3*l.*, to which he thought he was entitled to as a committee-man.

15,526. This money which you gave to Drinkwater and Dawes I suppose you considered you gave them for their votes?—They did no service for it.

15,527. (*Mr. Welford.*) If they had not been voters they would not have had the money?—I dare say they would not.

15,528. It was for their votes?—There is no doubt about it.

15,529. And the same with regard to Oakey?—It could not be considered otherwise, I think.

15,530. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was the next?—Thomas Evans, 1*l.* 10*s.* I did not consider that exactly as for his vote, for he had rendered me a good deal of assistance upon the canvass, and I think he had earned his money.

15,531. You think he had fairly earned it?—I do, indeed. I paid Mr. Charles Castree at different times, for expenses on his canvass, 7*l.* 10*s.*

15,532. Is that Mr. Charles W. Castree?—Yes. Charles Grimmett, 3*l.*; that certainly was not for his vote, because he had been employed by me from the beginning to the end. He had earned his money, having been employed by me from the beginning to the end of the canvass.

15,533. Would you say that was for his services in canvassing?—Yes, it was.

15,534. Was he a voter?—He was.

15,535. And was Thomas Evans a voter?—He was; he is now off the register; he was a voter at that time.

15,536. In 1857?—Yes. T. C. Williams. That, I believe, was for his travelling expenses from Bristol; he came from Bristol to vote. I gave him 1*l.*

15,537. That you considered fair?—I did consider that so.

15,538. Now, the next?—Thomas Knight, Oxford-street, one guinea.

15,539. Was that for his vote?—I do not think he did any service of any kind that I know of.

15,540. Now, who is the next?—Charles Tomes, 3*l.*

15,541. Was that for his vote for Carden?—Yes.

15,542. Who was the next?—John Lake, one sovereign.

15,543. Also for his vote?—He did nothing that I am aware of for it.

15,544. It was for his vote?—Yes.

15,545. The next?—All these men had voted, I should tell you.

15,546. You paid them a day or two after they had voted?—Some of them many days after; but I could not tell you the date. William James Brazell. I do not think he was a voter.

15,547. How much did you give to him?—£1 5*s.*

15,548. What was that for?—I can hardly tell you, without reference. I will explain that to you some other day. John Harris and six others for night watching on the day of the election, 10*s.* each; they were none of them voters, I think. George Harris, junior, for one day's employment on the day of polling (he was not a voter), 6*s.* Townsend,—what Townsend it is I cannot tell you,—but I paid a sovereign to two men; whether they were voters or not I cannot say. John Mann, 2*l.*

15,549. Was that for his vote for Carden?—He voted for Carden.

15,550. And you paid him for it?—He came to me to claim it as a committee-man, if you think that bribery; they call themselves committee-men or messengers, as you please. Samuel Crewes came to me, and stated that he was employed by some one of our party, I forget who, not as a constable, but he said he had been employed on the day of the nomination and election, either to go and hold up his hands at the hustings, or to protect voters. He came to me and told me that he had been put on to something, and that he was entitled to two days' pay. I had a good deal of difficulty with him, and at last gave him 7*s.*, at the rate of 3*s.* 6*d.* a day. I found out afterwards that he was a constable, and that he had imposed upon me; that was clear enough.

15,551. You mean to say that was a fraud practised upon you?—Perfectly so. When he claimed the 7*s.* of me, which I paid him, he imposed upon me.

15,552. You did not give him that money for his vote?—No; he had no vote. He said he had been to Mr. Lovegrove, and that Mr. Lovegrove had told him not to pester him, and he came to me, and I gave him 7*s.* to get rid of the fellow.

15,553. Who was the next?—Thomas Cotterill, 1*l.* 10*s.* He claimed as a committee-man. Then I gave William Parker some money for expenses; they must have been some expenses which he had paid out of his pocket; he was one of the canvassers; I forget what the expenses were. To Benjamin Veale I gave 1*l.*; he was a committee-man. The next is John Husbands; I gave him 3*l.* to go away for the day.

15,554. To absent himself from Gloucester?—Yes; and he did so.

15,555. You gave him that money in order that he might absent himself from Gloucester, so that he might not vote for the other party?—Yes. George Grimmett, 10*s.* I asked him to go to some house, and spend some money to get information with regard to voters.

15,556. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was he a voter?—Yes; but it was at my request that he went there. John Harris, 10*s.*

15,557. Is that the same John Harris you mentioned before?—Yes. I think he was employed an extra day or two, for which I had not paid him before. He was no voter; and, I think, he drew at the same time from me, for a person named Bick, 10*s.* for services; he was no voter. To Jonah Dyer I gave 3*l.* I forget what that was for, but I think he told me it was money he paid.

15,558. Was that Jonah Dyer of "The Three Cocks"?—Yes 3*l.*; he told me he had paid it to some voter. I did not take his name.

15,559. That was paid by him to a voter?—Yes. Charles Baldwin, 1*l.*; that was as a committee-man. James Williams, 3*l.*

15,560. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that for his vote?—It was the same class. He was a committee-man. William Lee, a beerhouse keeper, for expenses at his house, 1*l.* 10*s.* I think that was correct; I think I told him that he might expend to the amount of 30*s.* in his house for drink; and Samuel Lee the same amount.

15,561. Are they both beerhouse keepers?—Yes.

15,562. £1 10*s.* each?—Yes; it was under my orders that they did it.

15,563. Were they both voters?—I believe they were.

15,564. That order which you gave to the Lees I suppose you gave in order that their votes might be influenced?—I do not know exactly that. I believe it was done on both sides of the question. They asked me whether if anybody came there they might give them some beer, and I told them I had no objection to their spending to the extent of 30*s.*

15,565. Did you not consider that your allowing them to supply beer to that amount was a mode of securing their votes for Sir Robert Carden?—I dare say it was no drawback to it.

15,566. Was it not done by you for the purpose of obtaining their votes?—They were very uncertain men, and I thought it would be as well to give them that order.

15,567. You gave it to them, did you not, as an

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inducement to them to vote for Sir Robert Carden? —You may put it in that way if you please.

15,568. When you told them they might supply beer to the extent of 1*l.* 10*s.*, did you not tell them that in order to induce them to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No doubt it was an inducement to them; there is no doubt about that.

15,569. Now the next?—William Brown, 1*l.* He was another committee-man. George Bower of the Harrow Inn I paid 10*l.* to, which I must explain to you, if you please. He had an old account some elections back of Mr. Hope's. I believe there was something like 30*l.* unpaid. He had made many complaints of parties who had incurred the debt, for not having paid him; and it had been suggested to me by one or two other parties that we ought to do something not to let the man lose his money.

15,570. (*Mr. Welford.*) And possibly that you might not lose his vote?—He had voted. He made no claim whatever on me for it, nor did I say anything to him about it. However, it had been suggested that the man ought not to lose his money, and I did give him 10*l.* That was a long while after the election.

15,571. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had it been suggested to you before the election that that man ought not to lose the money?—Two or three elections ago it had been talked about.

15,572. Before the election of 1857 had it been suggested that Bower ought not to lose that money? —I think it had, some long while before; it was a long while before the election.

15,573. Had it been talked of a fortnight or three weeks before the election?—No.

15,574. Had there been no such suggestion made to you a fortnight or three weeks before the election?—Certainly not. I do not think that anything was named to me about his vote until after the election, a long while; not about this payment; but I know he had made frequent claims, that he ought not to lose his money.

15,575. Those frequent claims having reached your ears, did you cause it to be represented to him that if he would vote for Sir Robert he should be paid 10*l.*?—Certainly not. I never gave him the slightest intimation of that kind. It was my own act; I took it upon myself; I never consulted anybody about it.

15,576. You paid him the 10*l.* then out of Sir Robert Carden's money because you thought it was wrong that he had not been paid by Mr. Hope's friends?—No one controlled me with regard to the fund in my hand. I did not consult anybody about it; it was entirely my own act.

15,577. So far as you are concerned, I suppose I may take it that you would not have paid him that 10*l.* if he had not voted for Sir Robert Carden? —I will not go so far as that. I am willing to admit that I paid it out of Sir Robert Carden's funds.

15,578. Would you have paid him that 10*l.* if he had not voted for Sir Robert Carden?—If he had voted against him I certainly should not.

15,579. If he had remained neuter should you?—Possibly I might not. I have explained to you exactly how the circumstance arose. He never said a word to me about it. He had voted, and he did not know that I was going to give him the 10*l.*

15,580. That is George Bower of the "Harrow," is it not?—Yes.

15,581. He kept a public house in 1857, did he?—Yes.

15,582. Does he do so now?—Yes.

15,583. Where is it?—I think it is in the Northgate Street.

15,584. Now the next?—The next is a person named Westbury in the Westgate Street.

15,585. That is an eating-house, is it not?—Yes. That was 8*l.* paid under precisely similar circumstances.

15,586. It was an old account?—Precisely the same thing.

15,587. An old unpaid account of Mr. Hope's, was it?—It was.

15,588. Was nothing said to Westbury about the payment of this 8*l.* if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Not a word.

15,589. Was no suggestion made that he should be paid his money if he voted for Sir Robert Carden? —No. It is exactly the same as the other man, precisely.

15,590. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was he canvassed before the election by yourself?—I think not. I think from what I saw of the canvass-book that he promised very early.

15,591. He voted for Sir Robert Carden?—I think so.

15,592. And you would not have paid him that money if he had not done so?—Probably I should not. He has never voted any other way in his life.

15,593. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you see Mr. Westbury himself?—I am not certain whether it was Mr. or Mrs. Westbury that I saw.

15,594. Did he express great surprise when the money was paid him?—I do not think he quite expected to receive it. I have no doubt he was very glad to receive it.

15,595. Who was the next?—Mr. Robert Haviland, 5*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*; that was for expenses upon the canvass.

15,596. Did you ascertain what those expenses of the canvass were?—I am not quite certain. I tried yesterday to find out. He did give me at the time an account of it; it was money principally paid out of his pocket, I think; but he can explain it, I have no doubt.

15,597. Do you know whether it was spent in bribery or treating?—I do not think it was spent in bribery. I think not. It was some money that he had expended himself.

15,598. Now the next?—Francis Stamper. I gave him 10*l.* for money which he said he had paid out of his pocket. I think I can give you some account of what he said it was for. I think it was principally for public-house accounts which he had run up in some way or other.

15,599. He told you they were expenses out of pocket?—Yes. 10*l.* I gave him. He did give me a statement of it at the time. I dare say he can furnish you with the particulars. I gave to Mr. Hanman, who brought me an account of two voters, 6*l.* 10*s.*

15,600. Which Hanman?—Hanmam, senior.

15,601. John Hanman?—They are both John Hanmans.

15,602. Was that for two of his tenants?—I think they were. I paid to Henry Rea a demand which he had for loss of time and expenses incurred on the petition; that had nothing to do with the election. I paid him 4*l.*

15,603. How was it due on the petition?—He had been getting up evidence upon it. I paid to Francis Ewer, another beer-house keeper, 3*l.*

15,604. What beerhouse does he keep?—I think it is the "Quart Pot."

15,605. That was paid to him as an inducement for his vote, I suppose?—He had voted before. I did not pay it for months afterwards.

15,606. But was he to supply 3*l.* worth of beer to people in his house?—I am not certain that I gave him authority to do so. He brought in the account, and I paid it him.

15,607. But you would not have paid him that account, I suppose, if he had not voted for Sir Robert Carden?—No, probably I should not; but no conversation took place between us as to his vote.

15,608. Did you not pay him in consequence of a previous arrangement that he should distribute beer to that amount?—No; I do not think I had made any arrangement with him of that kind. I do not recollect having said anything at all about it.

15,609. However, it was paid to him in respect of his vote?—I suppose you may say the same with regard to all the innkeepers or publicans. I cannot

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say that I gave it to him for the purpose of obtaining his vote. Then Richard Goddard, I paid him his expenses; he is a boat-owner. He charged me 4*l.* altogether, which I thought very outrageous, but I paid him. I dare say 30*s.* would have fully recompensed him.

15,610. Where did he come from?—He came from Staffordshire. All these boat-owners swell their expenses because they tell me they are obliged to employ somebody else to take care of their boats while they are away, and that they have to pay them for it.

15,611. Have you any doubt that this money was paid for his vote?—I do not believe that 4*l.* was due to him for his expenses.

15,612. You gave it to him for his expenses and his vote?—I should say so. Then there was a small account brought me by Mr. Maysey, paid to a person named Trueman, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; I think that was on the canvass. Clayton, 1*l.* 1*s.* There was a small amount of Mr. Tew's, 15*s.*; and another of Smart's, of 15*s.* more. A person named Tanner, 2*l.* 1*s.* Samuel Niblett, of the "Upper George," 2*l.* 10*s.* Isaac Randall, of the "Welsh Harp," a beer-house keeper, 5*l.*; and James Rudge, another beer-house keeper, 7*l.* Those different sums make a total of 128*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, the sum I before gave you.

15,613. And that is the amount of the money which you paid a few days after the election?—Some of it went on for a month or two months; some went on as long as the petition, or after; all the latter part of it.

15,614. You paid on the canvass, yourself, out of your own funds, 120*l.*?—I did.

15,615. Of which you kept no account?—I did not.

15,616. Can you give us any idea of the mode in which that money was expended?—It was spent in a manner very similar to that which I have just described in the list I have given you. All the expenses of the canvass fell on me; no one else paid anything. I gave some of it to Maysey and others to expend, and they will account to you for it. I could not tell what they did with it.

15,617. That sum was expended much in the same way as the other amount which you have just now mentioned?—Precisely in a similar way.

15,618. With regard to those different sums of money, amounting to 173*l.*, paid to Maysey, Ward, Clutterbuck, Castree, Parker, and others, were those sums paid to them in order that they might be expended in the purchase of votes?—Yes.

15,619. Did they tell you at the time you paid them the money the names of the persons for the purchase of whose votes the money was required?—No.

15,620. It was simply put to you, generally, that they required money for the purpose of purchasing votes?—They came to me for a supply of money for the purpose, and I gave it them. I was merely the treasurer.

15,621. You have not told us to whom you paid the 20*l.* among the out-voters?—I could not recollect the names of them, but I know that that amount went, and I think more. I could not give you their names, at this distance of time; I do not think I could give the names of half of them.

15,622. Was that 20*l.* paid to them in respect of their votes?—It was paid to them for their travelling expenses; many of them had come from a distance. One man came out of Northamptonshire.

15,623. Do you consider that that 20*l.* was rightfully expended in the payment of travelling expenses?—I do indeed. Many gentlemen in this court I gave 10*s.* to that I thought I gave a sovereign to. Mr. Matthews tells me it was only 10*s.*

15,624. Do these different sums you have mentioned make up the whole sum of 540*l.*?—No; there is a balance of 49*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* remaining; that, no doubt, was disposed of in the committee-room.

15,625. It was disposed of in some way which you cannot explain?—I cannot. I daresay if I had sat down a few days afterwards I might have been able to do so, but after this lapse of time it is utterly impossible.

15,626. It might have been expended legally or illegally, I suppose?—Illegally, I should think. There is a man named Wadley, who says I gave him two sovereigns; it is quite possible that I did. I do no remember it. I am sure I would not say whether I did or not.

15,627. Are you satisfied that that 540*l.* was the total amount of money received by you, either during the election or after the election?—Every farthing of it. Out of this 500*l.* I repaid Mr. Hanman and the other parties of whom I had borrowed money.

15,628. Do you know yourself of any other person having received money from any other gentleman?—I think I should have known of it if it had been so. I should think that that was every farthing that was expended.

15,629. You were, I believe, in the committee-room on the day of the election?—I was.

15,630. All day long nearly?—Yes.

15,631. Were there persons brought to you at the committee-room to receive money for their votes?—A great money. Maysey and those men brought them, and I gave them the money.

15,632. Did voters come to you who were not brought, but who came of their own accord?—No; very few.

15,633. There were some?—No doubt about it, and I have no doubt that I paid some of them out of this 49*l.*; no doubt about it.

15,634. There were some voters who came to you?—I do not think there were many.

15,635. Besides those who were brought?—Yes.

15,636. Can you tell me the names of the persons who so came?—I could not tell you one. If they were suggested to me now I do not know whether I could tell you or not.

15,637. Could you give any account of the numbers?—I could not indeed.

15,638. Have you any memoranda to which you can refer, a reference to which would enable you to speak to the number?—No. I went over the register yesterday, very carefully, and could not even then bring to my mind who the parties were.

15,639. That was in the committee-room in the Westgate Street, was it not?—Yes.

15,640. Whose house was it?—Reynolds, I think, is the name.

15,641. Besides that, there was a committee-room at the "Upper George," was there not?—No, not that I am aware of. There was no committee-room at the "Upper George."

15,642. There is an item for the "Upper George," 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

15,643. Do you know what that is charged for?—I really do not know. I think that would be principally on the day of the polling.

15,644. Do you know that voters were taken to the "Upper George?"—Yes, there is no doubt about that.

15,645. Did you know that at the time?—Yes; I cannot say I did not know it. I am sure I do not know who they were.

15,646. I suppose that was arranged between yourself and the parties who took the voters there?—I made no arrangement whatever about them.

15,647. You left it to different persons to exercise their own discretion?—Yes, entirely.

15,648. I think you say it was not until the morning of the election that you thought it would be necessary to resort to bribery?—Yes. I thought there would be no necessity for it. The canvassers told me it would. I knew as to the out-voters.

15,649. But with regard to the in-voters you did not know that it would be necessary to spend money in the purchase of votes?—I did not, and as a proof of it I had not provided myself with any funds, and was obliged to borrow money for the purpose.

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15,650. Have you stated to us all that is within your knowledge with respect to the election of 1857?—Yes. I know nothing more with regard to the funds or anything else than I have stated. With regard to the funds, I am quite certain I have told you all, and I feel equally sure there was no money paid by anybody on that occasion but what passed through my hands. I feel satisfied of that.

15,651. Why did you determine to resort to bribery, seeing that your candidate had come down professing principles of purity?—In answer to that question I would say that the voters came (at least it was so reported to me), and from what they said it was felt that if we did not pay them something we should lose their votes; I felt strongly upon it, and I did not altogether consider Sir Robert Carden in that respect. I looked more to my party. I thought that if we could return our man by that means we would not lose him. That was my own feeling.

15,652. You did not regard the means by which Sir Robert Carden might be returned so long as by some means you could ensure his return?—I thought we were fairly entitled to one share in the representation of the city. I felt quite satisfied that the same thing was being done on the other side of the question. It was told to me where money had passed.

15,653. Are you still of the same opinion that there was money expended on the other side?—I have no doubt that there was some. I do not know to what extent. I do not think there was much. The Drinkwaters said they had been paid. How far they are to be relied on I do not know. There were several witnesses before the committee of the House of Commons who stated the same thing.

15,654. Did Dawes state so?—No; Dawes did not; and there was that man Miles, who gave evidence before the committee of the House of Commons, I have no doubt he had money.

15,655. Was he examined before the committee of the House of Commons?—Yes.

15,656. Any one else?—The canvassers can tell you more upon that subject than I can a good deal.

15,657. Who do you speak of as the canvassers; James Maysey, John Ward, and Obadiah Clutterbuck?—I think they would be very likely to give you information upon the subject.

15,658. Charles William Castree?—I do not think he could.

15,659. John Biddell Hanman?—Nor he.

15,660. Was a person named Bower a canvasser?—There are a great many of that name.

15,661. George; the man you mentioned?—No; he was no canvasser.

15,662. What other canvassers were there besides those you have mentioned?—None; I think I have given you a list of them.

15,663. Competition does not appear to have run very high in 1857?—It did not, and I was astonished that it should have gone to the extent it did on the last occasion.

15,664. Would you infer from the circumstance that the sums which were paid for votes in 1857 were small sums that there was not much bribery practised on the other side?—I cannot tell you. They possibly may have expended as much as we did, though perhaps they will not divulge their secrets as we have done.

15,665. But can you afford us any information which will assist us in extracting it?—I cannot. You are more likely to get it from the canvassers; they are the parties who can tell you who were likely to have had offers made to them. My information is derived more from others than from any actual knowledge of my own.

15,666. Is it the fact that as regards the election of 1857 you are not enabled to inform the Commissioners of more than three cases of bribery which you have reason to believe was practised at that election by parties on the other side?—I could not undertake to do so. There was evidence before the House of Commons, which of course you know of. I do not think that on that occasion there was anything like the number of persons out canvassing and offering money that there was on the last occasion, because on the last occasion you could hardly go into the street without finding some person who had not the means of offering or of giving money. Two or three voters came to me one morning who had promised us long before the election, and who said they should be willing to vote for us, but that they had been offered 12*l.* I did not believe it at first; I thought it was a mere tale to get money; but I did hear that money was being spent in that way, and large sums were offered, I have no doubt.

15,667. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay any money to Henry Castle, a saddler?—I explained to you the other day that he asked me for a loan, and he gave me his receipt for it.

15,668. Did you not consider that the money was given to him for his vote?—I cannot exactly say so; but as I paid it out of Sir Robert Carden's money you may construe it so. He told me he would repay me, and I daresay he would if I were to ask him for it.

15,669. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the amount of what you call your loan to Castle?—£10. It was previous to the election. That is his receipt (*producing a paper*).

15,670. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that receipt given to you when you lent him the money?—At the same moment. A good many questions have been asked with regard to what the constituency is here. I know the other side fancy we are in a large minority. I do not agree to that at all.

15,671. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) All that Mr. Cooke did in the matter of the advance of the money is that he advanced you 100*l.*?—I will tell you precisely how it was with regard to Mr. Cooke. I was in town, and had not time to stay there; I was wanted at home. I saw Mr. Cooke in the morning, and told him I wanted 100*l.* on account of the election, and if he would let me have 100*l.*, and would go to Sir Robert Carden, he would repay him; and he let me have it.

15,672. That was long after the election?—Long after. It was merely an act of kindness on the part of Mr. Cooke to assist me.

15,673. Did you inform him for what purpose you wanted the money?—No; it was nothing more than a friendly act on his part. It saved me the trouble of staying in town a day.

15,674. Did you canvass a man named Dowers?—Never; I did not canvass him. He stated that I did.

15,675. He was a witness before the committee?—He was; and every word he stated with regard to me was untrue.

15,676. Do you know a man named John Cherrington?—I cannot say I do.

15,677. Did you see him at the committee-room on the polling day in 1857?—I do not recollect seeing him.

15,678. And you do not recollect giving him any money?—I do not.

15,679. (*Mr. Welford.*) But he might have been one of those persons to whom you gave money, might he not?—He might have been. I do not know that I should know John Cherrington if I were to see him.

15,680. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are positive you did not give Dowers any money?—Certainly I did not; and he has made a statement that I did not.

15,681. Do you say he has made a statement that you did not?—Yes; and Mr. Lovegrove has it. He has made the same statement to others also. I am sorry to say he is a very great rogue.

15,682. Now as to Clark; are you aware of that case?—Yes.

15,683. When did you go to the committee-room on the morning of the polling day?—As early as it opened; rather before eight o'clock.

15,684. Did you remain there the whole day?—I was there, except on two occasions, all the day; and

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I have no doubt in the world that if this malicious and vindictive charge had been made against me at the time I could have brought 50 witnesses to prove that I was in the room at the time when they charge me with having been in Three Cocks Lane.

15,685. You say that you went out on two occasions; where did you go?—I went to poll; and being exceedingly thirsty I went into the Booth Hall, and had a glass of soda-water and brandy, and then returned to the committee-room immediately.

15,686. (*Mr. Welford.*) With respect to the loan which you made to Castle, did you give him that money as the price of his vote?—No. I ought not to have put his name in the list of persons who had been bribed.

15,687. Have you ever demanded payment of that 10*l.*?—No; but I have no doubt he would pay me if I were to ask him for it; he is a very respectable man.

15,688. Did you, when you gave him the money, give it to him as an inducement to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I do not know that I can say I did. I did not. His wife strongly urged me to advance him the money, and I did so. I do not know that I ought to have charged it to the election fund.

15,689. When you made him the advance, did you ever intend to ask him to repay it?—I cannot say that I did. Having charged it to the fund, I cannot say that I did, if I speak honestly.

15,690. Did you consider the account squared between you and him, he having given his vote?—The 10*l.* is not entered into my own accounts; I have not entered it in my own cash book.

15,691. You considered, did you not, he having voted, and you having got the 10*l.* back out of the election fund, that there was an end of the matter?—I think he ought to have returned the 10*l.* to me if he intended to repay it; but he is a very respectable man, and I should not like to have it said of him that he was bribed.

15,692. This was before the election?—A week before the election.

15,693. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the sum of 100*l.* which you obtained from Mr. Cooke, was there any reason why you should not have applied to Sir Robert Carden for it instead of to him?—None whatever; except that it saved my being detained in town a day.

15,694. Could you not have written to Sir Robert Carden for it?—Decidedly, if I had chosen; and no doubt he would have sent it to me by return of post.

15,695. You could have written to Sir Robert Carden from Gloucester for it?—No doubt, if I had written to him for it, he would have sent it to me without asking why or wherefore.

15,696. There would have been no difficulty in writing to him for it, would there?—I do not think I should have written to him under the circumstances.

16,697. Why not?—Because I had used it for illegal purposes.

15,698. Did you not tell Mr. Cooke that you wanted it for that purpose?—I am quite positive that Mr. Cooke knew no more than you what the money was for, nor did he ask me.

15,699. All he knew was that it had reference in some way to the election?—The reason why I asked Mr. Cooke was, that he was the cause of our being introduced to Sir Robert Carden, and always felt a strong interest (as every one who knows Mr. Cooke is aware) in the conservative cause, and being a friend I asked him to lend me the 100*l.* to save me trouble, and Mr. Cooke knew no more than you do of the purpose for which it was to be used.

15,700. Do you mean to say he did not know that that 100*l.* was required by you for the purpose of the election?—He knew it was required for election purposes, but he did not know whether I had laid out the monies legally or illegally.

15,701. Did you say you wanted it for the election expenses?—I did, undoubtedly.

15,702. When was that?—A long while after the election.

15,703. Did he not say anything to you about your applying to Sir Robert Carden for it?—No; not a word; it was more a matter of accommodation to me than anything else.

15,704. Did you say anything to him about his obtaining the money from Sir Robert Carden afterwards?—He drew 1,000*l.* of Sir Robert Carden, and repaid himself the 100*l.* out of it.

15,705. So we understand from Mr. Lovegrove; but my question to you is this, Did you tell him to obtain that money from Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

15,706. You asked him to apply to him for it?—Yes, and he did apply.

15,707. Can you tell us the date?—I think it was the 17th of April.

15,708. Is this what you say, "I applied to Mr. Cooke for 100*l.* for the past expenses of the election, on the 17th of April?"—Yes; that was the day I had it, and I think that was the day on which I applied to him for it, or the evening before.

15,709. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) Then it was in April that Mr. Cooke gave you the 100*l*?—Yes.

15,710. And you did not know that he got it from Sir Robert Carden immediately?—No.

15,711. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the moment it was a loan from Mr. Cooke to you?—It was so; a loan from Mr. Cooke to me; nothing more.

15,712. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you left the committee-room, which you say you did on two occasions, for a short time, did you go near Three Cocks Lane?—I did not.

15,713. Is that place at a considerable distance from the committee-room?—I should have to pass across the street.

15,714. Where is Three Cocks Lane?—Nearly opposite the Booth Hall; it is a little lower down, I think, than the Booth Hall. I can most solemnly swear that I never was at that door or at the Three Cocks that day; I swear that most solemnly.

15,715. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You adhere to that statement?—I most solemnly declare that I was not there.

15,716. It is not a matter which we can inquire into at all?—I would rather that you did. I most solemnly swear that I was not there.

15,717. It is not within our province to inquire further into it. It is sufficient that you adhere to the statement which you made before the committee of the House of Commons?—I do, most positively. I swear most solemnly that I never was there on that day.

15,718. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were some time canvassing, were you not, before the election?—I was in the committee-room nearly the whole time.

15,719. Did any reports from the canvassers come to you as to any bribery on the other side?—Yes, every day almost.

15,720. From the canvassers, who will be called as witnesses here presently?—Yes.

15,721. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you say that in 1857 such reports reached you every day from the canvassers?—Yes.

15,722. What reports reached you?—That there were considerable offers of money, and to large amounts.

15,723. That offers of large amounts were being made by the other side?—Yes; and for a long while my answer was that I did not believe it a bit.

15,724. Are you referring to the election of 1857?—No; quite the reverse.

15,725. The question related to the election in 1857?—I beg your pardon, I misunderstood the question. I was alluding to 1859, not to 1857.

15,726. Were there no such reports then?—No. There were reports of money being offered, but not of large amounts.

15,727. But you did hear that money was being

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offered in 1857?—Yes; but not freely. I do not think there was anything like an extensive offer of money. I do not think there was. There has been a good deal said with regard to purity of elections. I think there have been very few elections in this city without money having passed. I think there have been one or two that might be considered pretty well pure. The liberal party say, that the conservatives are in a large minority; in that I entirely differ from them. I think that the strength of parties was never better tested than it was in the last election of Mr. Hope's, when he was bound down by a pledge (and I know he acted up to it) that he would contest it upon perfectly pure principles. I am certain, that if upon that occasion Mr. Hope had laid out 30*l.* in bribery he would have been returned. He did not lay out a single shilling. There was not a single farthing more expended than was really legal; and my notion is, that the expense of his election did not amount to more than 500*l.* Upon that occasion Mr. Hope was only defeated by about 26 or 27. When a gentleman goes to the poll, and occupies that position on the poll, without laying out a shilling in any but legal expenses, I do not think it can be said the conservative party are in a large minority. *H. K. Whitborn.* 12 Oct. 1859.

15,728. In what year was that election?—In 1852, I think. I do not think there was as much as 5*s.* expended on the part of Mr. Hope illegally. I know there was a large batch of voters offered to Mr. Hope's friends on that occasion at two o'clock in the day, and I believe 10*s.* a piece would have secured the lot.

WILLIAM GRAY ALLEN sworn and examined. *W. G. Allen.*

15,729. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were in the habit of going to the committee-room of Sir Robert Carden, were you not, in 1859?—Yes.

15,730. Do you remember Mr. Curtis being there?—Yes.

15,731. Do you remember a conversation about the voters not coming up to their promises?—Yes.

15,732. Was that the evening of the nomination?—I believe it was.

15,733. Do you remember when?—It was not at the committee-room that I spoke to Curtis on the evening of the nomination.

15,734. When was it you were at the committee-room, and heard that the voters did not come up to their promises?—I believe it was on the day of the polling; before the polling began.

15,735. It was not in the earlier part of the proceedings, was it?—Not at the committee-room. I believe I saw him at the "Fleece" on the night before, and he told me of it.

15,736. I am speaking of the committee-room; do you remember anything being said about the necessity of having money?—No; not that I remember; not at that time.

15,737. Do you remember your saying anything about the necessity of having money?—I do not.

15,738. Do you remember any person saying to you that Sir Robert Carden would not "shell out"?—I do not remember that.

15,739. You do not remember that expression being made use of?—No; I do not remember the expression; it might have been said, but I do not remember it.

15,740–1. And you have no recollection of having said, when you were in the committee-room, that it would be necessary to have money?—No, I do not remember it.

Adjourned to To-morrow, Ten o'Clock.

Sixteenth Day.—13th October 1859.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined. *J. Lovegrove.*

15,742. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you prepared a list of the messengers who were employed in 1857?—Yes (*producing it*).

15,743. And also a list of the clerks?—Yes (*producing it*). I wish to correct an account which I put in yesterday, in one particular. In that account it appears that there is a balance due to me of a little more than 16*l.*

15,744. You are speaking of the account with reference to the election in 1857?—Yes. I have been reminded by Mr. Maysey that instead of paying him 25*l.* for his services at the election, as I had supposed I had done, I paid him 10*l.* for those services, and 25*l.* for his services on the petition. (*The lists referred to by the witness are handed in.*)

RICHARD HELPS sworn and examined. *R. Helps.*

15,745. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are a solicitor in Gloucester?—I am.

15,746. Were you one of the deputation that waited on Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

15,747. Two deputations waited upon him, we hear; were you a member of each of them?—No; only of one.

15,748. Was that the later one?—We met Sir Robert Carden at Furnivals Inn; I should imagine it was the second.

15,749. At that time did you explain to him what the nature of the constituency of Gloucester was?—I did, as far as I had the means of doing so.

15,750. And did you also state to him what his chances of success would be if he became a candidate?—Yes.

15,751. Do you remember stating to him also what the probable expenditure would be that would be necessary to ensure is return?—Yes, I think the subject of expenses was discussed, and I took the principal part in it.

15,752. What do you remember to have stated to him as likely to be the sum he would have to calculate upon as his expenditure?—I think somewhere about 700*l.* or 800*l.*

15,753. What was it that guided you to that sum as being the sum that it would be necessary for him to expend?—I had acted for the late Mr. Hope, and his expenses in 1852 were less than that.

15,754. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that a successful election?—Unsuccessful. I do not exactly recollect the state of the poll, but he lost by 14 or 15.

15,755. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you acted for Mr. Hope at previous elections?—Yes; I acted for him the election before that.

15,756. Was that in 1847?—If that was the one preceding the election in 1852.

15,757. That was the one of which we have had evidence as being the preceding election?—I acted for him in 1852; and I acted for him on the previous one; and I am not sure that I did not act for him on the one before that.

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R. Helps.
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15,758. Was the expenditure at the election previous to 1852 limited to the sum you have named?—I really cannot say.

14,759. You were the agent, were you not, for Mr. Hope at the election preceding the election of 1852?—Yes.

15,760. Can you state what the expenditure was at that election?—Not without referring to documents.

15,761. Without going particularly into figures can you form some idea as to what the expenditure was?—Speaking off-hand, I should say I am satisfied that for the election of 1847 the expenses were under 1,000*l.*

15,762. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) There was no contest in 1847, was there?—Mr. Price retired at twelve o'clock on the night of the nomination; I believe the polling would have taken place the next morning.

15,763. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On that occasion the expenses, you think, were under 1,000*l.*?—Yes.

15,764. Had there been any previous contest in which Mr. Hope had been engaged, and in which you had been the agent, when the expenditure had been greater or less than it was at that election?—I was engaged in the contest previous to that of 1847. I do not recollect in what year.

15,765. In 1841; the candidates then were Mr. Hope, Mr. Phillpotts, and Lord Loftus?—I was not Mr. Hope's agent, that is, I was not his principal agent, when Lord Loftus was a candidate.

16,766. You were not his principal agent so early as that?—No.

15,767. But you were engaged as his agent, were you not, in 1852, in 1847, and at a preceding election?—If the preceding election was the election of 1841, when Lord Loftus was a candidate, I was not Mr. Hope's principal agent at that time; I was acting in conjunction with others; I had not the management of the election. I had the management personally for Mr. Hope as his confidential and principal agent in 1847 and 1852.

15,768. As far as you know, whether you were principal agent or not, what should you say was the largest amount expended by Mr. Hope?—I never knew any expenditure by Mr. Hope exceeding 1,000*l.*

15,769. You never remember any election in which you were engaged for Mr. Hope in which the expenditure was more than 1,000*l.*?—No.

15,770. And that sum of 1,000*l.* would have covered every expense, and would have included disbursements of every sort?—Yes.

15,771. When you told Sir Robert Carden that you thought the probable expense would be from 700*l.* to 800*l.*, did you take into consideration the circumstance that he was a stranger to Gloucester?—Yes.

15,772. You were aware that Sir Robert Carden was neither locally nor commercially connected in any way with Gloucester?—Yes.

15,773. Did you consider that that circumstance would be adverse to the probability of his success?—I should consider that a person locally connected with Gloucester would have a better chance of success than a person not so connected, but I should consider that, if the conservative party were united, any person taken up generally by the party, and being generally eligible would be successful.

15,774. Did you consider that the chances of success would be as great for a gentleman who was a stranger altogether to Gloucester, as they would be for one who had been previously acquainted with the city?—Certainly not; no doubt a local popular gentleman would have been a much better candidate for the party than Sir Robert Carden, but if the party were unanimous in supporting Sir Robert Carden, I considered his chances of success were very good.

15,775. Would the circumstance of a candidate being a stranger to Gloucester form a great element in your calculation as to his chances of success?—Yes.

15,776. That being so, did you think that a sum of 700*l.* or 800*l.* would be sufficient to ensure the return of Sir Robert Carden in 1857, without any resort to bribery?—Certainly; I have never been a party to bribery, directly or indirectly, in the whole course of my life, and I would not induce a candidate to come forward if I knew that his return was to be obtained by undue means.

15,777. You say you have never been a party to any bribery. Do you mean to represent that if any illegal practices existed at any election of Mr. Hope's you were yourself ignorant of it?—Entirely ignorant of it.

15,778. Had you such an entire knowledge of all that took place at the elections of Mr. Hope, that if malpractices had existed at that time, or at either of them, you must have known it?—In the case of those elections in which I was his agent I consider that I had.

15,779. You, of course, only speak of those elections which are within your own knowledge?—I speak of the elections in 1847 and 1852, and I sincerely believe that no bribery whatever took place by Mr. Hope on those occasions, or by anybody connected with him. I feel bound to say that in 1852 the most moderate expenditure of money in bribery would have returned Mr. Hope, but I refused to sanction it.

15,780. Were you of opinion in 1857, when you saw Sir Robert Carden, that any change of opinion had taken place among the constituency of Gloucester?—Yes; the returns of the result of the revisions showed a sufficient alteration to return a conservative, supposing things had remained in *statu quo* in other respects.

15,781. Do you say the returns of the revision showed a sufficient majority to return a conservative candidate?—Yes; and I believe that that was particularly pointed out to Sir Robert Carden, if I recollect right.

15,782. What do you mean when you say, "if things had remained in *statu quo* in other respects"?—That is, looking at the election of 1852, supposing all those persons who had supported Mr. Hope had supported Sir Robert Carden, then the result of the registration in the mean time would have given a majority to Sir Robert Carden.

15,783. You mean there would have been a gain to the conservative party which would have been sufficient to outweigh the majority that there was in 1852?—Yes; in 1852 there was a petition against Mr. Price, and although I am very desirous not to rip up old sores at all, yet I think it right to say that Mr. Hope lost his election at that time mainly by a band being employed to go to Cheltenham.

15,784. What band do you allude to?—I will explain. There was an agreement between the candidates that there should be no bands in Gloucester. That was before the Act had passed rendering bands illegal. Several persons who had been conservatives, and who had always played in the conservative band, were engaged by a person named Hudson to play in the band at Cheltenham. They polled for Hope and Price as soon as the poll opened in the morning; they then went and played at Cheltenham. I think that if those persons and two or three others had not voted for Mr. Price, Mr. Hope would have been returned.

15,785. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What was the number of the band?—I think about ten, or there might be more.

15,786. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you any communication at all with Sir Robert Carden during the election of 1857?—Oh yes.

15,787. You took an active part in the committee, did you not?—Yes; I was in the chair on two or three occasions.

15,788. Was it communicated to you by any member of the committee, or by any other person, that in order to secure Sir Robert Carden's return bribery must be resorted to?—No.

15,789. Were you not aware that bribery was resorted to until it was disclosed in the evidence yes-

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terday ?—I do not know the evidence that was given yesterday at all. I was in South Wales.

15,790. I understand you to say that you yourself were not aware that any bribery at all had been practised at the election of 1857 ?—No ; and if you had asked me the question, nothing having been said about it, I should have said positively that none was resorted to in 1857.

15,791. At all events, whatever was done was kept secret from you ?—Entirely.

15,792. (*Mr. Welford.*) You say that the loss of the 10 voters in the band, or rather the gain to Mr. Price of 10 voters in the band, secured him his election. It appears that Mr. Hope polled 766, and Mr. Price 851 ?—Was that the election of 1852 ?

15,793. Yes ; therefore the band could not have made that difference ?—What was the majority?

15,794. More than 80 ?—I have not prepared myself to give evidence by looking at any document ; I am only speaking from memory.

15,795. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was there an election in 1853 ?—Yes ; about Christmas 1853.

15,796. Is that the election to which you refer ?—No ; Mr. Hope was not in Gloucester.

15,797. There was a majority against him of nearly 100 in 1853 ?—I do not know how that was.

15,798. I suppose the elections of which you speak are the elections of 1853, 1852, and 1847 ?—I should say that at the election in 1853 Mr. Hope was not here ; he refused to come to Gloucester or canvass, and it was a contest by the party in the absence of the candidate.

15,799. I merely put that question to enable you to state if the fact is, that those were the elections in which you took part ?—I took a principal and active part in the election of 1853, as I did in the others, but I was not confidential agent to a gentleman who declined to be a candidate. We put him up in his absence.

15,800. Was there any inducement held out to Sir Robert Carden to become a candidate in consequence of any change at all in the corporation of the city ?—I believe it was mentioned to him that the conservatives had obtained a majority in the corporation, and I think that was the fact.

15,801. That was mentioned to him ?—I believe it was.

15,802. It was mentioned to him that the conservatives had obtained a majority in the corporation ?—Yes.

15,803. Was it mentioned to him by what means that majority had been obtained ?—I do not precisely understand the question.

15,804. My question was, was it mentioned to him by what means that majority was obtained ? I will explain that question by asking whether it was mentioned to him that there had been a considerable amount of money expended in the election of town councillors ?—Certainly not.

15,805. Did you know that any fund had been subscribed for the purpose of securing the return of the conservative councillors, or that any fund existed for that purpose?—No, there was no fund existed for that purpose ; I think some subscriptions every year have been provided for necessary purposes, both on the one side and on the other.

15,806. Have those subscriptions been provided every year ?—Every year. In November two councillors go out in each of the three wards ; there are necessary expenses attending the elections, and a subscription has taken place to meet them.

15,807. What has been the amount of those necessary expenses ?—I have no idea. There are three wards, and, probably, there would be two candidates in each ward. The parties go to the expense of advertising and printing, and holding committees.

15,808. (*Mr. Welford.*) And bribing ? — And bribing, I dare say.

15,809. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Perhaps you are not aware that Sir Robert Carden was a subscriber to that fund ?—I was not aware of it.

15,810. He informed us yesterday that in 1858 he himself subscribed *50l.* I never knew it ; I never was a candidate at any of those elections, and never took part in them.

15,811. I understand you to say that no intimation was given to Sir Robert Carden that it would be necessary for him to resort to any of those modes of expending money for the purpose of ensuring his return ?—Certainly not.

15,812. And were you of opinion at the time when you requested Sir Robert Carden to become a candidate that without resort to bribery the expenditure of a sum of from six to eight hundred pounds would ensure his return for this city ?—I consider that that expenditure would have given him such a chance of being returned that, as an honest man, I could join in the requisition to him to become a candidate.

15,813. You, I believe, did not take any part in the election in 1859 ?—Very little.

15,814. And you are not able to give us any information about that ?—None, whatever. I was in a very bad state of health at that time.

15,815. Are you at present Mayor of Gloucester ?—I am.

15,816. (*Mr. Welford.*) During the period you have been acquainted with Gloucester elections, has it not come to your knowledge that there are a considerable number of venal electors in the town ?—There are a certain number of electors who, if money is going, will have money or will not vote.

15,817. That you are aware of ? — That I am aware of.

15,818. And you were aware of it when you formed one of the deputation to Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

15,819. Did you mention that circumstance to Sir Robert Carden ?—No ; I do not think it was alluded to.

15,820. Did you not consider it a great element in your calculations ?—Sir Robert Carden was a man of the world, and Sir Robert Carden has as great a knowledge of human nature and of the general constituency of England as I or any other gentleman can have, and if you take any constituency of 1,500 electors you will always find there are some on both sides who, if money is to be had, will not vote without having money.

15,821. But you knew as a positive fact, did you not, that there were such electors in Gloucester, without resorting to any general knowledge ? — I cannot say I knew it, because I never could point my finger to any man and say, "You have had a bribe."

15,822. But, as a man of the world, you were aware that such things were done in Gloucester ?—I was aware that such things had been done in Gloucester.

15,823. And you did not think it necessary to mention that to Sir Robert Carden ?—If I did not mention it I did not consider it necessary.

15,824. And Sir Robert Carden did not think it necessary to make any inquiry into the subject ?—Sir Robert Carden did not make any inquiries as far as I remember.

15,825. I understand you to say that according to your belief no money was corruptly expended in either of the elections of Mr. Hope that you have mentioned ?—Yes ; that is my belief.

15,826. May not money have been expended on his behalf corruptly without your knowledge ?—Of course it may.

15,827. Did all the accounts of Mr. Hope's elections come under your supervision ?—Yes.

15,828. Was any money paid by him except that which was paid through you ? — I believe not a shilling.

15,829. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you are aware that in former times large sums of money had been expended in elections at Gloucester ; will you state, if you please, what you know upon that subject ?—I

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R. Helps.

13 Oct. 1859.

have heard it. I have heard that the expenses of former elections have been very large.

15,830. Do you speak of the elections before or since the passing of the Reform Bill?—Before the passing of the Reform Bill principally. I have heard that head money was paid; that money was paid at Christmas after the elections were over.

15,831. Was that before or since the Reform Bill?—Before the Reform Bill.

15,832. Have you heard that since the Reform Bill any large sum has been expended in elections?—I have heard that the elections must have been very expensive, but I have no particular knowledge upon the subject.

15,833. Before you acted as Mr. Hope's principal agent, were you engaged in assisting him at all?—Yes; but I never had anything to do with the finance department.

15,834. I think you say you were not here yesterday?—I was not.

15,835. Were you here the day before?—No, I have not been in court at all.

15,836. Are you aware that Mr. Carter stated that one election cost Mr. Hope 4,000*l.*?—I do not believe it, and I do not believe that Mr. Carter has any means of knowledge.

15,837. You do not believe the fact?—I do not believe the fact.

15,838. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you know that at the Gloucester elections there is a practice of giving colourable employment to voters and messengers, and so on?—Yes.

15,839. And you did not consider that bribery?—Undoubtedly it is indirect bribery, but that was to an extremely moderate extent in the elections that I had anything to do with; I suppressed that; I do not believe that in 1852 a single voter was employed as a messenger.

15,840. Then so far as you could, when the elections were under your control, you suppressed that, as being a corrupt expenditure of money?—Undoubtedly.

15,841. Do you think that so much as 700*l.* or 800*l.* could be properly expended by a candidate at an election in Gloucester without indirect bribery?—Yes; there are a great many professional men to be employed, and their expenses mount up to a considerable sum.

15,842. Do you consider that the employment of so many professional men is absolutely necessary in conducting a contest for Gloucester?—I think that more are employed than are necessary, undoubtedly, but the employment of some is necessary; and upon the day of election there being, I think, six booths, you have a professional inspector to each booth.

15,843. I assume you have inspectors?—Those are generally professional men, solicitors.

15,844. I am referring to the employment of professional men merely as canvassers and so on. Do you consider the employment of so many professional men as are actually employed is necessary?—No.

15,845. Is not that very much like a colourable employment also?—I do not imagine that there is a single professional man in Gloucester, either on the one side or the other, who would sell himself and vote in consequence of his employment.

15,846. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where there are a number of professional men on each side it is difficult, I suppose, to make a selection?—Yes.

15,847. (*Mr. Welford.*) And therefore you employ all?—I suppose there is hardly a professional man in Gloucester who is not employed on one side or the other, according to his known opinions; but he is not employed with a view to influence his vote.

15,848. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do I understand you to say that Sir Robert Carden did not say anything at all to you as to the probability of any money being expended in bribery either colourably or otherwise, in Gloucester?—Certainly; I will speak confidently upon that point. If Sir Robert Carden had proposed to come down to Gloucester, and to carry his election by bribery, I would not have been a party to bringing him down.

15,849. I am not referring to what you would or would not have done, but simply to this: did Sir Robert Carden abstain altogether from making any inquiry as to what expenditure of money would be necessary beyond the 600*l.* or 800*l.* which you stated would be necessary to ensure his return?—I do not recollect Sir Robert Carden making any inquiry whether more money would be necessary.

15,850. Or as to the way in which the money would be required to be expended?—Do you mean as to the 600*l.* or 700*l.*

15,851. Yes?—No; that would be represented to him as the expenses that would attend the election generally, including, of course, the employment of professional men, and the sheriff's expenses, the expenses of polling booths, and so on.

Sir M. Berkeley.

Sir MAURICE BERKELEY sworn and examined.

15,852. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been a candidate and a member of parliament also for this city on many occasions?—Very many.

15,853. When was your first contest in Gloucester?—I cannot recollect the year, but it was before the passing of the Reform Bill.

15,854. And a good many years before that, was it not?—I think it was in the year 1816 or 1818.

15,855. It has been stated here that that election was a very expensive election?—It was.

15,856. And an extract from a speech of yours has been read, in which it is stated that you had spent about 16,000*l.*?—Above 16,000*l.*

15,857. That money, I suppose, was spent in bringing voters to Gloucester, and in the employment of those voters in different ways?—Yes, I think the poll lasted more than a week, and all the outvoters were brought down, of course, at the expense of the candidates, and lived upon the candidates during their stay at Gloucester.

15,858. And in addition to their being brought down by the candidates, I suppose they received various sums of money also for their votes?—Not that I was at all aware of; but there was another expense that fell upon us; we were obliged to pay them the expense to which they were put in finding persons to attend to their shops for them, and to look after their business in London while they were away at the election.

15,859. I understand you to say that, so far as your knowledge goes, you are not aware that any direct bribes were paid to those voters at that time?—Not to my knowledge.

15,860. Did you find that that state of things, namely, the expenditure of a considerable sum of money, was continued at subsequent elections?—I have no doubt about it.

14,861. Down to the period of the Reform Act?—Down to the period of the Reform Act. I would correct that answer, because, when there was such a demand for reform, the liberal candidates had little or no opposition.

15,862. (*Mr. Welford.*) Just before the Reform Act?—Just before the Reform Act.

15,863. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You always, I believe, stood as a candidate for this city on liberal principles?—Always.

15,864. You were returned to Parliament, I believe, for this city, after the passing of the Reform Act, on several occasions?—I was.

15,865. Did you find that after the passing of the Reform Act your expenditure was considerably decreased?—I can state that that was so at the first election after the Reform Act, because Mr. Hodges

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Carter was then my agent, and he and I consulted together, and he estimated that the expense of the election would be about 2,000*l.* When the bills came in I was gratified by finding that Mr. Carter had not spent more than, I think, 1,500*l.*—at all events considerably under 2,000*l.*

15,866. Did you understand at that time that any portion of that money was expended in bribery?—Certainly not; but at that time the ribbons and bands were not done away with.

15,867. Ribbons and bands, I suppose, formed a considerable item in the expenditure of that 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.*?—Considerable.

15,868. Do you know whether the persons that you employed as bandsmen were for the most part voters?—I am not aware.

15,869. Are you aware whether at that time a large proportion of the expenditure was due to the employment of messengers?—I really, at this period, cannot take upon myself to give a decided answer to that question.

15,870. I suppose that those matters you left principally to your agent?—Yes.

15,871. I do not understand you to say that messengers were not largely employed, or that bandsmen were not employed who were voters?—I cannot say.

15,872. The election of which you have been speaking was the first election after the passing of the Reform Act, was it not?—Yes, in 1832; that was the first election after the Reform Act, I believe. Having been elected in 1832, I went in 1833 to the Board of Admiralty. I came down here. I think Mr. Hope did not attend himself, but was put up by the party. There was an unfortunate split between the liberals, some siding with myself and others with Mr. Phillpotts. I had every reason to hope that Mr. Phillpotts would have supported me against Mr. Hope, but he and his friends deserted me, and Mr. Hope was returned.

15,873. Mr. Phillpotts was not at that time a candidate?—No; the only candidates were Mr. Hope and myself.

15,874. Can you tell what your expenditure was at that election?—I cannot say exactly; but no election from the time of the first election after the passing of the Reform Bill cost me more than 800*l.*; but it is fair to add that the professional gentlemen who undertook the election on my part did so as friends and not as paid agents, and I would add to that (because it is but justice to the gentleman who has lately acted for me) that I wrote to Mr. Robert Wilton, and asked him if he would undertake my agency, and stating that I barred anything like bribery or corrupt practices, and Mr. Robert Wilton's answer to me was this,—"I will undertake the agency for you, but if "you had proposed anything corrupt, or contrary to "law, I would not have undertaken it."

15,875. When did Mr. Robert Wilton first become your agent?—I cannot recollect the year, but I do not think that Mr. Hodges Carter conducted more than one election for me after the passing of the Reform Bill.

15,876. On the resignation of Mr. Carter as your agent, Mr. Robert Wilton was appointed?—Yes.

15,877. And you state your belief that after the passing of the Reform Act no election cost you more than 800*l.*?—The first election cost me more, but after that no election cost me more than 800*l.*

15,878. In 1833 there was a contested election with Mr. Hope?—Yes.

15,879. What was the next after that?—In 1835; that was a general election. I lost my seat on going to the Admiralty, and then I was returned and Mr. Phillpotts was beaten.

15,880. You and Mr. Hope were returned?—Yes; in 1835, so far as my memory serves me, the numbers polled were for Berkeley 707, for Phillpotts 594, and for Hope 621.

15,881. Which was the next election?—1837.

15,882. Was that a general election also?—It must have been.

15,883. Were you returned?—No; I was not then. Mr. Hope was at the head of the poll, Mr. Phillpotts was second, and I was beaten.

15,884. When was the next election?—The next election that I was concerned in was in 1841.

15,885. What was the state of things then?—Phillpotts was 753, I was 731, and Hope 640.

15,886. At that election Mr. Hope occupied the place that you had occupied at the previous election?—Yes.

15,887. Are you quite sure that to that election applies the observation you have made, that no election subsequent to the first after the passing of the Reform Act cost you more than 800*l.*?—To the best of my belief; but it is so long since that I cannot speak with certainty.

15,888. What was the next election in which you took part?—In 1852.

15,889. Were you not a candidate between 1841 and 1852; there was an election in 1847?—I was elected when I was in the Mediterranean. I was on service. I now recollect, in 1847 Mr. Hope and myself were not opposed.

15,890. That was uncontested?—Yes; Mr. Price, Mr. Hope, and myself entered into an agreement that we would only have certain committee rooms; that we would go to no expense but what was strictly legal; that we would have no band; and, in short, that we would conduct the election on the purest principles. That agreement was drawn up in London, and we appointed a gentleman of the bar to be our umpire, and the agreement stated that if either party complained of undue practices by one or the other, the gentleman so appointed was to be the final judge. If he said that either of us had been guilty of any such practices, we agreed that we would immediately (if we were returned a member) accept the Chiltern Hundreds.

15,891. Was that agreement carried into effect?—That agreement was, I believe, most rigidly adhered to.

15,892. And what was the result of the election?—The result of the election was—Price 851, Berkeley 786, and Hope 766. I may be allowed to add, in consequence of what has fallen from the last witness, that Mr. Hope, on leaving Gloucester, told me that he never would come here again. The gentlemen of the blue party thought fit to get up a petition, and Mr. Price and myself complained to Mr. Hope that he ought not to sanction such a proceeding after the agreement into which he had entered, and I believe that Mr. Hope, in short, did not eventually countenance it, because the petition was dropped.

15,893. As far as you know, was the agreement to carry on the election upon pure principles in 1852 honestly carried out?—Most decidedly so, I can say, on my behalf; and I should be sorry to think it possible that it could be otherwise on the part of either of the other two candidates.

15,894. Then in 1852 there was another election—Mr. Hope was not here, and he was put up as a candidate by his friends?—Precisely.

15,895. Who were returned at that election?—I was returned, the numbers polled for me being 761, and the numbers polled for Mr. Hope being 670; and what brings the fact to my mind that 800*l.* is the largest sum I have paid since the first election after the passing of the Reform Bill is, that I consulted Mr. Robert Wilton whether I could take office if it was offered to me at the Admiralty, and as to what would be the expense of the election. He reminded me that the last election had cost me between 600*l.* and 700*l.*, but that then the expenses were divided between Mr. Price and myself; and he said, "You must expect, when you are fighting single-handed, to pay about 200*l.* more;" and I gave him 200*l.* more.

15,896. When there were two candidates standing on the liberal interest and the expenses of the election were divided, your share of the joint expenses was somewhere about 600*l.* or 700*l.*?—Yes.

15,897. Therefore the expense of an election for

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Sir M. Berkeley.

13 Oct. 1859.

the two liberal candidates was somewhere about 1,400*l.* or 1,500*l.* ?—The joint expense of that election was about 1,200*l.*

15,898. Do you mean to say that 800*l.* was your share of the total expenditure of the two liberal candidates?—I am afraid I have not made myself clearly understood; when I expended the 800*l.* I stood single-handed having gone into office, and then that single-handed contest cost me about 800*l.*

15,899. In reply to a previous question, you said that you did not believe that any election had cost you more than 800*l.* after the first election following the passing of the Act?—I think not.

15,900. What I wish to ask is this:—Whether that 800*l.* was a moiety of the expenses which would be incurred by the two liberal candidates?—I cannot exactly answer that question, because until the election in 1857, although Mr. Price and I, in many instances, divided the expenses, they were not all joint expenses.

15,901. Then the following election after 1853, I believe, was the election of 1855; that was an election in which you took no part?—Mr. Price accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

15,902. And the following was the election of 1857?—Yes.

15,903. And at that election you were opposed by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

15,904. What was the amount of your expenditure at that election?—That election did not cost me 400*l.*—you may say 400*l.* You will see that by this bill (*producing a paper*)—there are some items in it relating to other matters—but you will see from it that my expenses at that election did not exceed 400*l.*

15,905. Do you know whether the total sum which you paid at that election was returned by your election agent to the election auditor?—I have no doubt it was.

15,906. In 1859 we understand a deputation waited upon you to solicit you again to become a candidate for this city?—It did.

15,907. And we have been informed that in consequence of legal advice you declined becoming a candidate for the city in consequence of a claim which you had to a seat in the House of Lords?—That is so.

15,908. Was that the only ground on which you declined to become a candidate?—That was the only ground. If I had not received that advice I should have come forward.

15,909. During the many years that you have been a candidate, and member of Parliament for this city, was it conveyed to your knowledge that there was a considerable class of voters in this city who always expected money for their votes?—The number I was not aware of until lately, but I knew that there were some who never would vote without being paid for it.

15,910. The number you were not aware of?—No.

15,911. Did you understand from your agent that it would be necessary in order to ensure your return that a certain number of those votes should be purchased?—When I left London to come down to Gloucester I was then in the Government. Of course the Government were anxious to know who would be returned for Gloucester, and I then said that no stranger coming into the city of Gloucester would beat me by fair means, but that if foul means were exercised my seat was in danger.

15,912. And the conclusion at which you arrived arose, I suppose, from your knowledge that a certain number of voters were purchaseable?—Certainly. I think it is pretty plain what was going forward. There is a certain family who have made themselves very notorious here, and at all elections for Gloucester,—the Coopeys. I do not believe you will find their names upon any one of my returns; and I go further than that and say, that those men came up to poll for Sir Robert Carden as soon as the poll opened on the morning of the election.

15,913. I understand you to say that so far as regards the employment of messengers that is a matter which you do not take into account at all?—I never looked into it myself. I never troubled myself about it. I had the greatest confidence in my agent, Mr. Carter, while he worked for me. Mr. Robert Wilton was not a paid agent but a friend, and until I received your Secretary's note I never even looked at an election account, having such thorough confidence in Mr. Wilton's judgment and honesty.

15,914. I understand you to say that the amount of the expenses of your elections since Mr. Robert Wilton has become your agent, has not been such as to excite any suspicion in your mind that bribery had been resorted to?—I am quite sure it never was.

15,915. We are told that before the passing of the Reform Act the voters for the city consisted of freemen?—There were a great many.

15,916. They consisted of freemen, did they not?—I believe so.

15,917. And a great number of those freemen were living in distant parts of the country were they not?—Yes.

15,918. I suppose bringing those distant freemen to Gloucester was one of the great items of expense prior to the passing of the Reform Act?—Yes.

15,919. The conveyance of those voters to Gloucester, and keeping them here?—Yes, no doubt.

15,920. Are you aware that before the passing of the Reform Act all those freemen were not only kept here but that they were paid their travelling expenses, and were paid also for their votes?—I believe that to be the fact, but I do not know it of my own knowledge.

15,921. Were you aware at all of any custom of paying sums of money to every voter in the nature of head money?—When that 17,000*l.* was spent I had nothing to do with the accounts whatever.

15,922. You do not know whether the custom of paying head money existed before the passing of the Reform Act?—I do not know it.

15,923. Is it your opinion that the large expenditure of money among voters in one way or other before the passing of the Reform Act tended to the demoralization of voters of a similar class who were created by the Reform Act?—My impression, speaking of this city alone, is that bribery is most acceptable to the old freemen. By the first Reform Bill which was proposed by Lord John Russell, I believe it was intended to do away with those freemen, but unfortunately that was not adherred to, and as far as this city goes, I believe that bribery is among the lower orders of the freemen.

15,924. We have heard in this court that that corruption is not confined to that class of freemen, but that it extends also to the lower class of householders?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the constituency to be able to answer that question, but it has been stated before you that the whole of this constituency is corrupt. I deny that most emphatically, because I should certainly have found that out if it had been the case, standing as I have done all along upon pure principles.

15,925. I suppose you are of opinion that venality among voters in any constituency is attributable to the existence of bribers?—Yes.

15,926. If there were no bribers there would be no bribed?—If there were no bribers of course there would be no bribed. In my opinion the punishment should be to the briber and not to the poor man who is tempted by a bribe.

15,927. (*Mr. Welford.*) I think it follows from what you have before said that if a gentleman were asked to stand for Gloucester on the conservative side, and if he were not told that there was a certain number of venal voters here he would hardly be dealt with fairly?—I should think very unfairly.

15,928. And a gentleman who came to Gloucester upon that interest without inquiring whether there

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were venal voters or not you probably think would not act very prudently?—I always said that the gentlemen forming the deputation had been up to London to fish for a candidate and had caught a flat fish.

15,929. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect particularly the election of 1837, when Mr. Hope and Mr. Phillpotts were returned and you were defeated?—Yes.

15,930. I think Mr. Carter told us he was your agent up to 1841?—If he said so I have no doubt he is right.

15,931. He told us that early in the morning, I think he said about nine or ten o'clock, he saw that the election was gone; are you aware of that?—I cannot recollect it. I have no doubt Mr. Carter knew how the election was going.

15,932. You do not recollect whether there was any peculiarity in the election at that time which led you to see that the election was gone so soon after the opening of the poll?—No.

15,933. Mr. Carter also told us that he believed that result was attributable to the expenditure of money by Mr. Hope to the extent of 4,000*l.*; are you aware of that?—I am not at all aware what Mr. Hope's expenses were on any occasion, but I have the fact before me that when Mr. Hope refused to find the purse, I had a majority, single-handed against him, of nearly 100.

15,934. But you do not recollect that your defeat on that particular occasion was attributed to a large expenditure of money by Mr. Hope early in the morning?—The fact is, that I have stood so many contested elections here, that I cannot go into minutiæ. I will say, however, with reference to the election of 1857, that the night before the election a gentleman came to me and said "Either you or Price must go to the wall unless you will find money;" that was repeated to me several times. It was said "One or the other of you must go to the wall unless you counteract what is going forward by the opposite party;" and I and my agent, Mr. Wilton, refused to do it. I said "I will lose the election rather than have any such work on my part."

15,935. Sir William Hayter has told us that in 1857 you made an application to him for some money out of a fund over which he had the control in London for election purposes; is that so?—No, not for election purposes; but when I found that there was to be a petition, I applied to Sir William Hayter, and said "I am a younger brother; I have not the money; I must borrow the money; you must get it for me."

15,936. Then it was with reference to the petition and not to the election?—It had no reference to the election, and further Sir William Hayter did get the money for me; I do not know how or where, and I have since repaid him.

15,937. (*Mr. Welford.*) You have mentioned that Mr. Hope said he would never come to Gloucester again; did he assign any reason for that?—He said it in the moment of defeat. Mr. Hope thought that he had been deceived by his party; they had represented to him he could win the election without having recourse to bribery. In Mr. Hope's absence, I would not say a word against him. I do not know where the money came from, but certainly at all former elections the bribery which was carried on on the part of the blue party was systematic from one election to the other.

15,938. And Mr. Hope, having been beaten in a pure election, felt it was time for him to retire?—He was tired of it.

15,939. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you ever ascertain, from any conversation which you had with Mr. Hope, what sum of money he had spent in elections at Gloucester?—Never; I never entered upon the subject with him.

15,940. When you say that at all former elections the bribery that was carried on was systematic, do you mean all former elections previous to the year 1852?—Yes.

15,941. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Being in parliament at the time, you were aware of the passing of the act by which the accounts of an election are required to be submitted to and paid by an election auditor?—I was in parliament at the time, and I recollect the passing of the bill, but I was generally so occupied with the business of the navy that I did not take any part in the passing of that bill.

15,942. Did you, in consequence of that bill becoming law, give any special directions to your agent with respect to its provisions?—No. I gave no directions whatever; I had thorough confidence in Mr. Wilton; I knew that he knew the law, and I supposed he would carry it out, and I believe it has been, on my behalf, strictly carried out; but I must beg leave to say, that I think that act of parliament is mere waste paper, for practically the auditor has no control whatever over the accounts. I may put down my expenses at 300*l.*, when in point of fact they amount to 1,000*l.* or more.

15,943. You agree with the opinion that Sir William Hayter has expressed, that the act is a dead letter?—Yes, completely.

15,944. Are you of opinion that its being a dead letter is attributable to the agents, or to the members themselves?—I have never interfered with the matter myself.

15,945. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It has been stated by one or two witnesses that in their opinion that act was intended to be a dead letter at the time it was passed; are you prepared to endorse that opinion?—No; I never took the matter into consideration at all.

15,946. Are you of opinion, as was stated here to be the case, that if the legislature had seriously intended to put down bribery they might have done it by passing an act of a much more stringent nature than the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act?—Certainly.

15,947. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But are you not of opinion that this act must necessarily become a dead letter unless the candidates and members of parliament direct their agents to comply with its provisions?—Certainly. If all candidates and all agents would state fairly what had been done at the elections, perhaps you might then act upon that act of parliament; but at present, what is to prevent a man giving in a false return? and I believe that false returns have been given in.

15,948. And will they not continue to be given in unless members of parliament themselves insist upon an observance of the act?—You will not get the body to punish themselves.

15,949. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I presume you are of opinion that bribery cannot be put a stop to unless some severer measures of repression are resorted to?—Severer upon the bribers.

Mr. Helps.—I think the commission will not think it out of place if I state that the election accounts for the county of Gloucester have always been passed through the auditor, and I believe they have always been paid by the auditor.

15,950. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the election agent?

Mr. Helps.—I am not an auditor, but I am agent for Sir William Codrington for the county, and all his accounts have been actually paid by the auditor; they have been sent to the auditor, and the money has passed entirely through his hands; I believe that to be also the case with regard to all the other candidates.

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F. Stamper.

13 Oct. 1859.

FRANCIS STAMPER called, and further examined.

15,951. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were a supporter of Sir Robert Carden in 1857 ?—I was.

15,952. Were you employed to canvass ?—Yes.

15,953. Did you canvass the out districts and the in districts ?—Only in the city.

15,954. What voters did you bribe upon that occasion ?—Not one.

15,955. Did you offer any bribe to any voter ?—Not that I am aware of.

15,956. Were you aware that bribes were being offered at that election ?—There is no doubt but that there were bribes offered.

15,957. You had no doubt of it at the time of the election ?—I had no doubt of it.

15,958. When did you first hear that bribes were offered in 1857 ?—During the time of the election I could hear them speaking of it at different times.

15,959. During the time of the canvass ?—Yes.

15,960. You heard them speaking during the time of the canvass that bribes were being offered to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I heard it the other way. I heard that bribes were being offered on the other side as well.

15,961. You heard that bribes were being offered on both sides ?—Yes ; I did.

15,962. Do you know the names of any persons to whom bribes were given to vote for Carden ?—I do not.

15,963. Do you know the name of any persons to whom bribes were offered to vote for Carden ?—I do not, to the best of my knowledge.

15,964. Do you know the names of any voters to whom bribes were offered on the other side ?—I do not.

15,965. Were you engaged at all in treating voters at that election ?—I was.

15,966. Where did you treat them ?—At different places.

15,967. At different public houses in Gloucester ?—Yes.

15,968. How much money did you receive for that purpose ?—I received something like 10*l.* after the election, but I had spent part of it before that.

15,969. You received about 10*l.* after the election?—For that purpose—for spending in public-houses.

15,970. To pay for the expenses incurred in treating during the election ?—No, afterwards; I spent about 10*l.* after the election.

15,971. Did you not spend any money in treating during the election ?—Oh yes.

15,972. What money did you spend during the election ?—Perhaps 4*l.* or 5*l.* ; it is so long since that I cannot remember, I am sure, how much I spent.

15,973. You spent, perhaps, 4*l.* or 5*l.* during the election in treating voters ?—Yes, and other people as well.

15,974. But principally voters ?—Principally voters.

15,975. Did you go to a house kept by Trueman ?—Not that I am aware of.

15,976. Or to a house kept by Clayton ?—Not that I am aware of.

15,977. You know those houses, do you not ?—I know Trueman's.

15,978. What house is that ?—The Oxbody.

15,979. What is the name of the house kept by Clayton ?—I do not know, I am sure.

15,980. Did you go to a house kept by Tew ?—Yes, I was there several times.

15,981. And treated there ?—I have no doubt but what I did.

15,982. What is the name of that house ?—The "City Arms."

15,983. Did you pay for what you had at those houses when you treated ?—Yes.

15,984. Did you go to a house kept by Smart ?—Not that I am aware of.

15,985. The Swan and Falcon ?—He did not live there in 1857.

15,986. Did you go to any house kept by Smart in 1857 ?—Not that I am awaro of.

15,987. Did you go to a house kept by Tanner ?—Not that I am aware of ; I do not remember it.

15,988. The Upper George ?—Yes.

15,989. You treated at the Upper George ?—I did.

15,990. Did you pay for what you had when you treated there ?—Yes.

15,991. Do you know a house kept by Isaac Brandon ?—I do not.

15,992. What were the houses that you, generally speaking, resorted to in 1857 ?—The Halliers Arms was one.

15,993. Kept by whom ?—By Mr. Clifford.

15,994. Is he a voter ?—Yes.

15,995. What other house ?—Llanthony Bridge Inn occasionally.

15,996. Kept by whom ?—By Mr. Cale at that time.

15,997. You treated voters there ?—Yes.

15,998. Was he a voter ?—Yes.

15,999. Did you pay for what you had at those houses ?—Yes.

16,000. Where else did you treat them ?—At the Green Dragon.

16,001. Kept by whom ?—Mr. Pearce.

16,002. A voter ?—Yes.

16,003. Did you pay for what you had ?—Yes, generally.

16,004. Where was the next ?—The Stag Inn.

16,005. Kept by whom ?—By Henry Cox.

16,006. A voter ?—Yes.

16,007. Did you pay for what you had there?—Yes.

16,008. What other house ?—The Ship on the Quay.

16,009. Kept by whom ?—Samuel Clift at that time.

16,010. A voter ?—Yes.

16,011. Did you pay for what you had there also ?—Yes.

16,012. What other house ?—Those are the chief houses.

16,013. From whom did you receive the money that you expended ?—From Mr. Whithorn I received 10*l.*, and from Mr. Lovegrove the remainder.

16,014. Whatever it was ?—Yes ; I received that along with my expenses.

16,015. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) After the election?—Yes.

16,016. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What were your expenses ?—I received altogether about 8*l.* odd. I cannot tell exactly, to speak the truth.

16,017. (*Mr. Welford.*) From Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes ; for my expenses, and 2*l.* odd, for some men that I engaged on the day of the election.

16,018. Two pounds which you gave to some men ?—I received from Mr. Lovegrove 2*l.* odd, to pay those men that I engaged.

16,019. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Besides the 8*l.* ?—Yes.

16,020. Altogether you received about 20*l.* ?—No, about 10*l.*

16,021. (*Mr. Welford.*) From Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn together you received about 20*l.* ?—About 20*l.*

16,022. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For what purpose were those men you speak of engaged ?—For protection.

16,023. For protecting whom ?—Protecting me and the voters I took to the poll. We were interrupted by the other party.

16,024. Who did you engage ?—I forget their names now.

16,025. Were they fighting men ?—Not particularly ; they might, perhaps, do a little bit of that sort of work if they were put to it.

16,026. You say you engaged them for protection?—Yes.

16,027. How many did you engage ?—Five or six of them.

16,028. Were they not men that were notorious as fighting men ?—Some of them might be, but I do not

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remember any of them being notorious as fighting men; they were most of them working men, who got their living by working.

16,029. (*Mr. Welford.*) They fought occasionally?—Perhaps they might.

16,030. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If they were not wanted for the purpose of protecting your voters perhaps they would be wanted for the purpose of attacking voters on the other side?—No; I do not know that they would.

16,031. Was not that your object in engaging them?—No, it was not. They protected myself and the voters.

16,032. Did you require protection at that time yourself?—I did.

16,033. Why did you require protection?—Because I was threatened by the other party that I should be served out, and I thought that to be forewarned was to be forearmed.

16,034. How soon after the election was it that you received that money, the 10*l.*, from Mr. Lovegrove?—About two or three days, as near as I can tell you.

16,035. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) £10, you say, was given to you by Mr. Whithorn after the election?—Yes.

16,036. To spend after the election?—To spend in public-houses.

16,037. Not to pay debts incurred before the election?—Part of it. I had spent some of it before.

16,038. And the rest was to be spent afterwards?—The rest I spent afterwards.

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16,039. Was the rest given you for the purpose of being spent in public-houses for your own party?—Yes.

16,040. As a sort of payment?—There were no open houses nor anything of that kind, and I do not believe there was anything done for the houses, and none of these men that I have spoken of received any bribe from me. The treating is all I own to. I own to that.

16,041. Mr. Whithorn gave you this money after the election to go and spend in public-houses kept by people of your own party?—Yes.

16,042. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much do you say of that 10*l.* had been spent by you before the election?—I could not say, it is so long since that I have forgotten almost all about it.

16,043. Part was to pay expenses of treating before and part afterwards?—Yes. There is one statement I wish to make to you, and that is, in Mr. Gregory's evidence last week I saw it stated in the paper that Mr. Wright saw me give a man named Fletcher 5*l.*, which I most distinctly deny, and I dare him or any one else to say so.

16,044. You say in Mr. Gregory's evidence it is stated that Mr. Wright saw you give Fletcher 5*l.*?—Yes; which I positively contradict.

16,045. That you say is not true?—It is not true; I swear it.

16,046. You say that you never gave 5*l.* to a man of the name of Fletcher?—I did not.

16,047. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the election of 1857, was that?—No, 1859.

JOHN WARD called and further examined.

J. Ward.

16,048. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With reference to the election of 1857, did you canvass in 1857?—I did.

16,049. For Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

16,050. Where did you canvass?—I canvassed some portion of the city and some portion of the out-voters, not the whole of them.

16,051. You received a sum of money from Mr. Whithorn, I believe?—I did.

16,052. How much did you receive from him?—I think it was 35*l.* on the day of the election.

16,053. For the purpose of bribery?—For the purpose of bribery and treating.

16,054. What persons did you bribe?—I bribed a man of the name of Vaile, of Westbury.

16,055. How much did you give to him?—£3.

16,056. For his vote for Carden?—For his vote for Carden.

16,057. Now the next?—I gave a man of the name of John Ashmeade 2*l.* He came to me in the Fountain passage and represented to me that he had received nothing. I believe he had received 3*l.* previously.

16,058. Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes; this was after he had voted. He represented that he had polled and received nothing, and I believe he had been bribed before. I gave him 2*l.* because he told me he had received nothing.

16,059. And you gave it him because he told you he had voted for Carden?—Yes.

16,060. Who was the next?—I gave to Mr. Butt 3*l.*; I think I gave him 3*l.*, and whether I gave the daughter 1*l.* to give to Edward Coopey, of Twigworth, I do not know. It was his daughter who received the money, not the man himself.

16,061. Now the next?—Francis Jellyman, 5*l.*

16,062. Was that for his vote for Carden?—Yes.

16,063. Where does that man Jellyman live?—I do not know; he is on the Midland Railway now, I think; he does not reside in Gloucester now, I think.

16,064. Is he a freeman?—Yes; he is employed now, I think, on the Midland Railway.

16,065. Who is the next?—I gave, I believe, to a person of the name of William Parker 5*l.* or 6*l.* to bribe other voters. I cannot tell exactly what I gave him. He came to me and said, "We have a man or two who want some money;" and I gave it to him.

16,066. What is William Parker?—A carpenter. And I gave Obadiah Clutterbuck, I think, 4*l.* for the purpose of bribing.

16,067. Was that to bribe others?—That was for the purpose of bribery; and I believe I paid to old Mrs. Coopey 2*l.* 10*s.* for cider and drink, previous to coming to Gloucester. That was what they charged me for as being drunk at their house at different times, when I was over there canvassing.

16,068. Do you know her Christian name?—I do not know; I think it was Mary Coopey received it. It was the same person who received the bribe for the oopeys in Gloucester in 1857.

16,069. How much did you give her?—I think it was 2*l.* 10*s.*—at twice; I am not positive of the amount; it may have been more or less.

16,070. That was for treating the family?—Yes; that would leave something about 9*l.* expended in bribery; and I cannot say where it was spent. Some parties received it for their votes, but who they were I do not know now.

16,071. You say you cannot account for the 9*l.*?—About 9*l.* 10*s.*; it was paid in bribery, every farthing.

16,072. Did you receive any other sum for the purpose of treating?—I did; I received during the canvass I should think from 10*l.* to 20*l.*, but I cannot tell; it was in small sums, and I kept no account of it. I cannot tell you now what the amount was, but I should think it must be between 10*l.* and 20*l.*

16,073. That was for treating?—Yes.

16,074. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Whithorn.

16,075. And you spent that money in treating voters?—In treating and giving one man half-a-crown, and another five shillings, and so on, and their wives.

16,076. To voters and their wives?—Yes.

16,077. What were the public houses that you principally frequented?—I should think I was in almost every public house in the city. I was not particular whether it was a blue house or a yellow house, if he was a voter.

16,078. And there you treated voters?—Yes, or anybody who I thought had any influence with the voters.

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16,079. Was this before or after the election?—Before the election. When I had spent 4*l.* or 5*l.* I told Mr. Whithorn that it had been spent, and I told him the different houses where it was spent. I was always very particular in putting down the different items as they were spent.

16,080. This treating, I suppose, was going on during the whole time of the canvass?—I should think quite a fortnight before, or perhaps very likely it began the week before that. There is no doubt that, as soon as there was an idea afloat that there would be an election, we began treating those we asked for their votes.

16,081. And giving away small sums of money?—If a man asked me for a shilling, or eighteen-pence, or half-a-crown, I gave it him.

16,082. Were the different sums of money which you paid away to voters paid away in consequence of your having promised to pay them for their votes before-hand?—I did not promise the Vailes any money; I told them when they came into Gloucester they should be treated as well as the rest; if there was any money afloat they should have it, and the Coopeys the same, and the Vailes the same.

16,083. Did you give them to understand when you canvassed them, that when they came to Gloucester they should receive money for their votes?—If there was any money they should have some; in fact, I do not think we believed at that time there would be any money.

16,084. These were the out voters?—Yes; I led them to believe if there was any money they should have their share of it.

16,085. You told them that, I suppose, when you first of all canvassed them?—I should imagine I did.

16,086. Did you canvass them some time before the election took place?—I should think I canvassed the Coopeys and the Vailes very early; I should think quite ten or twelve days before the election; not only once, but I was down there three or four times.

16,087. You thought it prudent to secure them?—I did; I may say that the Vailes represented to me that they had been deceived by the yellows in the election before when they had polled, and that was the reason why they were willing to poll for Sir Robert Carden.

16,088. They said they had been deceived by the yellows?—Yes; that they had made some promise to them, and that they had not fulfilled it, as I understood.

16,089. Had you anything to do with the family of the Coopeys in that election in 1857?—I canvassed them and brought them into Gloucester; I brought them to the Upper George.

16,090. Did you promise them anything?—I told them if there was any money they should share it the same as any other voters.

16,091. You did not fix any definite sum?—No.

16,092. You only gave a general promise?—A general promise.

16,093. Can you give us the names of any other persons who you know to have been bribed on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—I know no names that I could tell you of but what have come before you in evidence.

16,094. Only those that have been disclosed by other witnesses?—Only those that have been disclosed by other witnesses.

16,095. Can you give the names of any voters that were bribed on the other side?—I could not swear to any one voter.

16,096. Can you swear to any voters having been bribed on the other side?—No, I could not. We had our secrets and they had theirs.

16,097. In the course of your canvass you did not hear from conversations with voters that bribes had been offered to them?—No doubt I heard that, but I could not call to mind the parties who said it.

16,098. Can you give us the name of any one?—I cannot.

16,099. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you pay the Coopeys?—No. I think I told Mary Coopey to go up stairs in the Upper George, and that she would see some one there who would give her some money. I did not give her the money myself, another party who will give evidence here will tell you what he gave them.

16,100. You told her there was a party upstairs who would give her the money?—Yes, I think I had sent him upstairs.

16,101. Who was the party you had sent upstairs?—James Maysey.

16,102. When you sent Mrs. Coopey upstairs had you arranged with her what she and her family were to have?—Yes; we had a conversation, and it was understood that they should have 3*l.* each.

16,103. Did you see her come down?—Well, I believe I did see her come down.

16,104. Were the other Coopeys waiting about there at the Upper George?—I think they were all there.

16,105. Was there a dinner there?—Oh dear no. We came in early in the morning, and when we got in the first thing I heard was that we had no money. I brought the Coopeys in and the Vailes were brought in by some one else to the Upper George. I asked a party if he would go down to our committee room and ascertain whether there was any money afloat, so that these men should go about their business, and do as they liked if there was no money. Maysey went and he came with some money, and paid the Coopeys 3*l.* each.

16,106. And then you took them and polled?—No; I think they went by themselves.

16,107. You trusted them to go by themselves?—Yes; I was not afraid of them. I think at the house they pledged themselves they would poll. The Vailes, I think, were served in the same manner. I think the old lady had a sovereign for herself for taking care of her two sons or something.

16,108. And she was sent up stairs to receive the money in the same way?—Yes.

16,109. The Coopeys came in under the leadership of the old lady?—No; I came in with them and some of their children came.

16,110. In a carriage, I suppose?—We had a coach and four.

16,111. Did they poll early in the morning?—Yes.

16,112. As soon as the poll was open?—Between half past eight and nine, perhaps earlier; I think I got in a little before eight, and sent to the committee to know if there was any money. There was some little difficulty, and then Maysey brought some money, and I went and drew the money from Mr. Whithorn.

16,113. Where did you receive it?—At the committee-room.

16,114. Who was present?—I do not know. I believe there was no one but myself and Mr. Whithorn.

J. Maysey.

JAMES MAYSEY called and further examined.

16,115. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You canvassed at the election in 1857 for Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

16,116. And bribed?—Yes.

16,117. What money did you receive for the purpose of bribery?—I received in the morning 60*l.*

16,118. On the morning of the election?—Yes.

16,119. From Mr. Whithorn?—From Mr. Whithorn.

16,120. What did you receive from Ward?—I received no money from Ward.

16,121. Did you receive none from Ward?—No money from Ward that I can recollect at all.

16,122. You do not recollect to have received any from him?—Not to my recollection.

16,123. You received after the election, how much?—I received 40*l.* and 10*l.*

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16,124. You received 50*l.* after the election?—After the election. I believe those were the two sums.

16,125. That was from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes; that was from Mr. Whithorn.

16,126. And you received those two sums for the purpose of bribery?—Yes; or to give to voters.

16,127. Can you give me a list of the persons to whom you gave bribes?—I will give you a list as near as possible to my recollection, but you must be aware I could not give it so correct as I perhaps should have done if it had been a shorter time. I remember a woman coming to the Upper George. I gave her 24*l.* too for voters brought by John Ward.

16,128. You were at the Upper George on the polling day?—On the polling day.

16,129. The voters were brought by John Ward?—Yes, I believe it was by John Ward.

16,130. You gave 24*l.* to a woman?—Yes.

16,131. Who was that woman?—I did not know the woman. I never saw her before or since to my knowledge.

16,132. You gave 24*l.* to an unknown woman, for whom?—I understood amongst them it was the Coopeys.

16,133. For the family of the Coopeys?—Yes.

16,134. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you heard since who this woman was?—I have not. I do not know now.

16,135. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Ward.*) Was the woman you sent up to Maysey Mary Coopey?—I think it was. I think I told Maysey to go upstairs, and I sent those two women, Mary Coopey and Mrs. Vaile, up to him. I believe that Mary Coopey received the money from Maysey's hands, but Mrs. Vaile took the money off the table.

16,136. There was no other family but the Coopeys to which the sum of 24*l.* would be paid I suppose?—Certainly not.

16,137. There were eight Coopeys at 3*l.* a piece; that would make 24*l.*?—Yes.

Mr. Maysey. I think there was another among them.

Mr. Ward.—Rowles voted with the Coopeys.

16,138. (*Mr. Vaughan to the Witness.*) However, the money you paid was 24*l.*?—£24.

16,139. Now the next?—The next was a woman who was sent upstairs.

16,140. How much did you give to her?—I gave her 13*l.*, 12*l.* in consideration of votes, and the woman would have a sovereign for herself, whoever she was.

16,141. And for whose votes was that money paid?—They were brought the same as the others. I have no recollection of the woman, and should not know her again, and I do not suppose she would know me for I have never seen her before or since.

16,142. We have had a woman named Vaile before us, and she said she received 15*l.* from you?—I believe, to the best of my knowledge, it was but 13*l.* I fancy it is so, and one of those pounds she said she would have for something extra, and I was not particular about a sovereign, and satisfied her.

16,143. Do you know that that money was paid to her for the votes of the Vailes?—It was paid for the votes of some men. I cannot speak to their names positively. She said it was all right, and I gave her the money.

16,144. (*To Mr. Ward.*) You sent the two women upstairs to Maysey?—Yes.

16,145. And there were no more than those two women there?—No.

16,146. One of them was Mrs. Coopey and the other Mrs. Vaile?—Yes. I am under an impression that Mrs. Vaile received the money for William Coopey. I think that William Coopey and the Vailes came together, and that the 13*l.* was 12*l.* for them, and 1*l.* for the woman.

16,147. How many of the Vailes were there?—Samuel Vaile, Thomas Vaile, and William Vaile; and I believe there was a man of the name of William Coopey with them.

The Witness.—I have stated that there was another man. I did not know any of them. I believe the number I have given to be right.

16,148. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Ward.*) Do you remember a person of the name of Rowles?—Yes; he was with the Coopeys.

16,149. And you think that Elizabeth Coopey received the money for the three Vailes and for William Coopey?—Yes.

16,150. Was there a sum of money to be paid also for the vote of Rowles, in addition to the money paid for the votes of the Coopeys?—£3 for his vote with the rest of the Coopey's.

16,151. £24 appears to have been paid?—That would be for the three Coopeys and the Vailes and Rowles, I think.

16,152. (*To the Witness.*) Now give me the name of the next person to whom you gave money?—The next person bribed is Richard Wood, of Wotton, near Gloucester.

16,153. How much did you give him?—£3. I have had nothing else to refer to but the register and poll-book, and therefore I may make a mistake of ten shillings either way. I speak to the best of my memory.

16,155. Who was the next person to whom you gave money?—The next was Henry Wood, of St. Margaret's Hospital. He said his father would vote for us and I gave him the money and his father voted.

16,156. How much did you give him?—£2 10*s.* He said his father would go if I would advance him that money, and I gave it to some one. It went from me, and his father voted for us; and I believe the son fetched him and went up with him. Richard Wood is the son of the Henry Wood who went and voted first. It is a man from the hospital.

16,157. Now the next?—The next is Arthur Evans, of Hare Lane.

16,158. How much to him?—£3.

16,159. The next?—The next is Isaac Barker, of Norton.

16,160. How much to him?—£2. The next was Charles Roberts, of Norton, 2*l.* Samuel Roberts, of Norton, 2*l.*

16,161. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are all those freemen?—They are all freemen.

16,162. Were those sums all paid at the Upper George?—They were all paid at the Upper George.

16,163. That is to say, I understand with the exception of the payment to Wood?—Yes; I believe also a woman received one of those sums that I have given you.

16,164. (*Mr. Welford.*) In an upstairs room?—Yes. I have mentioned Samuel Roberts. Edward Roberts, of Norton, 2*l.* I believe there was an old man with them. I have looked over the register again, to try to bring it to my memory. I believe there was another with them that had 2*l.*

16,165. Do you mean another Roberts?—No, another voter; he was a countryman.

16,166. Did he come with the Roberts's?—He was in the room down stairs with them.

16,167. You gave him how much?—With the rest, 2*l.*

16,168. Do you know where he came from?—I believe he came from the same quarter, from Norton. He appeared to be a companion with them; they all knew each other.

16,169. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next?—Thomas Baylis, 1*l.*

16,170. Is he a freeman?—No, a householder.

16,171. Was this payment made to him at the Upper George?—No; I do not know whether it was made in the street or not. Many would ask me that day to give them a quart of ale, and I would give them a sixpence or so.

16,172. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you give him?—£1.

16,173. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now the next?—Charles Hill Evans, of Windmill Terrace.

16,174. How much did you give him?—£3.

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16,175. Now the next?—John Smart, of Worcester Street.

16,176. How much?—£2.

16,177. The next?—Henry John Wilkins. He is now on for Littleworth. I think he then lived in Quay Street; he is a freeman.

16,178. How much did you give him?—£2 10*s.*

16,179. The next?—Giles Taylor, of Union Street, 1*l.* 10*s.*

16,180. The next?—James Jervis, of Mitre Street, 2*l.*

16,181. The next?—Benjamin Bennett, of Alvin Street, bricklayer, 1*l.* I gave this after the election, I think a day or so. James Wilkins, of Barton Street, 2*l.* 10*s.* Charles Glendall, of the London Road, 2*l.*; that was after the election, I think. John Dix, of Mitre Street, shoemaker, 2*l.* 10*s.*; that was after the election.

16,182. The next?—Thomas Dix, of Bull Lane, 2*l.* 10*s.*

16,183. The next?—John Brookes, of Pitt Street. This was a lot altogether.

16,184. How much?—£2 10*s.*

16,185. The next?—William Brown, of Mitre Street, 2*l.* 10*s.*

16,186. The next?—Michael May, of Mitre Street, 2*l.* 10*s.*

16,187. The next?—John Dix, of Barton Street, 2*l.* 10*s.*

16,188. The next?—Thomas Pegler, shopkeeper, of Suffolk Street, 2*l.*

16,189. The next?—David Wilkins, of Bear, Lane, 1*l.*; that was after the election. Alfred Brabant Tailor, of Wellington Street, out of the city by the crossing of the Railway, 1*l.* That is all I can recollect.

16,190. You cannot recollect any others?—I cannot at present.

16,191. Does that make up the money?—It does not. There is 18*l.* left, which was spent on the day of the election. I gave and spent money, and no doubt I might have bribed one or two that I cannot recollect. It gave me a great deal of trouble to recollect those I have given you.

16,192. You are deficient about 18*l.*?—Yes.

16,193. That 18*l.* I suppose was expended in bribing voters?—It was spent in treating during the day, and in bribing voters.

16,194. That is during the election day?—Yes, during the day of the election. The 2*l.* that I mentioned with no name, which I believe was the Roberts's would make the 20*l.* I believe there was a man with them.

16,195. Did the various persons whose names you have mentioned receive the sums you have told us for their votes for Carden?—For their votes for Carden. I paid them those sums before and after the election.

16,196. For their votes for Carden?—Entirely so.

16,197. You began canvassing, I suppose, the electors as soon as Sir Robert Carden announced his intention of becoming a candidate?—I did.

16,198. And did you from an early period of your canvass begin to treat them and give them small sums of money in consideration of their votes?—No more than when I went into a public-house and found one or two voters or non-voters, they would ask me to stand something to drink. That is the first question almost they put to you; and I did so.

16,199. You were not at all unwilling to encourage the application?—I did not feel unwilling, as I knew the business I was upon; and if I did not treat that class of voters I should be of no use to canvass again.

16,200. If you did not treat them when they asked you, you would be of no use in canvassing?—No; on both sides you are bound to do it.

16,201. And you did, therefore, treat them from the first day you began canvassing?—I have no doubt I did from the first day; I have no doubt I did if I was asked.

16,202. And did you give them small sums of money by way of bribe?—I do not think I began by giving money, not at first. I was a little bit cautious about that matter. I might have given away a shilling or two or three at first.

16,203. The list of persons whose names we have here is a list of those to whom you had promised some consideration for their votes, I suppose, some time before the election?—Before the day of the election, I should say. I do not think I promised a dozen out of them; a dozen I am certain is going to the outside.

16,204. You had not promised more than a dozen of them two days before the election?—I am sure I had not.

16,205. How early was it that you began to make promises of money to voters?—I do not really think I made any promises at all till the day of the election; not to make promises. They would say, "We must have something for our trouble;" and I paid them the sums I have stated, as nearly as I can recollect. But at that time it was very different from the last election; then promises were made. A few days after Mr. Monk became a candidate, it was said, "Monk, our man, has plenty of money;" and we were bound to make promises.

16,206. I am confining your attention to the election of 1857. You said you did not think you promised more than a dozen, or not a dozen, more than two days before the election?—I did not.

16,207. How many days before the election was it that you promised any one?—I cannot say. That election was so different from the last, that when I said a dozen it might have been in this way,—a person might say "I shall expect to be paid for my time;" and I should say "That will be all right," and that would be a promise.

16,208. Did you promise voters some days before the election that if they voted for Sir Robert Carden they should have some consideration for their vote?—Yes; that their time should be made all right.

16,209. What would be the earliest time you would fix for that; would you say a week or ten days before the election?—I really cannot charge my memory to a day or two.

16,210. Would you say a week before the election?—It may be a week or four days, or it may be eight or nine days.

16,211. It might be seven or eight days?—Yes, it might.

16,212. Were you in communication with Mr. Whithorn about this matter?—Repeatedly; every time I saw him.

16,213. As soon as the canvass commenced?—Yes; I used to see him every day. I do not suppose I missed a day.

16,214. And you say he gave you money during the canvass?—All through the canvass.

16,215. He gave you money, I suppose, for the purpose of treating the voters, and for the purpose of paying away small sums of money to them?—Yes; if I had spent 1*l.* or 2*l.* he would give me the money. Sometimes I would spend 2*l.* or 3*l.* and sometimes 1*l.*; it went all through in that way.

16,216. Did you tell him seven or eight days before the election that you had promised to give some voters money for their votes, and did you tell him what the various sums would amount to?—I never told him anything about that; I thought there was no necessity for telling him.

16,217. Why did you think there was no necessity for telling him?—I thought I was a judge of my own business, and that he would not want to hear it. You do not want to hear more than you can help.

16,218. You thought you were a judge of your own business, that is as a canvasser?—That is what I meant.

16,219. You considered that Mr. Whithorn knew very well the course that you were adopting, and that without your mentioning it to him it would receive his sanction?—I never thought anything about that; I went on with my canvass up to the day of the election, and Mr. Whithorn never seemed to make much inquiry of me, only such as "How do you get

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on?" and I would say "I get on very well," and so on. I made my returns; sometimes he was there and sometimes he was not.

16,220. (*Mr. Welford.*) You made your returns to the committee-room?—Yes, not to Mr. Whithorn.

16,221. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you made your returns to the committee-room, did you state in those returns that some of those voters that you returned as promises required to be paid?—I never did.

16,222. That you kept to yourself?—That I kept to myself.

16,223. When was it that you told Mr. Whithorn that you would require money?—I said I should want some money, I think, the night before.

16,224. The night before the election?—Yes.

16,225. The night before the election you told Mr. Whithorn that you should want some money?—Yes.

16,226. Did you tell him that the election could not be won unless you had money?—I never told him anything of the sort, I only told him I should want some money.

16,227. Did you tell him what number of persons you should require to give money to?—I never mentioned anything of the sort; I said I should want some money.

16,228. Did you say how much?—He asked me how much, and I said "I shall want fifty or sixty pounds," and I had 60*l.*

16,229. Was that the 60*l.* you were sent with to the Upper George on the day of the election?—I think that was the first place I went to, to see if there was any one in there, but I am not quite positive as to that.

16,230. Had there been an arrangement come to that voters who were to be paid on the morning of the election were to be taken to the Upper George?—I never heard that there was any arrangement of that kind; it was a house that stood well in the way, and I could see a crowd round there and I went; and I think the first parties I met were those Coopeys that I gave the money to.

16,231. You went to the Upper George by chance on that occasion?—I went to the Upper George by chance; it was not to meet the Coopeys, and yet I thought it was a likely house to meet with some voters, and I saw some of both parties there at the same time. I saw some of the other party in the parlour. It was a regular house for the election day, and I think both parties went into it.

16,232. You occupied a room in the upper part of the house, did you not?—There was never any understanding whatever with the landlord or landlady.

16,233. Did you go into a room in the upper part of the house?—I went up, but it was never understood between the landlord or landlady and me that there was to be a room for the purpose.

16,234. But was there an understanding between you and Mr. Whithorn and Mr. John Ward?—I do not believe Mr. Whithorn knew anything at all about it; I knew nothing of it myself till I went in.

16,235. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose it was because there were voters on both sides in the room that you were sent upstairs?—That was the reason. I recollect seeing Mr. Probert in that very parlour in the morning, and I think I had a glass of ale with him; he is on the other side; we had been always very friendly, and drank together out of a cup or out of a glass, I am not certain which.

16,236. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) However, it was for the purpose of distributing these bribes among these voters in a more secret manner that you went upstairs into that room?—Certainly.

16,237. Besides the persons whose names you have mentioned, do you know of any other persons who were bribed on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—I do not know of any others.

16,238. Do you know of any voters that were bribed on the side of either Admiral Berkeley or Mr. Price?—No, I cannot say I know it, I have had my suspicions, but still that is no knowledge. I believe Benjamin Bennett, a bricklayer, had money both ways; he voted one and one, and I believe he had money from each, but I do not know, and several others I have thought of, but still it is not to my knowledge.

16,239. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then it is because they voted one and one?—They had voted for us before.

16,240. They had voted for you plumpers before?—Yes.

16,241. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did this man split his vote with Mr. Price and Sir Robert Carden?—Berkeley and Carden, I believe.

16,242. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you canvass a person of the name of Hutton or Hatton?—No, I did not.

16,243. Did you canvass Mr. Hatton or Hutton in 1857?—Never; I never went into the house.

16,244. Did you make any offer either to the husband or to the wife to buy the son out of the army at a cost of 30*l.*, if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I never saw the man till since the 1859 election to my knowledge.

16,245. I am speaking of 1857?—I had never seen him till the 1859 municipal election.

16,246. Did you, at the election of 1857, offer to buy his son out of the army?—I did not; I did not know them at the time.

16,247. Did you make any offer of that sort to any person at the election of 1857?—To no one at all.

16,248. Did you canvass with a person named Jonah Dyer?—He was not out so regular as myself; I have met him occasionally.

16,249. Do you know anything about a fund which is subscribed in Gloucester for defraying the expenses of the conservative candidates at the municipal elections?—No, I know nothing about that; I never was there when any fund was made.

16,250. Do you know that there is a fund subscribed?—I only heard yesterday something said about it.

16,251. Was that the first time you had heard of it?—That was the first time I knew that gentlemen did put down so much each.

16,252. You know nothing of the arrangements that are made for paying the costs of the conservative candidates at the municipal elections?—No, I never was present at any of those meetings, if there have been any.

16,253. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have said that in canvassing you were bound, on both sides, to adopt a system of treating and giving small sums?—Yes.

16,254. Is that always the case?—Yes.

16,255. With your own side?—Yes.

16,256. What knowledge have you of the practice being adopted by the other side?—I have been in the house with them, and I have seen them paying for a jug of ale, and I have done the same. I have drank with them and they with me. I never have had a dispute with any man on electioneering matters—not to have any words. I have always been respected, and I have respected them.

16,257. You looked on it quite as a matter of business?—As a matter of business.

16,258. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you canvass with Sir Robert Carden in 1857?—I was repeatedly with him.

16,259. Did he hear any applications for payment for loss of time or other consideration?—I think not.

16,260. You were paid for your services as a canvasser?—I was, in 1857.

16,261. Did you hear any applications made by voters in Sir Robert Carden's presence for payment for loss of time?—I did not. I would ask you if you would look to my evidence last Saturday respecting a man of the name of William Field. Will you be kind enough to see the question that was put to me about him?

16,262. You were asked, "Did you offer William Field any money?" and your answer was, "I do not

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know a person of the name of William Field." Then the next question was, "Do you not know a person named Field at all?" Your answer was, "I do not know a person named Field at all, not to my recollection. If you can tell me where he lives or anything of that sort, I may bring it to my mind." That is all there is about him?—That is quite right. I have been told since that I denied knowing any one of the name of William Field. What I had in my mind was a voter of the name of William Field. There is a man named William Field. I do not know where he lives. I turned round to Mr. Wilkes, and he said, "There is William Field, that we call Bill Field, one of the serjeants." I said, "But he is no voter." So that it went forth that I had stated I did not know William Field.

16,263. You meant that you did not know William Field a voter?—Yes.

16,264. Did you offer William Field, a non-voter, any money?—No; the is working the other way.

R. T. Haviland.

ROBERT THOMAS HAVILAND sworn and examined.

16,265. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A commercial traveller and shipping agent at the docks, and an unbiassed freeman of the city of Gloucester.

16,266. You received a sum of 5*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*?—Yes, from Mr. Whithorn.

16,267. In 1857?—Yes.

16,268. What did you receive that for?—It was cash expended before and during the election, which was disposed of in this way:—Richard Brooks, 1*l.*, and a neighbour of his of the name of Williams, 1*l.* Brookes, I should say, was formerly a servant in my employ. He kept a public-house, and when I have canvassed him he has invariably accommodated me with one vote. Renting under a radical landlord he has given the other vote to him. He complained to me about not having his house opened, and I gave him 1*l.* to spend in his house, and left 1*l.* with him for Williams.

16,269. Where does he live?—In Littleworth, near there; on the tramroad I think it is.

16,270. What beerhouse does he keep?—I will not say, but it is a beerhouse.

16,271. Where is it?—It is the Briton's Glory or something. I will not say what it is exactly.

16,272. I suppose the 1*l.* you gave to Brookes was intended as an inducement to him to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—He had complained to me, and the man having always accommodated me before, I did not see why he should be worse off than any one else. I did not consider I could do less than make him some remuneration in the shape of an expenditure at his house.

16,273. That was by way of inducement to him to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I should say, of course, it would be so.

16,274. And the 1*l.* which you gave to Brookes for Williams was also for the same purpose?—Yes; for the same purpose.

16,275. With regard to the balance, how was that expended?—I paid 1*l.* for the band the night the decision of the House of Commons came down that Sir Robert Carden was duly elected. I paid Jefferson Bryon 1*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* for money said to have been expended by him in a supper for some of his men who were voters and who were going to vote for Sir Robert Carden.

16,276. Jefferson Bryon of the Berkeley Arms?—Yes; I paid him 1*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* for a supper for his men, who were voters and who were going to vote for Sir Robert Carden.

16,277. A supper at his own house?—No; he is a tailor and has several tailors under him who are voters. I paid him 1*l.* for a man in his employ of the name of Hatch.

16,278. Was he a voter?—He was a voter. That I think will give you 5*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*

16,279. Was that 1*l.* paid for Hatch to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; I believe Hatch had been ill, and he said it would be a charity to him. That leaves 10*s.*, which I spent in giving beer to different parties.

16,280. Treating different persons?—Treating different persons.

16,281. Who were voters?—Yes, and their wives. When they came and met me, they asked me if I could not stand a glass, and I gave one a shilling and another a shilling when I was out canvassing. That makes up the amount 5*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

16,282. Did you pay any money at all out of your own pocket?—I paid this out of my own pocket at first, but was reimbursed afterwards.

16,283. Besides that, did you pay any other money out of pocket?—I may have paid some, but if I did I did not receive it again, but it would be to no extent.

16,284. Did you receive any money for similar purposes from any other person?—Certainly not.

16,285. Did you offer money to any other person?—None whatever.

16,286. Do you know of any other persons that were bribed?—I cannot say of my own knowledge.

16,287. Do you know any persons to whom bribes were offered on the liberal side?—Persons have told me they had so and so; but I take no notice of what people say, because, in electioneering matters, I know they will say what is not correct.

16,288. Can you give me the names—I cannot.

16,289. You cannot give the names of any other persons to whom bribes were offered either on the one side or on the other?—I cannot.

O. Clutterbuck.

OBADIAH CLUTTERBUCK called and further examined.

16,290. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much money did you receive at the election in 1857?—£35.

16,291. You received from Mr. Whithorn how much?—£35.

16,292. When did you receive that from him?—On the morning of the polling.

16,293. What did you receive from any other person?—I received 6*l.* from Mr. Lovegrove after the election petition was over for my services, and I received 4*l.* of John Ward for bribing.

16,294. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that during the election?—It was on the day of the polling that I received that of John Ward.

16,295. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive anything from Maysey?—No.

16,296. Or from any other person?—No.

16,297. Whom did you bribe with that money?—William Harris of Prince Street, a butcher.

16,298. How much to him?—£3.

16,299. Who was the next?—John Day of Hampden Place, 2*l.*

16,300. Who was the next?—William Jones of Cambridge Street, 4*l.*?—Charles Brookes of Barton Street, 1*l.* 10*s.*

16,301. Is that Charles Brookes the brother of John Brookes?—No; I know he is not. The next is John Holder of Cambridge Street; he had to come from White's Hill, beyond Stroud, and I gave him 3*l.* for his expenses and his vote. The next is Thomas Cole, 2*l.* There were three men, Cole, Meadows, and Miles; Miles had the money from me for those three.

16,302. To whom did you pay the money?—Miles; he had the money for Cole, Meadows, and himself.

16,303. Where does Thomas Miles live?—He is now at Stonehouse.

16,304. Is he on the railway?—Yes.

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16,305. Where did Thomas Cole live?—He lived at that time in Westgate Street; he does not live there now.

16,306. What was he?—A fishmonger.

16,307. How much did you give to them?—I gave them 2*l.* each. Miles had the money, however.

16,308. Now the next?—The next is Joseph Williams, 30*s.*, to the best of my recollection.

16,309. Where does Joseph Williams live?—In Cambridge Street.

16,310. How much did you give him?—Thirty shillings; I am not exactly certain, but I think it was 30*s.*

16,311. Who was the next?—John Townsend, a butcher, 30*s.*

16,312. Where does he live?—In the Westgate Street. That is all I bribed with that money.

16,313. Will you now give us, if you please, the names of the persons who were sent to you by Ward?—I had money of Ward to give to two persons; 4*l.*

16,314 What were their names?—George Middleton, a butcher of Northgate Street—that is where he lived then, and Henry Ball; 2*l.* each.

16,315. Where did Ball live?—In Union Street, I think.

16,316. You paid those two men with money which you had from Ward?—Yes.

16,317. How do you make up the remainder of the money?—The rest I spent in canvassing and treating.

16,318. Do you mean to say that the whole of the remainder of the money was spent in that way?—Yes, and in what I gave away in canvassing.

16,319. Was it not spent in bribing other persons?—I never gave any other man a pound for his vote.

16,320. The balance appears to be about 13*l.*?—Yes, somewhere thereabouts.

16,321. Do you say you spent the whole of that in canvassing and treating voters?—Yes: I was doing it for about a fortnight.

16,322. Did you begin to canvass, treat, and promise voters at the beginning of your canvass?—Yes.

16,323. As soon as Sir Robert Carden became a candidate you began to canvass, treat, and promise voters?—Yes, I did.

16,324. Did you canvass pretty nearly the same districts in 1857 that you canvassed in 1859?—Yes.

16,325. Is William Harris a freeman?—No, a householder.

16,326. John Day?—A householder.

16,327. William Jones?—A householder.

16,328. Charles Brookes?—A householder.

16,329. John Holder?—A householder.

16,330. Thomas Miles?—A freeman.

16,331. Thomas Cole?—A freeman.

16,332. Henry Meadows?—A householder.

16,333. Joseph Williams?—A householder.

16,334. John Townsend?—A householder.

16,335. George Middleton?—A householder.

16,336. Henry Ball?—A householder.

16,337. Had you any conversation with Mr. Whithorn upon the subject?—When we were canvassing I would return the promises to the committee; sometimes he was there when I went, and sometimes he was not.

16,338. Did you return the promises to Mr. Whithorn?—Yes; sometimes he was in the committee-room and sometimes he was not.

16,339. Did you tell Mr. Whithorn that you found that money would be wanted?—Not particularly I did not.

16,340. Did you tell him so at all?—I did, on the morning of the polling.

16,341. Was that the first time you had told him that?—No, because I had some money of him before on the canvass.

16,342. And that was for the purpose of bribery?—Yes, it was all for the purpose of bribery.

16,343. How much money had you from him during the canvass?—I should think I had from 10*l.* to 12*l.*; but altogether I had from him 35*l.* to canvass and for bribery.

16,344. I thought you said you had 35*l.* from him on the morning of the polling?—Yes.

16,345. Had you 8*l.* or 10*l.* from him during the canvass?—I had; but I spent that out of my own private purse, and had it from him again.

16,346. I thought you said you had money from Mr. Whithorn during the canvass?—Yes, I had; as I spent it to-day I drew it of him to-morrow.

16,347. Was the money you had from him during the canvass in addition to the sum you had from him on the morning of the polling?—No; that is all the money I had of him; altogether it was 35*l.*; that was every fraction.

16,348. Then you had no money from him during the canvass?—No, I had not.

16,349. What made you say just now you had?—I was mistaken.

16,350. You had no money from him during the canvass?—Not to my recollection.

16,351. Are you sure of it?—I am positive of it.

16,352. But you had a conversation with Mr Whithorn during the canvass, and you received money from him?—I drew the money of him the morning of the polling.

16,353. Did you not tell Mr. Whithorn during your canvass, and before the polling, that you wanted money for the purpose of bribery?—No.

16,354. When did you first tell him that?—The morning I received the money.

16,355. The morning of the polling?—Yes.

16,356. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you present on the nomination day at the hustings, in 1857?—Yes.

16,357. Did you hear Sir Robert Carden make a speech?—I heard part of it.

16,358. Did you hear him say anything with reference to bribery?—No; he had a book in his hand about St. Alban's.

16,359. Did you hear him say that he wished to be returned for Gloucester without the expenditure of a shilling, or something of that sort?—No, I do not recollect it.

16,360. (*Mr. Welford.*) If he did, you did not pay much attention to it?—No.

16,361. You did not think it meant much?—I did not take notice of it.

16,362. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were working for your party, and were not very particular in considering what Sir Robert Carden said about his wishes?—No, I did not take much notice of what he said on the nomination day.

JOHN BIDDLE HANMAN called and further examined.

16,363. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been examined here before?—I was, on Monday.

16,364. You are a grocer?—I am.

16,365. You canvassed for Sir Robert Carden, in 1857, did you not?—I canvassed a few of the voters in my own district. I believe I was out with them one day at the bottom of the Southgate Street, and round the docks with Mr. Lovegrove and a party canvassing.

16,366. You received a sum of money from Mr. Whithorn?—I did.

16,367. What was the amount you received from him?—£23.

16,368. Did you receive any money from any other person?—I did not.

16,369. How did you spend that money? Who did you bribe?—Robert Hackett.

16,370. Is he a freeman?—He is a freeman in Long Smith Street.

16,371. How much did you give him?—He had then been at work at Stroud, and came from Stroud to Gloucester, to vote. He was here for the week,

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and I gave him 2*l.* for his loss of time and vote, the vote being taken into consideration.

16,372. Who is the next?—The next is William Tooth, a freeman of Tredworth. I cannot tell the amount I gave to him, whether it was 2*l.* or 3*l.*, but I think it was 3*l.* I should not like to be positive on the subject. I never kept any account.

16,373. That was for his vote for Carden?—It was.

16,374. Who was the next?—The next was William Scott. Whether he was a householder or freeman I do not know. He lived in Bolt Lane at the time; he is since dead. I gave him 4*l.*; that was for his own vote, and for the vote of some other person who I did not know, but who went to poll with him. I do not know who the other person was. I gave him 4*l.*, and I expect he gave the other man 2*l.* of it; that was 2*l.* for each.

16,375. Who is the next?—The next is Decimus Best, junior.

16,376. Where of?—Cross Keys Lane.

16,377. How much did you give to him?—I gave him 5*l.*, but I do not know whether that was all for himself or not. That was above the market price, but I am satisfied there was some other circumstance in connexion with that. He voted for Berkeley and Carden. He told me he would not vote against Admiral Berkeley for any consideration.

16,378. Is he a clerk at the railway station?—No, he is station porter to the post office; he takes the bags from the post office to the station.

16,379. Whether it was for himself or for another person you do not know?—No; there was some consideration attached to giving him so large an amount I know, but I do not recollect what it was.

16,380. You gave him that money for his vote for Carden?—Yes; he voted for Berkeley. I knew he was going to split.

16,381. Who is the next?—James Barnard, of Hare Lane. I think he is at sea now; he was here a few days ago; whether he has shipped since I do not know. I gave James Barnard either 25*s.* or 30*s.* for his travelling expenses from Newport to Gloucester. I believe a gentleman now present in court knows that he was kept in Mr. Kendall's office from eight till half past twelve o'clock in the morning, but he would not vote for the other party. He came to me, and told me he was going to vote for Carden, and I told him I thought I was justified in giving him his travelling expenses, and I gave him his railway fare by the second class, and some few shillings to spend. I had a great deal of trouble in finding the man, and if he had not come to me voluntarily on the day of the polling I should never have seen him. He was struck off the register next year, being at sea, but he has again claimed this year, and has been put on again; and he has very politely told me that he would now vote for a mopstick if it was trimmed with blue ribbons. What I gave him was not given as a consideration for his vote, it was only his travelling expenses and a few shillings for him to spend. He would have voted for us whether he had had the money or not. I believe that all the talking that Mr. Kendall could give him, though he was on board one of his ships, would not make him vote for the liberals.

16,382. Who was the next?—Charles Workman; he is now at Cardiff, I think. Whether he voted at the last election or not, or whether he is on the list or not, I do not know.

16,383. Where was he at the time of the election?—I think he was at Sharpness Point, but I am not sure. I know he came to me with Barnard.

16,384. Is he a freeman?—Yes, he voted for Berkeley and Carden, and I either gave him half a sovereign or a sovereign, I do not know which; that was for coming up from the country to vote; it was not given to him for his vote. He would have voted if he had had nothing.

16,385. What was the money given to him for if not for his vote?—It was for his travelling expenses.

16,386. What would be the expense of a person coming from Sharpness Point to Gloucester?—I suppose he would come by the steamboat for 6*d.* or a 1*s.* I believe that it was 10*s.* that I gave that man.

16,387. You gave him either 1*l.* or 10*s.*, you do not know which?—Yes, I think it was 10*s.*

16,388. You gave it to him for his expenses in coming to Gloucester, the expense of coming here being, you tell us, 6*d.* or 1*s.*?—Yes; and I allowed him something for refreshment.

16,389. Did you give him that money for his vote?—He would have voted for us whether I had given him the money or not.

16,390. Should you have given him money if he had not been a voter?—I do not think I should.

16,391. Did you not give him that money then for his vote?—No, not as a bribe.

16,392. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you give it to him in consequence of his having voted?—No. He said he thought he was entitled to something. I understood him to say that he had come from Sharpness Point, and he thought he was entitled to his travelling expenses.

16,393. Sixpence or a shilling?—He had to go back, and there was his loss of time.

16,394. You would not have paid him if he had not been a voter?—I do not think I should; I am sure I should not.

16,395. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who else did you give money to?—I do not remember paying anybody else. It has been stated here by Mr. Wilkes that I gave Cox credit in account for 3*l.* That money did not come out of the 23*l.* I received. There was about 7*l.* left out of the 23*l.* which I spent in treating, not only on the day of the election but several nights before.

16,396. Was the 3*l.*, which you allowed to Cox, your own money?—Yes. If I had known that I was to allow him that, very likely I should have kept the 3*l.* for myself. But after the election was over myself and Mr. Ward had a little bit of a jaunt together. When I came to search my pocket, I found I had about 50*s.* or 55*s.* unexpended, and he suggested that we should go and have a little refreshment, so we started to the Booth Hall and had a couple of bottles of champagne, and forgetting that it was Saturday night, and that some of the working men of the party were going to sup at the Oak, I expended 22*s.* in a salmon, which I was too busy to go and partake of, but they very kindly sent me up some for supper. I spent 22*s.* or 23*s.* among my friends. I know that when the election was over, I was 3*l.* or 4*l.* out of pocket.

16,397. Altogether, there was about 7*l.* which you cannot account or except in the refreshment you speak of?—Yes.

16,398. Refreshments to yourself and Mr. Ward, and voters whom you treated?—Not Mr. Ward alone; in fact I think after we had finished that two bottles of champagne somebody else tossed, and we did not leave off with only two bottles.

16,399. Who was Mr. Cox, to whom you allowed the 3*l.*; was he a freeman?—He voted as a householder; he may have been on the list at that time for St. Aldate's Street, he kept a shop there; that is where I supplied him with the goods.

16,400. And 3*l.* of the debt he owed you you forgave for his vote for Carden, and you paid yourself out of the money in your hands?—No; the money was all expended when he came to me for it; it was not till three or four days after the election that he came to me; he owed me 13*l.* or 14*l.* at the time; I gave him credit for that 3*l.*, and I received a sovereign from him afterwards; but I have never seen the rest, and as he has gone through the insolvent court I never shall.

16,401. Did you commence your canvass in 1857 soon after Sir Robert Carden was announced as a candidate?—I cannot say I did. When they came to canvass the Southgate Street district, in which I reside, they requested me to go down with them to show them the voters in the lanes in the neighbourhood. I do not think Sir Robert Carden could have

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been canvassing more than three or four days. I never made a regular canvass, I only called on a few men I knew.

16,402. Did you call at public-houses and treat voters there?—I often called at public-houses, and no doubt I almost invariably treated them when I met them there; but there were many men not voters that I treated as well.

16,403. The 7*l.* went partly in treating voters, and partly for your own entertainment?—As far as the champagne and salmon was concerned, but that was all. I see it is stated in the evidence of Mr. Whithorn that nearly all the money that was disbursed was spent upon the canvassers. I beg to say, that in 1857 I started canvassing and committed the misdeeds I have related because I thought that the conservatives were entitled to a share in the representation of this city, but I made up my mind after the petition to the House of Commons had been decided never to have anything more to do with elections; but Sir Robert Carden had behaved with very great kindness to my brother in 1859, and when I was requested to assist him in his election I felt I could not refuse. I have been accused by Griffiths before the Committee of the House of Committee with having given him 2*l.* for his vote. I declare that I never gave him anything of the sort. I have no doubt the man was bribed, but I never bribed him.

16,404. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you speaking of the petition after the election in 1857?—Yes.

16,405. Do you know the names of any of the persons who were bribed?—No, I do not.

16,406. Did you hear of any persons being bribed on the other side?—There is no doubt that many people told me, when I went to canvass them, that they had been offered money, but they did not tell me who by.

16,407. Can you recollect the names of any of the persons who told you that?—No, I cannot.

16,408. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you took part in the last election because you were under obligations to Sir Robert Carden?—I considered myself so.

16,409. Did you know that Sir Robert Carden came down to Gloucester on purity principles?—I heard him say so.

16,410. On the hustings?—I did hear him speak on the hustings in 1857, and I heard him return thanks for his election.

16,411. May I take it for granted that when you heard him say what he did you did not believe in the sincerity of his declarations?—I do not believe he knew anything about what was done.

16,412. At the same time you thought you were serving him by bribing voters in the way you have described?—There is no doubt I was endeavouring to secure his election; whether he would consider that a service or not I do not know.

16,413. (*Mr. Welford.*) You thought his election would not be secured without resorting to means such as those you took?—I knew that there were many voters who would not go to the poll without being paid—that was certain.

J. Smith.

JOHN SMITH sworn and examined.

16,414. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A gentleman.

16,415. Are you a supporter of Sir Robert Carden?—I am.

16,416. And were you so at the election of 1857?—Yes, I was.

16,417. Did you act for him?—No, I did not.

16,418. Did you canvass for him?—No; I went with the canvassers, but I did not interfere at all. I was requested by some of the canvassers to go with them.

16,419. Did you receive any money during the election for any purpose?—No, not a farthing.

16,420. Did you expend any money?—I did.

16,421. What did you expend?—A few shillings or perhaps a pound or two.

16,422. For what purpose?—Treating myself.

16,423. Did you treat other people also?—I might do so perhaps.

16,424. Voters?—No, not voters—anybody. I do not go into the town any day but what I spend some money.

16,425. Do you mean to say you did not spend more during your canvass than you did at other times?—I did not canvass.

16,426. Did you spend this money in treating with a view to please the voters and influence their votes?—Not at all.

16,427. You did it merely in the ordinary course?—Merely in the ordinary course; meeting friends about at different places where I went I often treated them.

16,428. Did you advance any money to anybody during the election?—Not a farthing.

16,429. Not to anybody for the purpose of the election?—Not a farthing.

16,430. Nor during the last election of 1859?—I left the town three days and nights because I would not be in amongst it.

16,431. At the former election you were here, were you not?—I was.

16,432. But you did not advance any money to any one?—Not a penny.

16,433. Do you know of any money being advanced for the purposes of the election?—Plenty of it; I heard of it, but I never saw any pass.

16,434. Who have you heard of as having advanced money for the purpose of the election?—I have heard of several people having money paid them for their votes.

16,435. Merely a general rumour?—I did not interfere so much as to retain it in my memory, so I cannot mention any one's name in particular.

16,436. Do you know of any one who advanced money for the purpose of the election?—No; I never saw any money pass, and as to hearsay, we do not take any notice of that. I have been asked for money by lots of voters.

16,437. Can you mention the names of any?—Yes, I can mention lots.

16,438. In 1857?—Oh yes.

16,439. Just mention the names of some voters who asked you for money?—They have asked me "What will you stand this time; I understand the price will run high?" and I have said, "Will you take a 10*l.* note," or anything like that.

16,440. That was in 1857?—It might be, but I cannot say. I have been at it for thirty years electioneering. I went at it so long that I got sick of it. I got on the wrong side; I was not so fortunate as some of them are; I did not get paid; I spent my time and money for nothing.

16,441. Cannot you give us the names of any of those persons who asked you for money?—Yes; the Coopeys over at Churcham, men that I have been acquainted with these thirty years, and their father before them; they have never come to Gloucester without bribery, if you call it bribery, but they do not call it bribery. They declare that they will not come without being paid, and I do not blame them for it. Why should they lose their time and money in coming to vote when they do not care about it? They would vote for either whigs or tories if they are paid. The man who will give the best price is the man for them.

16,442. Which side used you to be?—I have been at work for the whig party before now.

16,443. You have been on both sides?—I have, and I have attended to the registration east and west, for the Gloucester district and the Newent district. I was engaged for several years continually.

16,444. Did you get anything for what you did for

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J. Smith.

13 Oct. 1859.

Sir Robert Carden?—Not a farthing; and I never asked for anything. I worked for twenty-one days and nights for Henry Thomas Hope, and spent sixteen guineas out of my own pocket, and never got a farthing.

16,445. Were the people who asked for money voters?—Yes; I knew them to be voters, they were on the register and were qualified to vote.

16,446. But you cannot tell us their names?—No, I cannot, because I took no particular notice of them. I have been out canvassing six years ago, but not this last two or three elections; from 1830 to 1853 I was continually at it, all the year round pretty well, both in municipal and parliamentary elections—I was continually at it.

16,447. And at all the different elections has bribery prevailed?—Yes; it was worse thirty years ago than it is now; I will prove it. I am afraid that this inquiry will not put a stop to it.

16,448. Do you yourself advance money sometimes to parties?—Yes, sometimes.

16,449. You discount for parties in Gloucester, do you not?—I do, and in the country round about.

16,450. Were you in 1857 requested to discount any bills of exchange or promissory notes for the purposes of the election?—No. I am quite satisfied I did not do that. If I had done it I should never have got the money. I was taught a lesson some years ago in electioneering. I always was cautious after that.

16,451. You did it some years ago, did you?—I did some years ago lend people money, but I never had it back again.

16,452. And that was a lesson which you have taken care to remember?—I never would lend voters money after that day. Before that I did it and never saw it again, but I was told by the people of our party, "You must not mind that. You are a staunch supporter. You can afford to lose it," and so on. I did not mind losing my labour, but I did not like to part with a lot of money too.

16,453. Are you quite certain that in 1857 no persons who had anything to do with the management of Sir Robert Carden's election came to you to get you to advance money?—Not at all. There was a report in the town of my advancing for the Coopeys 111*l.*, but it was all false, and the Coopeys will prove the same.

16,454. Did you advance any money for the purposes of the election in 1859?—I left town three days and nights because I would not be among it.

18,455. Did you advance any money before you left the town?—No. I should have been teased out of my life if I had stopped here.

16,456. Do I understand you to say that neither in 1857 nor in 1859 did any money come out of your pocket for the purposes of the election?—Not a farthing in any shape more than a glass, or anything like that. Not a penny did I pay on account of the election in 1859; but there are men who I canvassed twenty years ago, who fancy I am under an obligation to them now, because I have had their votes, and I often treat them with a glass of brandy and water. I have done that very often, and perhaps I shall do it hereafter.

16,457. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you advance any large sum of money or discount any bills?—Not for electioneering purposes, nor for any of our party; not with a view or understanding that the money was wanted to purchase votes.

16,458. Did anybody ask you to discount any bill, the money, the produce of which, was to be employed by other people for electioneering purposes?—I almost think that a man asked me for 200*l.*

16,459. Who was that?—I do not recollect now.

16,460. Did you let him have it?—No; I did not, but that was not for a parliamentary election. I think that was a town council election.

16,461. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you advance any money to pay expenses which had been incurred during the election in 1857?—No; I do not recollect that I did.

16,462. Or did you discount any bill to pay off any old score?—No; if I did I do not recollect it.

16,463. Or in 1859?—No; I would not have anything to do with it, because it was such a corrupt place,—money went like water.

16,464. Are you certain that you did not advance any money to pay off election scores in 1857?—I do not believe I did. If I had done it I should have a memorandum of it in my book. I could show you, what I put down at the time in black and white.

16,465. Will you refer to your book for 1857 and see whether there was any sum advanced by you before or after the election, applicable to the purposes of the election?—I will.

16,466. And if you find that there was, will you inform us of it?—Yes; and at any other time for the last thirty years, where I have been concerned.

J. Franklin.

JABEZ FRANKLIN called and further examined.

16,467. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any money in 1857?—Yes.

16,468. How much did you receive?—£4 2*s.* for my services.

16,469. For your services as what?—I made myself generally useful.

16,470. In what way?—In any way that was required by Mr. Maysey, or any of the other parties on the committee.

16,471. From whom did you receive that money?—Mr. Lovegrove.

16,472. What other sum did you receive?—£4. 2*s.*

16,473. What other sum?—No other sum at all.

16,474. Did you canvass voters in 1857?—No, I did not.

16,475. Did you offer any bribe to voters?—No bribe at all.

16,476. Do you know of any bribes having been offered?—No, I do not.

16,467. Not on either side?—No; not on either side.

16,478. (*Mr. Welford.*) What service did you perform for this money?—I was to make myself generally useful, more as a messenger than anything else.

16,479. Were you on the committee?—No, not exactly on the committee. I did anything that was required of me.

16,480. How long were you employed?—I cannot say how long.

16,481. Did you begin as soon as the committee was formed?—Yes.

16,482. Was that as soon as Sir Robert Carden had offered himself as a candidate?—Yes.

16,483. Was your business merely to take messages?—No; I was to make myself generally useful.

16,484. Who did you act under?—Mr. Maysey.

16,485. What did Mr. Maysey employ you about?—Anything he required me to do.

16,486. Did he require you to hunt up the voters?—Yes; anything that was required.

16,487. Did the voters tell you that they were to receive money from Mr. Maysey?—No. I knew nothing of money matters at all.

16,488. How then were you to help Mr. Maysey, for he seems to have been engaged principally in dealing with money?—I was not engaged in that; I knew nothing of it.

16,489. Was this 4*l.* 2*s.* given to you for your own vote?—No; it was given to me for my services.

16,490. I want to know what services you performed?—I did anything that was required of me.

16,491. Did you wait at the committee-room?—I

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was there sometimes. If I met the canvassing party I went with them.

16,492. What did you do for Mr. Maysey?—I went sometimes on messages when I was required to do so.

16,493. Tell us any message that you carried?—If I saw any voter on the opposite side with the other party I would go and give him information of it.

16,494. Do you mean if you saw any voters whose votes you thought you might buy you told Mr. Maysey of it?—Yes.

16,495. Did you know the voters who were likely to be bought?—I imagined so.

16,496. That was your great service, was it?—Yes.

16,497. To find out the voters who were likely to be bought?—Yes.

16,498. And to tell Mr. Maysey where they were?—Yes.

16,499. Are you a voter yourself?—Yes.

16,500. Did Mr. Lovegrove know what the services were that you performed?—I do not think he did.

16,501. How came he to pay you then?—I do not know.

16,502. What did you tell him you had done?—I did not tell him anything particular.

16,503. Did he come and offer you the money?—No.

16,504. How was it that you got paid?—For my services.

16,505. Did you send in an account?—Yes.

16,506. What did you say in your account; what did you charge?—For services.

16,507. And did Mr. Lovegrove pay you himself?—Yes.

16,508. Did you tell him that you had been active under Mr. Maysey?—Yes.

16,509. And did you tell him what you have told us now as to the nature of your services?—No, I did not.

16,510. He was satisfied to take that upon trust?—Yes.

16,511. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How long were you employed before the election?—I cannot say exactly.

16,512. How long were you employed in hunting up voters and ascertaining who would take bribes?—I cannot say exactly; not a great while. I was under Mr. Maysey's directions some time before I understood anything of the sort—anything of bribery.

16,513. Were you employed for eight or ten days before the election in ascertaining what voters would take bribes?—No, not so long as that.

16,514. How long before the election were you so employed?—I think it was on the nomination day.

16,515. On the nomination day you were employed in that way for the first time?—Just to go and see if I could see any one that I could take to Mr. Maysey.

16,516. Was the nomination day the first day on which you were employed by Mr. Maysey?—No; I had been under his direction for some time.

16,517. How long before the nomination day was it that you were employed to see what voters could be obtained by bribes?—I cannot speak exactly to the day.

16,518. Was it a day or two before the nomination day?—I cannot say whether it was or not.

16,519. Can you say on what day it was?—No, I cannot say exactly the day; but I believe it was on the nomination day.

16,520. That was the first time?—Yes; I believe it was.

16,521. (*Mr. Welford.*) You were employed for a fortnight. Before you did that which you have told us of, what did you do?—I made myself generally useful.

16,522. In the same was as you did afterwards?—No; if I heard anything, I would let Mr. Maysey know; not in respect of bribery; nothing of the sort; if I knew that there was a voter about, I would go and give Mr. Maysey information of it.

16,523. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You would give him information of it if you found a stray voter?—Yes; I was quite a novice at that time.

16,524. You have had some experience since?—A little more.

JONAH DYER called and further examined.

16,525. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You kept the Three Cocks in 1857?—Yes.

16,526. What had you to do with the election of 1857?—I was canvassing. I was no voter then.

16,527. But you were a canvasser?—Yes.

16,528. You treated voters, did you not?—Yes.

16,529. And bribed them?—No.

16,530. You did not bribe any?—No.

16,531. You confined what you did to treating?—Yes.

16,532. Where was the treating carried on?—At my house.

16,533. What did you receive for treating voters?—£8 7*s.*

16,534. From whom did you receive that?—From Mr. Lovegrove.

16,535. When did you receive it?—About the 18th of August.

16,536. Had you sent in your bill before that?—I sent in my bill some time after the election.

16,537. How soon after?—I cannot say whether it was a week or a month. I know I did not receive the money till after the petition was over.

16,538. Was it a week or a month after the election that you sent it in?—It was more than a week.

16,539. And it might be a month?—Yes.

16,540. Who told you to treat the voters?—No one.

16,541. No one told you?—No.

16,542. How came you to treat them?—I did it on my own account.

16,543. On speculation?—Yes.

16,544. Was John Ward at your house in 1857?—I cannot recollect whether he was or not.

16,545. Was James Maysey there?—Yes.

16,546. Did he come there early after the canvassing began?—Yes.

16,547. Did he tell you to treat the voters?—No.

16,548. Did he bring voters with him?—I believe he did at times.

16,549. To your house?—Yes.

16,550. When he brought voters with him to your house, did he desire you to give them entertainment?—He would call for it.

16,551. And did he pay for it?—No.

16,552. Your debt went on from time to time till a bill was run up to the amount of 8*l.* 7*s.*?—Yes. This that is charged for was not all had before the election. There was not more than between 3*l.* and 4*l.* had then. This went on for some time after, when they were getting up the petition.

16,553. The treating went on after the election was over?—Yes.

16,554. While the petition was being got up?—Yes.

16,555. Who did you have at your house after the election, while the petition was being got up?—I cannot recollect: I can recollect some.

16,556. Tell me the names of those you remember?—Grimmett was one.

16,557. What is Grimmett's Christian name?—Charles.

16,558. Who else?—George Harris.

16,559. Who else?—Rea.

16,560. Henry Rea?—Henry Rea.

16,561. Who else?—There were some others; but I cannot recollect their names.

16,562. Who came with them when they were

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J. Dyer.
13 Oct. 1859.

treated after the election ?—That I cannot tell ; they used to bring people there.

16,563. Were they very often at your house ?—Almost every day.

16,564. Eating and drinking ?—Not very extortionate ; perhaps they might have two or three pints each of ale.

16,565. Was this amount run up principally for beer ?—Yes.

16,566. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know of any money having been paid for bribes in the election of 1857 ?—No, not on either side.

16,567. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you commenced treating without orders, I suppose you did so on the expectation that you would be afterwards paid by the candidate ?—Or by his agent, I did.

16,568. If you had known that no such money would have been appropriated to such a purpose would you have treated the people as you did ?—Well, I think I should, to support my own principles.

16,569. Would you have done so at your own expense ?—Yes.

16,570. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you say you would have treated them at your own expense ?—Yes.

16,571. £8 7*s*. ?—£8 7*s*.

16,572. You had never treated before, I suppose, without being paid ?—I never treated before.

16,573. Were those persons whom you have mentioned as being at your house after the election, Grimmett, George Harris, and Henry Rea, at your house during the canvass and before the election ?—Before and after.

16,574. And were they there as frequently before the election as they were after the election ?—Yes.

16,575. Mostly every day ?—Yes ; they live in the same neighbourhood.

C. H. Hawkins.

CHARLES HENRY HAWKINS called and further examined.

16,576. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What do you know about the election of 1857 ?—That I never paid a voter, and that I did not know that a voter was paid. I had not a shilling of the money, and was not concerned in it.

16,577. Did you not know that any voters were paid in 1857 ?—I did not, certainly. I was never asked to pay a voter either.

16,578. Did you ever offer any money to any person in 1857 ?—Not a shilling. I may have given sixpence or a shilling out of my own pocket during the election.

16,579. But you never offered anybody any money as a bribe in 1857 ?—Certainly not, nor anything else.

16,580. Are you greatly surprised to find that a considerable quantity of bribery did exist ?—I am. I am much surprised to find that it was general. I can almost say that I did not know of a man that was bribed till to-day.

16,581. Were you of opinion that the election of 1857 was a pure election on both sides ?—My opinion was that there had been less bribery at that election than at any election since I have been in Gloucester.

16,582. You thought so ?—I did.

16,583. You do not think so now ?—I do. I think there was three times as much money spent by the liberal side in 1852, when there was an agreement entered into between the candidates that there should be no bribery, as there was on the conservative side in 1857.

16,584. You do not think that the election in 1852 was a pure election ?—Not judging from what I heard.

16,585. Have you any facts at all which you can communicate to the Commissioners upon which you found that opinion ?—No, I have not. The voters were brought down in omnibusses like cattle to a fair pretty well, by the liberal party. That was the first election I witnessed in Gloucester ; but I certainly did witness on that occasion things that I was much surprised to see.

16,586. In 1852 you believe there was bribery on the liberal side ?—Yes.

16,587. But you cannot adduce any facts in support of that opinion ?—No ; I may have heard several things, but it was the common talk. Mr. Hope said he would not spend a farthing, and the people told him, up to the middle of the day, that if he would allow them to spend about 50*l*. he would win the election in a canter. I almost think that I myself heard it stated to him in the committee-room, but I did not interfere in the election. I was a looker-on more than anything else.

16,588. Can you give us the names of any persons besides those whose names have been mentioned to us who received bribes in 1857 ?—I cannot.

16,589. Neither on the one side nor on the other ?—No.

16,590. You had no communication with Mr. Whithorn or with the general managers of the election ?—No ; I was in the committee-rooms and they asked me to canvass those voters who I told you I bribed in 1859. I am almost sure I asked those people to go to poll and they went without a shilling being paid to them.

16,591. That was in 1857 ?—In 1857. I was charged before the committee of the House of Commons, in 1857, with having promised a dress to a woman named Charlotte Hatton. All I can tell you is that it is a gross falsehood, and I believe that that case was trumped up by a person named Innell on purpose as an annoyance to me. There is no doubt about it. If you will read her evidence and mine I shall be happy to answer any question you may think it right to put to me.

16,592. At all events you deny that you offered a dress to a woman of the name of Hatton ?—I do most certainly. I deny that I made her any offer whatever, for when she told me that Mr. Innell had asked her for her husband's vote, and that she had said he should have it because he had been very kind to her son, I knew it was of no use. Her son was living with him. She said he had been a very kind man to her son, and that she hoped he would continue to be so. I said most likely he would if she voted that way, for I knew a little of his actions before. After that the lad left his employ.

16,593. Do you know whether that person, Mrs. Hatton, was a woman who had a son in the army ?—No ; I never saw the woman till that time. I went there because a party had asked me to call on her. She had been left out of the canvass list. Sir Robert Carden had never called on her.

16,594. Where did she live ?—Just opposite here, in the Westgate Street.

16,595. Does she live there now ?—No ; I think she is living down by the station, keeping an eating-house.

16,596. What was she at that time ?—She kept an eating-house and a beershop.

16,597. You deny that you offered to give her a dress, and you deny that you made any offer of any sort to induce her husband to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Most certainly ; Mr. Curtis was with me at the time.

16,598. Was Mr. Curtis with you before the committee of the House of Commons ?—He was with me at the interview in which this woman swore I promised her the dress ; there were three or four parties down that street who had not been canvassed, and Mr. Taynton asked me to go to them. This woman kept a small shop ; I never spoke to her before, and have not spoken to her since. Mr. Curtis went with me. When she told me she was under an obligation to Mr. Innell, I knew what would happen. I said to her afterwards, "Have you altered your opinion ?" She said, "No." I said, "All I can tell you is, that Sir Robert Carden will be returned without your assistance." I was quite satisfied how he would vote after what she had told me.

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WILLIAM PARKER called, and further examined. *W. Parker.* 13 Oct. 1859.

16,599. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much money did you receive altogether at the election in 1857?—15*l.* of Mr. Whithorn, and 5*l.* or 6*l.* of Mr. Ward; I am not certain whether it was 5*l.* or 6*l.*

16,600. Did you not receive anything else?—No, only the 15*l.* from Mr. Whithorn.

16,601. Did you not receive some other money besides?—I do not remember that I did. I could not swear that I did not, but I do not remember it.

16,602. Did you receive any money for your expenses?—Of Mr. Lovegrove I think I received 3*l.*

16,603. For your expenses?—I think it was.

16,604. Was that from Mr. Whithorn?—No, from Mr. Lovegrove I think; it is so long ago that I cannot remember it, but I will tell you as near as I possibly can.

16,605. Who did you bribe with that money?—A man of the name of George Bagley of Oxford Street, a glove maker.

16,606. How much did you give Bagley?—£1 5*s.*

16,607. For his vote for Carden?—For his vote for Carden.

16,608. Who is the next?—I gave John Holder of Eastgate Street 3*l.*

16,609. For his vote for Carden?—Yes.

16,610. Who is the next?—Joseph Lodge.

16,611. Is he a freeman?—A householder; I do not know where he lives. 3*l.*

16,612. Do you know where he lived in 1857?—No, I do not.

16,613. Do you know in what parish he lived then?—I do not.

16,614. And that was for his vote for Carden?—Yes.

16,615. Now the next?—I gave 11*l.* for three votes, George Bowers, Thomas Bowers, and John Evans; 3*l.* 10*s.* to Thomas Bowers, 4*l.* to George Bowers, and 3*l.* 10*s.* to John Evans.

16,616. Is that the George Bowers who lives in Water Street?—Yes.

16,617. Is Thomas Bowers his brother?—Yes.

16,618. And John Evans, what is he?—An acquaintance of theirs.

16,619. Where did John Evans live?—In Barton Street, St. Mary's Parish.

16,620. Now the next?—Frederick Bowers of Bull Lane, a freeman.

16,621. How much?—£1 10*s.* I gave Thomas Miles 10*s.* for bringing him.

16,622. For bringing whom?—Frederick Bowers.

16,623. Did you give Thomas Miles of Stonehouse 10*s.* for bringing Frederick Bowers?—Yes; he was living in Gloucester then.

16,624. Was he employed at the Midland Railway at that time?—No; he was going to be a butcher or dealer, or something of that kind then.

16,625. Where was he living in 1857?—I think he was living in Harlow Terrace.

16,626. Was the money which you paid to George Bowers, Thomas Bowers, John Evans, and Frederick Bowers, paid to them for their votes?—For their votes.

16,627. For Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

16,628. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) That did not leave you much for treating?—No, it did not.

16,629. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know of any other persons who were bribed?—No, not at present.

16,630. Not on either side?—Not on either side; but if I can find out any I will let you know.

16,631. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect hearing from any of the voters you canvassed that they had either received or had been offered money by the other side?—No, I cannot say that I did; I do not recollect it.

16,632. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you canvass during the early part of the election in 1857?—No, not the early part.

16,633. You only began to canvass when it was necessary to distribute money, perhaps?—I did not know there was any money to be put out and spent before the morning of the polling.

16,634. But you had canvassed before then?—I had.

16,635. Did you understand that it would be necessary to spend money in the purchase of votes?—No, I did not; I understood that Sir Robert Carden was ahead on the canvass.

16,636. Then the nature of your canvass was not such as to induce you to think it would be necessary to resort to bribery to ensure the return of Sir Robert Carden?—No.

16,637. I suppose you were very much astonished when you had a sum of money given to you to distribute to people for their votes?—I had not a sum given to me at once; I had it in 2*l.* or 3*l.* or 4*l.* at once.

16,638. You did not get the whole 15*l.* that you received from Mr. Whithorn at once?—No, I did not have it all at once.

16,639. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) But you received it all on the same day, did you not?—Yes.

16,640. (*Mr. Welford.*) You went to Mr. Whithorn and told him that you had a voter who wanted so much money?—Yes.

16,641. And he gave you the money?—Yes, he gave me the money.

16,642. Did you give him the names of the voters?—I could not swear whether I did or not.

16,643. You said you had got a voter who wanted so much money for his vote?—Yes.

16,644. And he gave you the money?—Yes.

16,645. And then you went and gave it to the voter?—Yes.

GEORGE BOWERS called and further examined. *G. Bowers.*

16,646. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you live in Water Lane in 1857?—In Water Street.

16,647. You received 4*l.* from William Parker?—I did.

16,648. Was that paid to you for your vote for Carden?—He said he would pay me for my day's work if I would vote for Sir Robert Carden, and he gave me 4*l.*

16,649. And you considered that to be given to you for your vote?—Yes.

16,650. Did you receive any money from any other person?—No.

16,651. Not for any purpose?—No.

16,652. Did you give any bribe to any person?—No.

16,653. Did you receive from Parker any money to distribute among other electors?—Parker put the other men's money on the table, and I picked it up and gaveit to them. We were all together.

16,654. You took the money up and gave it to the others?—Yes, I took it off the table and gave it to them.

16,655. You gave to Thomas Bowers 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes, 3*l.* 10*s.*

16,656. To John Evans 3*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

16,657. And to Frederick Bowers?—I had nothing to do with him.

16,658. Only the three?—Only the three.

16,659. That money, 3*l.* 10*s.*, to Thomas Bowers, and 3*l.* 10*s.* to John Evans was paid by you to them for their votes, was it not?—Yes.

16,660. Had you anything to do with the canvassing at the election in 1857?—No, I kept to my work up to the polling day, I did not leave my work at all.

16,661. You did not take the same part in 1857 that you took in 1859?—No.

16,662. You had not a party of people at your house in 1857?—No; there was no treating at all on my part.

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16,663. All you had to do with the election was receiving 4*l.* yourself and 3*l.* 10*s.* for your brother, and 3*l.* 10*s.* for John Evans?—That is all I had to do with it, more than that I went down to the other committee-room, and they told me they had no money to give; and then, going up the street, I met Mr. Parker, and we agreed on this job.

16,664. (*Mr. Welford.*) You first of all made an offer to the yellow party?—Yes, to Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk.

16,665. When was it that you made them an offer?—We went down to the yellow committee-room, all three of us.

16,666. Was that in 1857?—Yes.

16,667. That was before you received the money you have told us of?—Yes.

16,668. You went down to the yellow committee-room for the purpose of getting some money for your votes, if there was any money going?—Yes.

16,669. Who did you see at the yellow committee-room?—Thomas Brewer Monk.

16,670. Did you find out from Thomas Brewer Monk that there was no money to be had on the yellow side?—Yes, he told me he did not believe there would be any money spent, and that he had not got any chance of getting any, and he did not think he should be able to do anything for us.

16,671. What time in the day was that?—I think it was between nine and ten o'clock.

16,672. On the morning of the polling?—On the morning of the polling.

16,673. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you found out that there was no money to be had, you left the committee-room, did you?—We all three of us went up the street together then.

16,674. As you were going up the street you met Mr. William Parker?—We saw him in Northgate Street. I think it was Northgate Street; we saw him in the street, however.

16,675. Did you tell him what you had been to the yellow committee-room for?—No, I do not think I mentioned that to him at all; he asked me which way I was going to vote, and I said I had not made up my mind particularly.

16,676. You were all together at that time I suppose?—He called me aside to speak to me.

16,677. When you said you had not made up your mind, what did he say?—He asked me if the others had, and I said, No, none of us had.

16,678. Did he induce you to make up your minds by offering you some money?—He said "If you have a mind to make up your minds to vote for Sir Robert Carden I can get you some money;" and I asked him what he was going to stand.

16,679. Did he tell you how much he was going to stand?—Yes, he said he would give me 4*l.*, because he said I deserved 10*s.* more than the others, and he would give the others 3*l.* 10*s.* a piece.

16,680. And you agreed to take it?—Yes.

16,681. What time in the day did you get your money?—It was very soon after ten o'clock in the morning when we saw Parker; we had polled before eleven o'clock.

16,682. Between ten and eleven you got the money?—Yes; he took us down to the blue committee and went and fetched the money; he went upstairs after it, I believe.

16,683. He went to the blue committee in Westgate Street?—Yes, opposite the Shire Hall.

16,684. And then went upstairs and got the money?—Yes.

16,685. Did you go to the blue committee-room yourself?—I went in with him, but I did not see who he had the money from.

16,686. You went into the blue committee-room yourself?—Yes.

16,687. Who were in the room?—I saw several voters in there, but I never asked their business. Parker said "I will go and get your money;" and he went and got it and saw it was all right, and went to the Barley Mow and paid us.

16,688. He went upstairs into the committee-room?—Yes; and when he came down we went to the Barley Mow, and there he gave us the money in the parlour. He put it on the table, and I took it up, and took 4*l.* myself, and gave 3*l.* 10*s.* to each of the other two.

16,689. When you went to the committee-room did you go upstairs?—No, I went into the front room.

16,690. Were the windows closed?—The shutters were up and the doors were open.

16,691. You did not go into the room upstairs?—No; I did not go into any other part but the front room. The shutters were up; it was not what you would call a dark room.

16,692. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You voted on the liberal side in 1859?—Yes, because we had a party at our house.

16,693. Which party do you belong to?—I am more of a liberal generally.

16,694. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Which way did you vote at the election before 1857?—For Berkeley.

16,695. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You prefer voting on the side that will pay you?—I get my living by my labour, and if anybody offers me a few pounds I think there is no harm in my taking it.

16,696. Do you know you are liable to be prosecuted and punished for taking a bribe?—No, I was not aware of it.

16,697. You were paid by Mr. Jacobs in 1859; did you see him in 1857?—No; I do not think he was electioneering about here at that time.

C. F. Innell.

CHARLES FREDERICK INNELL called and further examined.

16,698. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We understand you wish to contradict some evidence that has been given here to-day?—With reference to a statement which has been made to-day by Mr. Hawkins, that I trumped up a charge against him with respect to a person named Hatton, I beg distinctly to say that I knew nothing of the case except by hearsay, and that I had nothing whatever to do with it either directly or indirectly; and I did not know the particulars of the case until I heard them in the Committee of the House of Commons.

F. Bowers.

FREDERICK BOWERS sworn and examined.

16,699. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did you live in the year 1857?—In Sherborne Street, where I do now.

16,700. What are you?—A cordwainer.

16,701. You received 1*l.* 10*s.*, did you not, in 1857?—Two sovereigns, in sovereigns.

16,702. Who did you receive it from?—William Parker.

16,703. For your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

16,704. Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden in 1859?—No.

16,705. You did not vote at all in 1859, did you?—Yes.

16,706. Who did you vote for in 1859?—Price and Monk.

16,707. What did you receive for your vote in 1859?—£7 for my vote and labour.

16,708. You received for your vote and labour 7*l.*?—Yes.

16,709. Who did you receive that from?—James Orpin.

16,710. What do you mean by your vote and

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labour?—Running about after voters and seeing where they were, and assisting in the house.

16,711. Running about seeing where the voters were?—Yes, and assisting in the work in the house.

16,712. What house?—The White Lion.

16,713. What did you do in the house; were you a waiter there?—Sometimes I was a waiter.

16,714. I suppose you received that money for your vote?—Yes.

16,715. Were you employed at all to offer any money to any other voter?—No.

16,716. Is that 7*l.* the whole sum you received during the whole of that election?—Yes.

16,717. How had you voted at the previous election?—For Thomas Hope and Berkeley, I believe.

16,718. You split your vote then?—Yes.

16,719. Do you know of any other persons who were bribed in 1857?—No.

16,720. Are you a brother of George Bowers?—No.

16,721. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

16,722. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In 1853, if Mr. Hope and Captain Berkeley had been candidates, should you have voted for them?—I think I should have given one for Hope and one for Berkeley.

16,723. Did you vote in 1853 when there were only two candidates?—I do not think there was any poll then.

16,724. Did you get paid at those elections?—No.

16,725. By neither party?—No.

16,726. Do you know Mr. Thomas Miles?—Yes.

16,727. Did he take you up to the poll in 1857?—No. I went with him to the Fleece, and he asked me if I had been to poll, and I told him I had not; and he wanted to know the reason, and I told him I was waiting for my brother.

16,728. Was that all that passed?—He asked me to come in and have some beer, and I went into the Fleece, and he called for a quart of ale, and during the time we were there Mr. Parker came in.

16,729. Did Miles go with you to the poll?—No.

16,730. Did Miles go with you to Mr. Parker?—Yes.

16,731. Did you know that Miles had 10*s.* for taking care of you?—He told me that he should have it.

16,732. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you the money before or after you went to the poll?—We had it after we went with Mr. Parker to the committee-room.

HENRY REA sworn and examined.

H. Rea.

16,733. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—An attorney's clerk.

16,734. Where do you live?—At Dockham, near St. Mary's Square.

16,735. You were employed, were you not, at the last election in 1859?—I was.

16,736. On the part of Sir Robert Carden?—I was.

16,737. Did you canvass for him?—I did.

16,738. In the city?—Only in the city.

16,739. What money did you receive?—None whatever.

16,740. No money at all?—None whatever.

16,741. In 1859?—In 1859.

16,742. Did you receive no money for yourself or for any other person?—None whatever.

16,743. Do you say that whatever services you rendered have been unpaid?—Yes.

16,744. Your services were entirely free and independent?—They are unpaid still.

16,745. Have you any claim in respect of them?—Yes; I have sent in my bill for ten guineas, but I have not been paid yet.

16,746. What services did you render, for which you sent in that bill?—Twenty-one days' service, at 10*s.* a day.

16,747. As a canvasser?—Yes.

16,748. Are you a voter?—I am.

16,749. A householder or a freeman?—A freeman.

16,750. Did you offer any money to any voter?—No, I did not.

16,751. Did you hold out any inducement to any voter to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Certainly not.

16,752. Do you know of any persons to whom bribes were offered on your side at the last election?—I do; one.

16,753. Who is that?—Alfred Allen; in fact I took him up to the committee-room to receive the bribe, and he received it in my presence.

16,754. Was that in 1859?—Yes, at the last election.

16,755. Where does he live?—In Saint Mary's Square.

16,756. What is he; is he a freeman or a householder?—He is a cordwainer.

16,757. Is he a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

16,758. Where did you take him?—I took him up to the committee-room.

16,759. To Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

16,760. How much was paid to him?—£10.

16,761. That was 10*l.* for his vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

16,762. Did you take up any other persons in 1859 or were you instrumental in obtaining money for any other voter?—No, none whatever.

16,763. Not in 1859?—Not in 1859; not any one that received money by way of bribe. I took up several to vote without that.

16,764. Were you instrumental in obtaining any money for any other voter?—None whatever.

16,765. In 1857, did you give any money to any voters?—I did not. In fact I never was authorized to do so.

16,766. Were you employed in the same way in 1857 as you were in 1859?—Not exactly; at that time I was clerk in the committee.

16,767. In 1857?—Yes; in point of fact, I was appointed clerk this last time, only I am subject to the rheumatics and I could not attend to it, and took the other part.

17,768. In 1857 you were clerk to the committee?—I was.

16,769. The committee of Sir Robert Carden?—I was.

16,770. Can you tell us of any cases of bribery that are within your knowledge on the part of Sir Robert Carden in that election?—I cannot. The only thing I ever witnessed was on the last occasion, and that was Allen, and I have had a vote now for twenty-nine years.

16,771. The services that you rendered on that occasion were confined to the committee-room were they?—They were.

16,772. Were you a witness in London before the committee?—I was.

16,773. With reference to the election of 1857?—Yes; I went up there to contradict a statement made by a party.

16,774. Who was the statement made by?—A person of the name of Hyett—Lewis Hyett.

16,775. You went up to contradict that statement?—I did.

16,776. Did you go up to contradict that statement with Grimmett and George Harris?—They were in London, but they had nothing to do with the statement I had to contradict.

16,777. They were not there to contradict the statement which you went to contradict?—Certainly not.

16,778. There was a statement made by Lewis Hyett before the committee in 1857?—Yes.

16,779. That statement you went up to contradict?—Yes.

16,780. Grimmett and Harris went up to contradict other statements?—I believe so.

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16,781. Was the statement made by Lewis Hyett a statement to the effect that you had sought to bribe him ?—It was so.

16,782. That you had offered him money ?—That I had offered him 3*l.*, I think he said, or 3*l.* 10*s.*

16,783. That you had offered or given him the money ?—That I had offered it to him.

16,784. That you had offered him 3*l.* or 3*l.* 10*s.* to vote for Sir Robert Carden; that was the statement that he made ?—Yes.

16,785. And that statement you went to contradict ?—Yes.

16,786. Had you been in the habit of frequenting the Three Cocks Inn ?—No; I had not been in the habit of doing so.

16,787. You know the Three Cocks, kept by Jonah Dyer ?—I do.

16,788. Were you not almost continually, almost daily, at that house, both before and after the election of 1857 ?—Not before the election. I do not think I was in the house before the election, not before the polling day. I recollect fetching a voter or two from there on the polling day in 1857; but you mean, I apprehend, upon the petition after the election. I used to go there after the election.

16,789. I ask you whether or not you were in the habit of going to Jonah Dyer's house, the Three Cocks, almost every day during the time the election was going on in 1857 ?—No, not during the time that the election was going on.

16,790. Not during the canvass and not during the time the canvass was going on previous to the election ?—No.

16,791. You say you were in the habit of going there after the election ?—Yes, after the election.

16,792. Between the election and the petition ?—Yes.

16,793. Were you in the habit of meeting at that house Grimmett and George Harris ?—I have seen them there; they used to be there the same as I was.

16,794. Were you not there in their company almost daily ?—I may have been there every day nearly; but the statement which Mr. Dyer made just now I should like to say a word upon: if he said that he put into his account what I had to drink he is decidedly wrong, because I paid for everything I had myself; but Grimmett and Harris had it on account.

16,795. You paid for everything you had ?—I did.

16,796. But Grimmett and Harris did not ?—They did not.

16,797. If Jonah Dyer has said that what you had to drink is included in the bill he sent in to Mr. Lovegrove that is not true ?—Certainly not.

16,798. When you went to Jonah Dyer's after the election were you engaged in getting up a case for the petition ?—It tantamounted to that, by way of getting up evidence.

16,799. Was Grimmett engaged in the same way ?—I believe he was.

16,800. And George Harris ?—And George Harris.

16,801. You were all engaged in getting up evidence ?—Yes.

16,802. And you all three went to London and gave evidence ?—Yes.

16,803. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Alfred Allen come to you to ask for money for his vote, or did you canvass him ?—The fact is this: I think it was on the 6th or 7th of April last, it was about the first day of the canvass for Sir Robert Carden, I was going on home (I live round that quarter) and he came across to me and asked me how things were going on, and what I thought of the election. I asked him how he meant to vote, and he said he did not know.

16,804. Did you understand from what he said, and from his manner, that he wanted to know what money he could have for his vote ?—I fancied so. I told him I would see him another day. I did not see him after that for nearly three weeks, though I called some three or four times daily. Sometimes I would go there at nine o'clock in the morning, sometimes at half past eight, but he was always out. I would then go at eight, and I went as early as seven and half past seven, and he was always out, and I did not see him till either the Wednesday or the Thursday before the polling. I happened to see him, and I said "Allen, what do you intend to do ?" "Oh," he said, "I do not know," and so on; and after some conversation I took him up to Mr. Whithorn on the Friday.

16,805. On the nomination day ?—On the Friday afternoon.

16,806. And there he received 10*l.* ?—No, not then; I took him to Mr. Whithorn.

16,807. Did Mr. Whithorn make the bargain with him ?—He did.

16,808. Did you afterwards take him up to vote ?—The understanding was that I was to take him up the next morning to Mr. Whithorn, as early as possible after eight o'clock; which I did.

16,809. Did he vote first ?—No, he voted after seeing him.

16,810. Was there any other voter that you dealt with in the same way ?—No, none whatever.

W. Tandy.

WILLIAM TANDY sworn and examined.

16,811. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you keep the Rising Sun ?—Yes.

16,812. What part did you take in the last election ?—No part at all that I know of.

16,813 What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

16,814. Have you any account ?—Yes.

16,815. Who did you support at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

16,816. Have you any account ?—Yes.

16,817. What was it for ?—For refreshments.

16,818. What is the amount of it ?—£36.

16,819. By whose directions did you supply the refreshments ?—Mr. Whithorn gave me the orders to order refreshments.

16,820. For voters ?—For voters.

16,821. In the interest of Sir Robert Carden ?—I do not know about the interest of one or another.

16,822. Was it to be given to any voters ?—Why no, he gave me the orders; it was a fortnight about; he gave me orders to draw refreshments for voters.

16,823. Was it not for voters in the interest of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes, certainly.

16,824. And did he limit you to any amount ?—No, not at all.

16,825. And did you supply the refreshments to voters ?—Yes.

216,86. To the extent you state ?—Yes.

16,827. Did you supply any refreshments on the day of the election ?—Yes, a lot then.

16,828. Did you canvass any voters yourself ?—No.

16,829. Did you take any voters up to the poll ?—No.

16,830. How long was it before the election that Mr. Whithorn gave you the order ?—I should think nine days. I should think it was all that.

16,831. Did you ask Mr. Whithorn for leave to open your house in that way to supply refreshments ?—Not at all.

16,832. Did he go to your house ?—No.

16,833. Where was he when he gave you the order ?—In his office.

16,834. Then you went to him to his office ?—Yes; I deal with Mr. Whithorn, and I went to his office and he gave me the order to draw something at my house.

16,835. Something for the good of your house ?—No, not exactly; but I ordered some wines and brandy.

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W. Tandy.

13 Oct. 1859.

I have dealt with Mr. Whithorn ever since I have been in business.

16,836. It was at that time that he gave you the order to furnish refreshments to people in the interest of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

16,837. And you furnished those refreshments to the extent of 36*l.* ?—Yes.

16,838. Have you been paid ?—No.

16,839. Have you sent in your account ?—Yes.

16,840. Do you expect to be paid ?—That is a thing I do not know. I have not been paid.

16,841. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) To whom did you send your account ?—To Mr. Whithorn, that gave me the order.

16,842. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did.

16,843. Had this direction to furnish refreshments any influence on your vote?—Not a bit—not a morsel.

16,844. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always been a blue ?—No, I have not always been a blue.

16,845. (*Mr. Welford.*) How long have you been a blue ?—Ever since I looked out for myself.

16,846. Were you blue in the election of 1857 ?—No, I do not think I was. Yes.

16,847. You were a blue then ?—Yes.

16,848. Did you furnish refreshments to Sir Robert Carden's friends then ?—No. I had all the money except at this election, every halfpenny of the money, and I would draw none at all without I had the money.

16,849. What you supplied in 1857 you received the money for ?—I did.

16,850. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the time ?—I did.

16,851. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not get any order from Mr. Whithorn to supply refreshments in 1857 ?—I did not.

16,852. Were the Coopeys at your house ?—Yes.

16,853. Did they come in in the morning ?—They came in hundreds of times. They use my house frequently.

16,854. Were they there at the last election on the day of the polling ?—Yes.

16,855. And also at the election in 1857 ?—No ; they were not.

16,856. Was the refreshment which you supplied to the Coopeys at the last election included in the bill you have been telling us of ?—Yes.

16,857. They did not pay for themselves ?—No, they did not.

16,858. You gave them a good dinner I suppose ?—No ; I did not give them a bit of dinner nor a bit of eatables.

16,859. Only drink ?—No.

16,860. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you have not always been a blue ?—No, I have not.

16,861. How long is it since you became a blue ?—I cannot tell you.

16,862. Who did you vote for when you were on the other side when you were yellow ?—I do not know.

16,863. Did the yellows ever open your house for you ?—No.

16,864. Had you your house never open before this last election ?—No.

16,865. Was not your house opened by either party ?—No ; I do not think they ever would.

16,866. (*Mr. Welford.*) The yellows did not do anything for the good of the house ?—No ; they did not.

16,867. *Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Nor the blues either till the last election ?—No, never.

16,868. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Supposing you had not received the order from Mr. Whithorn to open your house, and supposing an order had been given to you on the other side how would you have voted ?—Not at all.

16,869. If you had not received an order from Mr. Whithorn, and had received an order on the other side you would not have voted at all ?—I would not have voted at all.

16,870. Was this bill of 30*l.* incurred at your house for beer and spirits ?—Spirits and beer.

16,871. And tobacco ?—Tobacco and wine.

16,872. And your house I suppose was pretty generally full of voters during the time of the canvass before the election ?—Sometimes it was full and sometimes it was empty.

16,873. (*Mr. Welford.*) There were a good many there most days, were there not ?—Yes.

16,873.* (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say that this order which was given to you was no inducement to you to vote ?—No.

16,874. Then you do not want our certificate ?—Not at all.

16,875. You do not want our certificate presently if you were not bribed ?—I am not bribed.

16,876. You do not want our certificate ?—No.

16,877. Suppose we think you were bribed ?—Then you had better call on me again and hear what I have got to say.

J. Williams.

JAMES WILLIAMS sworn and examined.

16,878. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In High Orchard Cottage.

16,879. You are a voter, are you not ?—No, I never had a vote in my life.

16,880. You, I believe, were instrumental in procuring some votes for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

16,881. Did you receive any money from any one ?—I received 5*l.* from Thomas Brewer Monk.

16,882. Was that at the last election ?—Yes.

16,883. Did you receive any money from any other person ?—Yes.

16,884. From whom ?—I received 8*l.* from Mr. Webb, of Westgate Street.

16,885. Who is Mr. Webb of Westgate Street ?—I believe he is a pork butcher.

16,886. Did you receive any other sums besides those two ?—Yes, I received 10*s.* of Mr. Bryon, of the Berkeley Arms.

16,887. Anything else ?—That is all.

16,888. What did you do with the money ?—I gave 8*l.* to Edward Coopey's daughter for his vote.

16,889. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In 1859 or 1857 ?—In 1859.

16,890. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that for his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

16,891. Who was the next person ?—I gave 3*l.* to William Timothy Watts.

16,892. Where does he live ?—He lived in St. Mary's Square when I took him to the poll.

16,893. Do you know the name of Edward Coopey's daughter to whom you gave the 8*l.* ?—Yes.

16,894. What is her name ?—I believe her name is Eliza Hancock.

16,895. Is she married ?—Yes.

16,896. Where does she live ?—At Twigworth or Longford ; I do not know which it is I am sure.

16,897. To Watts you gave 3*l.* ?—Yes ; and his wife would not let him go and poll for that.

16,898. You gave him that for his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes ; and his wife would not let him poll for that, and I was obliged to go a little further.

16,899. How much further did you go ?—She told me she had been offered 20*l.* the night before, but I could not rise so high as that.

16,900. By whom did she say she had been offered 20*l.* ?—By the blue party.

16,901. Did she mention any name ?—No.

16,902. How high did you go ?—I gave her another 1*l.*

16,903. You gave it to the wife ?—Yes.

16,904. Did you then succeed in obtaining his vote ?—Yes.

16,905. To what other persons did you give any

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money?—To no other persons except landlords and landladies.

16,906. And what you paid to them you paid, I suppose, for treating?—Yes, I did.

16,907. You paid landlords and landladies money for treating voters?—No; what I spent was on well-wishers.

16,908. In treating generally?—Yes.

16,909. Were those all the persons to whom you paid money in 1859?—Yes.

16,910. Had you anything to do with the election in 1857?—Very little.

16,911. Do you know of any persons who were bribed in 1857?—No; I offered a little money on a bit of a bounce to a man, and he told me that if I would come back in half an hour he would take my offer, if he found there was not any more to be got.

16,912. Who was that?—A man of the name of John Sholt.

16,913. What did you offer him?—£5.

16,914. When was that?—In 1857, on the day of polling.

16,915. You offered him *5l.* to vote for whom?—For Mr. Price and Berkeley.

16,916. Had you got the money to pay him?—No, I had not a farthing.

16,917. How came you to offer him money?—Because I saw him parading the street, and saw he was in the market.

16,918. And so you offered him *5l.* without having money to pay him?—No, I had not a farthing.

16,919. Had you received instructions from anybody to offer any money to any person?—No.

15,920. And you had received no money for that purpose?—No.

15,921. Did you expect that your offer would be accepted?—He told me that if I would come back in half an hour, if there was no more being given, he would accept my offer.

16,922. Did you go back?—No; it was no use my going back.

16,923. Who is John Sholt?—He is a householder, not a freeman.

16,924. Where does he live?—I believe he lived in Dockham at that time.

16,925. When you made that offer to John Sholt, did you make it in earnest, or was it a bit of bragadocia?—It was a little bit of bounce.

16,926. Did you know that any money was being paid by the liberal party at that election?—No; I never saw a farthing belonging to the liberal party.

16,927. Did you hear that there was any money being given by the liberal party?—No; I heard there was none.

16,928. (*Mr. Welford.*) After you made the offer to John Sholt, did you go to the yellow committee-room to say that you had made him such an offer?—No.

16,929. Did you tell any of the liberal party that you had made that offer?—I did, after the election, not at the time.

16,930. You did not go and try to get the means of redeeming the promise which you had made to Sholt?—I did not.

16,931. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How much did you receive from Brewer Monk in 1859?—£5.

16,932. And you gave William Timothy Watts *4l.*?—Yes.

16,933. What did you do with the other sovereign which you got from Brewer Monk, and the *10s.* from the other man?—I spent it in beer, and I could have spent *30s.* more if I had had it.

C. Belcher.

CHARLES BELCHER sworn and examined.

16,934. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—An innkeeper.

16,935. What inn do you keep?—The Pelican.

16,936. In what street is it?—Water Street.

16,937. Was your house open at the last election?—No, it was not; not for electioneering purposes.

16,938. It was a good deal frequented, was it not, by voters and by canvassers at the last election?—No, it was not.

16,939. Was it in 1857?—There was a lunch there one day during the canvass of Sir Robert Carden; that was for the parties who were canvassing.

16,940. What was the amount of the bil which was contracted at your house?—It was, as far as I can remember, something under *5l.*, or perhaps a shilling or two above.

16,941. In 1857?—In 1857. I will not say that the exact sum was not *5l.*

16,492. Were not voters brought to your house and treated?—No, they were not.

16,943. No voters were brought to your house and treated?—No.

16,944. And that was the total sum spent at your house in 1857, was it?—Yes; and that was the only party that came.

16,945. And was that the same in 1859?—No.

16,946. Had you no voters in your house in 1859?—No voters whatever.

16,947. And no bill?—And no bill.

16,948. We have heard your house mentioned very frequently in the course of this inquiry?—No doubt you have.

16,949. Were not a great many canvassers and voters in the habit of meeting at your house?—The canvassers called there, but they had nothing to eat or drink there.

16,950. Canvassers came to your house in 1859, but they took nothing at all?—Nothing whatever, not even a glass of ale, to my knowledge.

16,951. (*Mr. Welford.*) If they had anything they paid for it at the time?—They did so.

16,952. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) According to your recollection they seem to have had very little?—In truth they had nothing. I do not encourage those things much; I do not like it.

16,953. Your statement does not at all agree with the accounts which have been communicated to us?—It may not perhaps; they go upon supposition; it was not the truth, I assure you; if it was I should tell you openly.

Adjourned to To-morrow, 10 o'clock.

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Seventeenth Day.—14th October 1859.

JOHN BIDDLE HANMAN called and further examined. *J. B. Hanman.*

16,954. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to correct some part of the evidence you gave yesterday?—Yes; I made a statement that I had paid to Decimus Best, junior, 5*l.*, with a contingency attaching to it. I find that the money I gave him was 4*l.* instead of 5*l.*, and that with that money he was to induce his father to vote the same as himself; and I believe the old gentleman did so, though I never saw him upon the subject.

16,955. You stated that you gave to Decimus Best, junior, 5*l.* for his vote?—Yes; and I said there was some condition attached to it, but I could not recollect what it was. I find that the condition was, that he was to induce the old man to vote, which I believe he did, and I have no doubt that the old man had part of the money.

16,956. That leaves another 1*l.* for treating?—Some of that money was paid away in small sums. Besides treating, there was 10*s.* I paid to some man on the evening before for money out of pocket or for expenses in coming to the poll or something. Who that man was I do not know; but there were two or three scores at public-houses which I paid, and which I had run up myself and others too.

16,957. Those scores which you say you ran up at public-houses for treating, I understand you to say you cannot give us any account of?—No, I cannot; I have forgotten all about it.

HENRY KEAR WHITHORN called and further examined. *H. K. Whithorn.*

16,958. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to make some correction, I understand, of your evidence?—Yes; I find that in the list I handed in to you of persons to whom money was given, I put down the name of Charles Oakey as having received 3*l.*; it should have been 2*l.*; it was my mistake in copying. You will find also that by mistake the name of James Williams is inserted twice.

16,959. You are referring now to the statement you made the day before yesterday?—Yes.

JOHN MICHAEL BUTT called and further examined. *J. M. Butt.*

16,960. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You received, I believe, some money at the election in 1857?—I received none; I paid some money.

16,961. Did you receive none from Mr. Whithorn?—After the election was over I received some money from him that I had lent him during the election.

16,962. How much did you lend him during the election?—100*l.* on the election day.

16,963. I suppose you knew at the time you lent it that that money was to be expended in bribery?—I suspected so.

16,964. How soon after the election was it that you received that money back?—Not long after the election, but I cannot give you the precise date at present.

16,965. What money did you yourself pay away in bribery at that election?—Not any.

16,966. None at all?—None at all.

16,967. Do you know of any persons who were bribed at that election to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, I do not.

16,968. Did not Mr. Whithorn communicate to you the names of any persons for whom he wanted that money?—No, not one of them.

16,969. Do you know the names of any persons who were bribed by the other side?—I do not.

16,970. Did you take any part in the canvass?—I did.

16,971. How long before the election was it that you became aware that it would be necessary to resort to bribery?—I never heard of it.

16,972. Was the application that was made to you by Mr. Whithorn for the advance of 100*l.* the first intimation you received that bribery would be resorted to by the supporters of Sir Robert Carden?—It was.

ROBERT WILTON called and further examined. *R. Wilton.*

16,973. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were the election agent of Sir Maurice Berkeley down to the last election?—I was his agent in 1857.

16,974. And at the previous election?—In 1852, 1853, and 1857.

16,975. With regard to the election of 1857 does the return which you made to the election auditor shew the amount of money disbursed on account of Sir Maurice Berkeley's election?—No, it does not.

16,976. Have you to add anything to that statement?—I have.

16,977. How much have you to add?—Perhaps the more convenient course will be for me to go through the items. The total amount came to 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* The auditor's account was 239*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* The real expenses were 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

16,978. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that over and above the auditor's account?—No; that is including the auditor's account.

16,979. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are the additional items?—There are very few; perhaps I had better go through them. On the 11th of March there was a small payment of 7*s.* 6*d.* for three registers; postage stamps 4*l.* Cash to Mr. Benjamin Jordan, clerk to the committee-room (I may call him the accountant for all the purposes of the election), 10*l.*; a payment for "Cox on Elections," 12*s.* On the 25th of March paid Under-Sheriff, for deposit, 25*l.* Theatre tickets, 2*l.*; that sum, I believe, was contributed by all three candidates. The proprietor of the theatre, after the contest, applied to the three candidates to patronize him, which they did. On the 31st of March, I paid Mr. Jordan a further sum of 50*l.*; on the 4th of April I paid him a further sum of 20*l.*; on the 18th I paid him a further sum of 100*l.*; on the 6th of May, a further sum of 60*l.*; and on the 8th of June a further sum of 5*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, making a total of 277*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* I afterwards received from Mr. Jordan 10*l.*, to balance the account of his expenditure of those sums, which reduces the amount to 267*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, spent prior to the audit.

16,980. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that prior to the election?—Prior to the election; prior to the auditor's account. Then after the election I paid the following sums:—On the 26th of August I paid a Mr. William Lea a claim which he had made upon Sir Maurice Berkeley, for arrears due to him on a former election, for services, a sum of five guineas.

16,981. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who is Mr. Lea?—A person living in Alvin Street, a voter, a man who has taken a great interest in politics; he keeps a small general shop. On the 28th of August I paid Mr. Benjamin Jordan, for his trouble in making up the election accounts for the auditor, a sum of 5*l.* He brought me claims which had been sent in to Price and Berkeley, amounting to 44*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and I paid him 22*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, a moiety of that sum. I paid a person of the name of Christopher, a clerk, for ser-

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R. Wilton.
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vices which he said he had rendered, 9*s.* 6*d.* On the 14th of September, Mr. Ellis applied to me for a moiety of 167*l.* 10*s.*, being the amount of claims made upon Mr. Price and upon Sir Maurice Berkeley, and I gave him my check for 83*l.* 15*s.* On the 8th of October, Mr. John Chadbourn having been an active person in the election, made a claim for sums expended to the amount of 12*l.* 2*s.*, and I paid him that sum; that makes a total of 128*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* paid after the election, and that sum, added to the sums paid prior to the election, makes 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, the total expense.

16,982. Does that sum of 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* comprehend the items which are charged in the account rendered to the election auditor?—Certainly; it comprises everything.

16,983. At that election, I suppose, the gross expenses of Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley were divided and shared in equal proportions?—They were.

16,984. Are you aware whether any of the expenses of which you have just now given a statement were incurred in an illegal manner, or for bribery, or for the purchase of votes?—Certainly not; I am not aware of it in any shape whatever.

16,985. Do you believe that any corrupt practices existed at the election in 1857 on the part of the liberal candidates?—My only suspicion arises from that payment of 83*l.* 15*s.*

16,986. Paid to Mr. Ellis?—Yes; the claim is for 167*l.* 10*s.* That claim came in late, and I took down the names of the individuals who made the claims amounting to that sum, and I did not know for what purpose the money was expended; but I had a suspicion certainly, the claim coming so late, and taking it altogether, that it might have been applied, perhaps, to illegal purposes; that was merely a suspicion; I had not, nor have I now, the least knowledge of it, and I should do them wrong if I were to say anything more than I have said.

16,987. Can you give us the names of the claimants?—Yes; I took them down at the time; one was a claim made by a Mr. Richard Potter, for 94*l.* 10*s.*

16,988. What Mr. Potter was that?—He is a timber merchant.

16,989. (*Mr. Welford.*) Does the nature of the claim appear?—No; I asked him what it was, and put it in pencil, just as it is here (*referring to a paper*); I put it down without a word. The other was Mr. Chadbourn (who I mentioned before as having had 12*l.* 2*s.* from me), 35*l.*

16,990. What is Mr. Chadbourn?—He is now a coal merchant. Mr. John Wodley Hughes, 10*l.*; I think he lives in Gloucester. Mr. S. Jones, 10*l.*, and a Mr. Bellingham 18*l.*, that makes a total of 167*l.* 10*s.*, and I gave my check for 83*l.* 15*s.*

16,991. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Mr. Jones?—He is now residing at Saul, about twelve or thirteen miles from Gloucester; he is brother to Mr. Jones, the agent of Mr. Monk.

16,992. Mr. Anthony Jones?—Yes.

16,993. Is he a solicitor?—No.

16,994. And where does Mr. Bellingham reside?—He is dead, I believe; he did reside in Gloucester.

16,995. Who is Mr. Hughes?—He lives in Gloucester.

16,996. What is he?—He was a mercer, but I believe he has retired.

16,997. With the exception of those items as to which you have no distinct knowledge of your own that they were for illegal expenses, had you any suspicion that any illegality existed at the election in 1857 on the part of the liberal candidates?—Certainly not.

16,998. And is it your belief that no corrupt practices did exist?—That is my belief, unless any of the sums which I have just mentioned were so appropriated, of which I am perfectly ignorant.

16,999. Supposing that that sum of 167*l.* 10*s.* was devoted to corrupt purposes, if that sum were deducted from the gross sum, it would follow that a pure election for two candidates would not cost more than 600*l.*?—Decidedly; where there are two candidates, and they share the expense between them, the expense of course is much lighter than where it is a single fight.

17,000. But that would be in your judgment about the expense of a contest to any individual candidate?—Yes, and I can give a proof of it. In 1852 (my first election) when the three candidates entered into an arrangement that they would not appropriate any money, except for legal purposes, the election cost Sir Maurice Berkeley 210*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; and in the election of 1853, when there was a single-handed contest with Mr. Hope, (and I may say a severe one, though I believe it to have been a pure one,) Sir Maurice Berkeley's expenses were 650*l.*

17,001. In the election of 1852 Mr. Price was returned?—Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley were returned.

17,002. And the expenses of the two candidates were shared?—Yes, they were; there was the same staff to do the work.

17,003. Were you in court yesterday when Admiral Berkeley was examined?—I was not. I was here before he was examined.

17,004. Admiral Berkeley stated it to be his opinion, that no stranger standing upon conservative principles would have had a chance against him in 1857, if only fair means had been resorted to. Is that your opinion?—Decidedly; I am quite of that opinion.

17,005. Do you consider it a great element in the chance of success of any candidate for Gloucester, that he should be either locally or commercially connected with the city?—Yes.

17,006. Are you acquainted with the state of the registration from the time of the election in 1852 down to the election in 1857?—No, I think I am not sufficiently to speak upon it.

17,007. Did you take any steps to ascertain whether or not there had been a change of opinion between the election of 1852 and that of 1857?—I did not, but my impression has been from that time to the present that there has been a great increase in favour of the liberal interest. I do not say that from any political feelings, but such has been my strong impression.

17,008. Upon what is that impression founded?—I think upon the general expression, I may say, of the electors, my constant intercourse with them, and the activity that has existed from that time by persons professing those politics; there seems to have been greater energy shown.

17,009. Are you aware that a considerable number of voters who had voted in the liberal interest at previous elections had left Gloucester between the years 1852 and 1857?—I suppose many must have done so, as a matter of course, on both sides.

17,010. Should you be surprised to find that it has been stated here that a majority has accrued to the conservatives in consequence of a large number of the liberal voters having left Gloucester after the election of 1852 and between that and 1857?—I should be surprised certainly; I can hardly conceive it to have been so.

17,011. It was stated here that although there had been perhaps neither gain nor loss upon the revision of the lists in the Revising Barrister's Court, yet that a majority had been obtained by the fact that a number of the liberal electors had left, and that their places had been supplied by persons who came in and were favourable to the conservative interest?—I have not any knowledge from which I can give any opinion upon that subject, but I can hardly fancy it.

17,012. You are not able to say whether that opinion is correct or not?—I could not, because I never tested it in any shape.

17,013. Subsequent to 1853 had you any means of ascertaining whether or not there had been a change of opinion among those who had previously sup-

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ported conservative candidates?—Upon my word I can hardly give an answer to that question. I can only put it generally, that I think the opinion in favour of the liberal interest has increased very much indeed since 1852.

17,014. And do you state that that opinion has been derived by you from the intercourse you have had with your fellow citizens, and from conversations you have had with them on political maters?—Exactly so.

17,015. Would you consider that the fact that a majority had been obtained in the municipal corporation in favour of conservancy, was an indication that the public mind had changed with regard to political principles in Gloucester?—Certainly not. I do not think it is any indication whatever; the mode of election to the town council is of such a nature that, I think, you cannot draw any conclusion from that circumstance. I attribute a great deal of the corruption which prevails at parliamentary elections to the corruption at municipal elections. I think that the corruption which prevails at municipal elections is an annual feeder to the corruption which is practised at parliamentary elections, and that the result is most injurious.

17,016. Is it within your own knowledge that the contests which take place at elections for the office of town councillors are attended with considerable cost to the candidates?—It is not within my own personal knowledge because I never interfered with them, but I have no doubt as to the fact that very large sums have been spent at every municipal election and that by both sides.

17,017. Are you aware whether there is any fund subscribed by the liberal party in Gloucester to defray the expenses of municipal contests?—I am not.

17,018. Do you believe that any such fund exists? No, I do not; my idea is that the candidates contribute a great deal, and that the parties very likely have obtained money from the representatives for the time being to aid and assist; that is my impression.

17,019. Do you mean that they make a common purse?—My idea is that when a contest comes an application is made to the members for a sum of money, either before or after the contest, to defray the expenses that have been incurred; that is my impression. I do not know whether it is so or not.

17,020. Do you know whether any application of that sort has been made to Admiral Berkeley?—No, certainly none has been made to my knowledge.

17,021. I suppose any application of that nature made to the members for the city, would be made in consequence of the supposition that the support of their principles in the corporation would conduce to their future success?—No doubt that has been the object.

17,022. And do you believe that such has been the effect?—No, I do not.

17,023. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) If such a contribution had been made by Admiral Berkeley, do you think he would have made it without communicating with you?—No, I think not; it would have been paid through me.

17,024. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are of opinion that any such payment made by a member for the city is an idle expense and a useless cost?—I think so quite. Politically speaking, I should wish to see the town council represented entirely by conservatives. I think it would be most beneficial to the liberal cause. I have entertained that opinion for a great many years. I was a member of the old corporation when they were all liberals, and whenever an election occurred, it was "the powers that be" that were always objectionable, and that was found to be very injurious to the Whig cause.

17,025. Are you of opinion that if the municipal corporation consisted entirely of conservatives, their conduct would be so disagreeable to the citizens that they would, generally speaking, vote for the liberal candidates?—I do not know that I should say that, but there is an idea that "the powers that be" have a great deal of patronage, a great many people look up to them to exercise that patronage which they are supposed to have in their favour, and if they do not get what they want, they are disappointed, and turn round. I am sure that when the corporation consisted entirely of liberals it was very injurious to the Whig cause, and upon the same cause and upon the same principle, I think it a very beneficial thing to the liberal cause that the town council is now represented by conservatives.

17,026. Is it within your knowledge that prior to your connexion with Admiral Berkeley, as agent, a considerable expenditure of money took place at elections for this city?—I have no doubt there was a very large expenditure, though the fact is not within my own knowledge. I was never concerned except as a partisan. I merely took the same part as any other individual would who entertained liberal opinions.

17,027. You only express a general opinion founded upon rumour?—Yes, upon rumour.

17,028. Upon statements which you have heard made in conversation?—I may go a little further than that; when a petition was presented against Mr. Hope by Mr. Carter, I was very actively engaged in it, and from that circumstance I, of course, knew that large sums of money had been expended.

17,029. In what year was that?—It must have been, I think, in 1837, when Mr. Hope accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, and came down and was re-elected.

17,030. From your having been engaged at that time in getting up a case in support of the petition, are you enabled to state what sums of money were spent by Mr. Hope at that election?—No, I am not. I am not prepared at all to do that; possibly if I looked back at my old papers I might find out.

17,031. What is the general understanding with regard to the mode in which that election was conducted?—The general understanding certainly was that bribery had been committed to a very great extent, and that was the cause of the petition being presented.

17,032. Was there any amount stated?—I cannot recollect; of course there was an amount, but I cannot recollect what it was.

17,033. You do not attribute the corruption which has existed for a number of years at parliamentary elections in this city, to the fact of corruption existing at municipal elections, do you?—I do not quite understand your question.

17,034. You do not trace the cause of the corruption existing at parliamentary elections in this city to the corruption existing at municipal elections?—I do of late years, since the change in the municipal corporation.

17,035. What do you consider the primary cause of that corruption?—A reckless expenditure of money. Prior to the passing of the Reform Bill they used to bring electors from all parts, and their families with them, and the election lasted a week or ten days. There was at that time a great deal of excitement, and bands and so on; the cost was enormous, and the corruption, I dare say, was in proportion.

17,036. You think that the corruption which existed prior to the passing of the Reform Act, and the large expenditure which was then made, had the effect of demoralizing the voters, and communicated itself to those voters who were created by the Reform Act?—There is no doubt of it.

17,037. Extending, in fact, from the freemen who were the only voters before the passing of the Reform Act, to those voters who received their suffrages for the first time under the Reform Act?—Yes.

17,038. Sir Maurice Berkeley stated yesterday that at the election of 1857 he was frequently told that he or Mr. Price would have to go to the wall if no money was found for the purpose of bribery?—Yes.

17,039. Are you aware that such statements did reach Sir Maurice Berkeley?—No, I cannot say that I am aware of it.

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R. Wilton.

14 Oct. 1859.

17,040. Were you of opinion at the election in 1857, that if money was not found for bribery one of the liberal candidates must be defeated?—My opinion was, that if the conservatives resorted to bribery one of the liberal candidates must be defeated. I told Sir Maurice Berkeley, a few days before the election, that looking to the result of the canvass, he was perfectly safe if the other parties did not resort to illegal practices. That I very well recollect stating to him.

17,041. Were you induced to believe, from the professions of purity that were made by Sir Robert Carden, that the election, as far as he was concerned, would be conducted upon pure principles?—I never thought it would.

17,042. Notwithstanding Sir Robert Carden's statement?—Exactly.

17,043. Why did you never think it would be conducted upon pure principles?—Because my belief was, having regard to previous contests for the city of Gloucester, and my own experience of them, that with the exception of the elections in 1852 and 1853, of which I have spoken, the conservatives had always resorted to illegal practices.

17,044. From your experience of what had been done before, you came to the conclusion that those practices would be again resorted to in 1857?—I did.

17,045. Did you tell Sir Maurice Berkeley that you thought it was probable those practices would be resorted to?—No, I did not.

17,046. Was Mr. Price informed of it?—I do not know.

17,047. You did not act for Mr. Price?—No; Mr. Ellis acted for Mr. Price.

17,048. Did the knowledge or belief among the liberal party, after the election, that corrupt practices had existed at the election, produce a very strong feeling on their part?—Yes; it was so strong on my mind, that the election having taken place on the Saturday, I commenced getting up the petition on the following Monday.

17,049. Did the belief that corrupt practices had existed at the election produce a considerable amount of irritation also among the friends of the liberal party?—Decidedly, and immediately.

17,050. Can you trace any connection between that irritation and the bribery that existed on the part of the liberals in 1859?—No.

17,051. You cannot?—No; will you put your question again, if you please?

17,052. My question is, can you trace any connection between the irritation that existed in the minds of the liberals after the election of 1857, and the practices that prevailed on their part in the election of 1859?—I beg your pardon. I have no doubt that the irritation did continue; and in all probability it was the cause of the great corruption and of the illegal practices that existed in 1859. I have no doubt about that.

17,053. The irritation continued from the time of the discovery that illegal practices had been resorted to on the part of the conservatives?—Decidedly. I beg your pardon; I did not understand your question. There is no doubt about it. I think I heard it said several times that it was of no use for the liberal party to attempt a contest in the city of Gloucester, unless they fought the battle with the same weapons as those which were used against them; that I heard two or three times. There was a general impression that it was of no use to attempt to get in liberal candidates without adopting the same course that had been resorted to by Sir Robert Carden.

17,054. That is to say, they considered it would be useless to contest the election of 1859 with Sir Robert Carden unless the liberals resorted to the same means (that is, to the employment of bribery,) which had been resorted to by the conservatives in 1857?—Yes.

17,055. In your former examination you stated that you had gone into some cases of bribery which you had understood had been committed at the election of 1857?—Yes.

17,056. You stated that some of those cases would be found in the brief which you prepared at the time, and that there were supplementary cases with which you could supply the Commissioners?—Yes; this is the statement (*handing a paper to the Commissioners.*)

17,057. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Jordan, in fact, had the control of the expenditure?—Yes.

17,058. Did you not inquire into the items of that expenditure?—No; I gave him the money, and he rendered me an account of it.

17,059. Before the election you placed the expenditure entirely under his control?—Exactly.

17,060. Had he any directions from you in what way to expend this money?—No; he had no directions from me how to appropriate it; it was paid to him for electioneering purposes.

17,061. With regard to the expenditure for messengers, did you give him any instructions as to the number to be employed?—No; none at all.

17,062. He had full authority to employ any number of messengers he pleased?—I do not think he had any authority to do that; I think the number of messengers was determined by Mr. Brewer Monk; he seemed to take that department.

17,063. Had you any communication with Mr. Ellis as to the persons who were to be employed as messengers?—No, certainly not; I knew nothing of the appointment of the messengers; I did not know who they were or what their number was.

17,064. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Jordan supply you with information as to the purpose for which he wanted the money with which you supplied him?—He had been originally my clerk, and I had perfect confidence in him, and let him have the money he required, and he was to account to me for it, which he has done.

17,065. (*Mr Welford.*) Can you tell whether the expense of the messengers was included in the account sent in to the auditor?—Yes.

17,066. Is it indicated as a distinct item?—I have a copy of the auditor's account, in which the messengers are included.

17,067. Are the charges for professional assistance and for messengers kept distinct?—Quite distinct.

17,068. (*Mr Fitzgerald.*) At any of Sir Maurice Berkeley's elections did you lay down any scale for those persons who were directly employed by you?—I used, with regard to professional men, to call on them and ask them to give me their aid and assistance, but nothing beyond that. I used to superintend and instruct the professional men about canvassing, and I received from them their returns and so on.

17,069. You paid these separate sums to Mr. Jordan whenever he required them?—Yes.

17,070. Upon the faith that he would only employ them in the payment of legitimate expenses?—Yes.

17,071. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you consider that there was a greater number of messengers employed than was necessary?—No; I think not, judging from that account.

17,072. You considered that the number of messengers paid was not greater than the number required for the duties they had to perform?—I should think so, speaking with regard to that election; there were district committee-rooms, and the messengers were dispersed about; I do not think that the expenditure for messengers was at all exorbitant.

17,073. Then the only part of your expenditure at that election of which you had any reason to doubt the propriety was the sum which you paid to Mr. Ellis?—Yes; that I thought was a claim which might give rise to some suspicion.

17,074. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who is Mr. Richard Potter?—A partner with Mr. Price; he is a timber merchant.

17,075. Sir Maurice Berkeley was not owner of Berkeley Castle in 1857?—No; I think the Earl was almost dying then.

17,076. Are you aware of any money having been advanced to Sir Maurice Berkeley by the late Earl for election purposes?—No; I believe just the con-

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R. Wilton.
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trary. I rather think that for the last few elections he has not aided or assisted Sir Maurice Berkeley at all; I am not aware that he has.

17,077. Are you aware whether he assisted him in former elections?—No; since I have acted for Sir Maurice Berkeley all communications have come to me direct from him. I have had no communications with the late Earl on the subject.

17,078. Do you recollect Mr. Hudson, whose name has been mentioned here?—Yes.

17,079. Was he in communication with the late Earl?—No; I never heard so.

17,080. You are not aware of his having received any money from him for electioneering purposes?—I never heard it.

17,081. (*Mr. Welford.*) He was a liberal agent, was he not?—Yes, he was; Mr. Brewer Monk succeeded him.

17,082. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Hudson take any very special part with regard to the introduction of a new system of electioneering in Gloucester?—I do not know; I cannot tell; I never had any communication with him; he was always a very active man, and took a very active part in elections, particularly among the lower class of voters.

17,083. Was the system of the employment of messengers introduced by Mr. Hudson?—I do not know whether it was introduced by him or not; but it did exist to a great extent, I believe, at that time.

17,084. We have had it stated in evidence that the system of employing voters as messengers has existed for a great number of years in Gloucester?—I am disposed to think that that is true.

17,085. Do you know whether there was any change in the system of electioneering introduced by Mr. Hudson?—I do not know.

17,086. Had he any opportunity of exercising any special influence over the electors in any way?—Upon my word I cannot tell; I never had any communication with him.

PETER PANDIA RALLI sworn and examined.

P. P. Ralli.

17,087. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were at Gloucester during the last election?—Yes.

17,088. Were you here during the whole time that Mr. Monk was here, or during only a part of the time?—During only a part of the time. I came here the day before the nomination.

17,089. Were you the means of supplying any money at all, either to Mr. Monk or to Mr. Monk's friends, for the purposes of the elections?—Not any.

17,090. Did you instruct any person in Gloucester to furnish any money, if it was required?—Not any.

17,091. Did you know, at the time of the election, a person of the name of Thompson or Thornton?—No.

17,092. Did any stranger call upon you to ask you to furnish funds?—No.

17,093. And you had no connection whatever with any money having been supplied to any person in Gloucester during the time you were here, for the purpose of the election of your brother-in-law, Mr. Monk?—No.

17,094. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was any application made to you to supply money for the purposes of the election at any other time than during the election?—No application of the kind was made to me.

17,095. Do you know of any such application having been made to any other person?—I only know of the sums which my father has spoken of. I knew of that money being paid.

17,096. But you know of no other sums having been paid or applied for?—No, I do not.

17,097. Was any clerk of your father's in Gloucester at that time?—No. I heard that it had been stated that a clerk of my father's was down here to furnish money for the purposes of the election, and as I was the only person connected with my father down here, I felt that that allegation would fall entirely on me, and for that reason I wished to be examined.

17,098. To your knowledge, there was no clerk of your father here at any time?—No, I know there was not.

17,099. When did you hear that the money which was advanced by your father had been advanced?—I heard it at the period when it was advanced. I knew it was being advanced.

17,100. Were any directions given at that time that the 500*l.* which your father advanced should be sent down secretly to Gloucester?—All I know with regard to that sum is, that it was paid by my father by his own check to Mr. Moffatt. That is all I know about it.

17,101. You did not know how Mr. Moffatt intended to send the money down to Gloucester?—I knew he intended to send it down by a man whose name was Thompson, but nothing further than that.

17,102. Did Thompson call at your office?—Yes, but I did not see him. A clerk of ours saw him.

17,103. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was there any understanding that any money should be sent down by a clerk in your office?—No.

17,104. (*Mr. Welford.*) No clerk was sent?—No.

JOHN WARD called and further examined.

J. Ward.

17,105. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some statement?—Yes. You asked me yesterday if I knew of any other bribery besides that which I had stated to you, and I told you I believed that the whole of the bribery I knew of would come out in evidence. I have been given to understand that Mr. Charles Castree cannot be found. He was one of the parties engaged in bribing in 1857, and therefore my statement would be false, with regard to the whole of the bribery cases I know of coming out. I wish, therefore, to give you the names of the parties who I believe to have been bribed by Mr. Charles Castree.

17,106. Do so, if you please?—Anthony Bond admitted having received 1*l.* from Mr. Charles Castree; John Heeling also.

17,107. How much?—I do not know. John Lake, of Ashelworth.

17,108. How much?—I do not know the sums. Thomas Perks, of Apperley, was bribed by Charles Castree. Samuel Skillern was bribed by Charles Castree. Walter Welch admitted that he received 1*l.* from him. Those are the whole of the cases of bribery that were committed by him, so far as I know, and they were all freemen.

17,109. Do you know this from Charles Castree?—No; I do not know it exactly from my own personal knowledge, but having gone through the poll book with other parties I can state that I believe they were bribed by him.

17,110. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where is Mr. Charles Castree?—I do not know. I had supposed he was coming here.

17,111. Is he a resident in the town?—No; he has not been for a long time.

17,112. He has left the town?—Yes.

17,113. You are not aware that he has gone out of the town in order to avoid giving evidence before us?—No; he has been away from Gloucester some considerable time.

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J. Castree.

14 Oct. 1859.

JOSIAH CASTREE sworn and examined.

17,114. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A land agent.

17,115. And an auctioneer?—No.

17,116. Do you live in Gloucester?—I do.

17,117. You took part in the elections in 1859 and 1857, did you not?—By voting only.

17,118. Did you not canvass for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

17,119. You canvassed no one?—I might have canvassed one or two, but not generally.

17,120. Did you offer any bribes to any persons?—No.

17,121. Is Charles Castree a son of yours?—He is.

17,122. He is absent from Gloucester now?—He is.

17,123. Does he live near here?—I do not know.

17,124. You do not know where he resides?—I do not; but I believe in London.

17,125. Were you cognizant of any of the bribes that he gave to persons to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

17,126. I understand you to say that you did not either give or offer any bribe?—Not to any person.

17,127. Neither in 1857 nor in 1859?—No.

17,128. Did you hold out any inducement to any person to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

17,129. Are you a charity trustee?—I am.

17,130. Did you hold out any inducement to any voter that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden his son should be put into one of the charity schools?—Never.

17,131. Do you know a person of the name of Poole?—I do.

17,132. Did you hold out such an inducement as that to him?—No.

17,133. You are quite sure of that?—Certain.

17,134. Do you know whether, after the election in 1857, a grandson of James Poole's was admitted as a scholar of the charity school?—I do not remember his name; I took no particular interest in it.

17,135. It is the Bluecoat School, is it not?—Yes.

17,136. Do you know in what way James Poole had voted previous to the election of 1857?—I do not.

17,137. Do you know whether after the election of 1857 any child of Poole's was admitted into the Bluecoat School?—I do not.

17,138. Did you cause any other person to represent to Poole that he should have your interest for the purpose of getting his son or grandson into the school if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Certainly not.

17,139. I understand you to say you did not state to any person that you would make use of any influence you might have possessed as trustee of any charity to obtain any favour for any one who would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Not to any erson.

17,140. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you do not recollect this case at all?—I do not.

17,141. You do not recollect that any person applied to you for your vote and interest in his behalf?—No.

D. Best, sen.

DECIMUS BEST, senior, sworn and examined.

17,142. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You belong to the Post Office, do you not?—I am porter to the mail.

17,143. You voted at the last election for Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—I voted one for Carden and one for Mr. Price.

17,144. What did you receive?—I received 4*l.* of John Hanman.

17,145. From John Biddle Hanman?—Yes.

17,146. Was that for your vote alone, or for your vote and your son's?—It was for my own: I know nothing about my son's.

17,147. That was at the last election in 1859?—The last election.

17,148. Did you receive also some money from Jacobs for your vote at the last election?—I did.

17,149. How much did you receive from him?—£2.

17,150. From Harry Jacobs?—Yes.

17,151. And that was for your vote, was it?—I do not know in particular that it was for my vote, because he never asked me anything about my voting at all. I was told to call there by a person, and I went, and had 2*l.*, and I repaid it.

17,152. Who told you to go there? Was it Mr. Wilkes who told you?—No; I do not know exactly whether it was Mr. Wilkes or not; it was some one or other.

17,153. Did that person tell you that if you went to Harry Jacobs you would get 2*l.* for your vote?—No; he did not say anything about my vote, because each party knew before I had any money how I should vote, and I told them upon what interest; and that I intended to divide.

17,154. You say the 2*l.* you received from Harry Jacobs you repaid?—Yes.

17,155. Have you repaid the 4*l.* you received from Mr. Hanman?—No, I have not.

17,156. What did you get in 1857?—My son gave me 2*l.*

17,157. In 1857?—Yes.

17,158. For whom did you vote?—I voted for Price and Carden. No; I think not; I think it was Admiral Berkeley and Carden, now I come to my recollection.

17,159. Did you receive on that occasion 2*l.* from your son?—I did.

17,160. Was that for your vote for Carden?—He never said that it was for my vote; he said he had received it.

17,161. Did he say from whom he had received it?—No, he did not.

17,162. You received the 2*l.*?—Yes, I did.

17,163. I suppose you thought the 2*l.* was given you for something?—I do not know; I said, when the party solicited me, how I should vote; and even the very last time, if the Admiral had been here, I should have done as I always did. I always voted for him ever since he was a member.

17,164. What did you consider the 2*l.* was given you for?—I considered it was an act of charity.

17,165. You do not get 2*l.* given you every day?—No; I wish I did very much.

17,166. Those gifts of 2*l.* generally come to you, I suppose, at times when there is an election?—That was the first time I ever had anything in my life.

17,167. Did you not consider it was given to you for your vote?—I had no consideration of it at all; it was very acceptable when it came.

17,168. You did not consider it was given you for your vote for Carden?—I did not consider anything about it; I had not the least thought about it.

17,169. I suppose you left it to your son to make the bargain for you?—I did not.

17,170. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) After you received the money you would have thought yourself very ungrateful if you had not voted for Carden, would you not?—Yes; I will tell you the reason why I did not vote for Mr. Price; I had an object in view why I did not vote for Mr. Price at that election.

17,171. What was your object?—Nothing that affects the vote or anything respecting electioneering matters; but I did not vote for him.

17,172. You had private reasons for not voting for Mr. Price?—Yes; but the reason was for myself and no one else.

17,173. (*Mr Vaughan.*) What was the reason?—Nothing further than that I was not satisfied with the man.

17,174. Was your reason connected with Bartlemas Hospital?—No; if my reason had been that he had an interest with the charity trustees, I have not a

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D. Best, sen.
14 Oct. 1859.

shadow of doubt that he would have tried to assist me.

17,175. You were canvassed several times ?—Yes, up at the railway station.

17,176. Were you not promised by any one that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden some exertion should be made to get you into the Bartlemas' Hospital ?—Never ; not a single word of it was said by any individual in the world.

17,177. Bartlemas' Hospital was never mentioned ?—No, nor any individual ever offered it me ; I did not solicit any one for it ; but I thought of petitioning once or twice.

17,178. You did want to get into it ?—Certainly ; I am an old man ; I am 72 years of age.

17,179. Have you sought to become an inmate of Bartlemas' Hospital ?—I should like it very well.

17,180. Was any inducement held out to you in 1857 or 1859, when you were canvassed, that if you would vote in a particular way some exertion should be made to get you in ?—Nothing of the sort was said by any individual.

17,181. Then the only reason why you did not vote for Mr. Price was that you did not like him ?—I did not ; else I was always a liberal ; I never had a penny in my life from either of the parties till this last time ; I had always voted liberal.

17,182. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you consider the vote you gave for Sir Robert Carden as a liberal vote ?—No, I did not. The charity trust consists of two parties, one the liberal and the other the conservative ; and I thought at the present moment that if I could divide between the two I should be likely to stand a better chance ; that was the view I had, and that was the only view.

17,183. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have been very often asked for your vote during the last thirty or forty years, I suppose ?—Yes.

17,184. And did you never get any money for it before ?—Never a penny.

17,185. Were you never offered any before ?—No, never ; I never looked for such a thing.

17,186. Do you recollect Mr. Hope being a candidate ?—Perfectly well.

17,187. Was not money offered you in those days ?—Never ; not a farthing or a farthing's worth.

17,188. Did you always vote for the liberals in those days ?—Always.

17,189. On principle ?—On principle.

17,190. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And on principle this time you split your vote ?—Every man will look to himself.

17,191. Your principle in voting one and one was that you thought you might by doing so obtain the support of both parties for Bartlemas Hospital ?—I am sorry I am not alone.

S. Best.

SAMUEL BEST sworn and examined.

17,192. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In St. John's Lane.

17,193. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,194. What did you receive ?—2*l.* ; it was stated here on Saturday by Mr. Maysey that I had 5*l.*

17,195. You received only 2*l.* ?—I did.

17,196. From Mr. Maysey ?—No.

17,197. From whom did you receive it ?—My wife received it ; I had not the money in my hand, but it was all the same ; I never received a halfpenny myself, and I was a week before I had that.

17,198. Your wife received the 2*l.* ?—Yes.

17,199. For your vote for Carden ?—Yes, as a messenger. I was twelve days, and I never did a bit of work ; and I think it was little enough too. I never had a bribe in my life. Talk about bribery ! I always polled for the Conservatives, and always shall as long as I live, without bribes. They hardly look after my vote because they make sure of me.

17,200. For whom did you vote in 1857 ?—Sir Robert. Then I did not have 2*l.* ; I only had 30*s.* then, and no drink.

17,201. Who gave you the money in 1857 ?—I received it at the committee-room, I believe from Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Lovegrove's clerk ; I received that myself.

17,202. Did you give that to your wife after you had received it to take care of for you ?—Not altogether ; if I had it in my hands I would be sure not to give it all up.

17,203. Were you a messenger in 1857 ?—I was.

17,204. I suppose you did not do very much when you were a messenger ?—No, not very much ; there was plenty without me ; they would not send an old man like me out ; I did go out though. I went out a great deal in 1857 with letters about the town.

C. Best.

CHARLES BEST sworn and examined.

17,205. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live at the same house as Samuel Best ?—No.

17,206. Where do you live ?—In Sherborne Street.

17,207. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

17,208. For whom did you vote in 1859 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,209. What did you receive for your vote ?—4*l.*

17,210. From whom ?—Mr. Maysey.

17,211. For whom did you vote in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,212. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

17,213. Nothing from any one ?—Nothing from any one.

C. J. Monk.

CHARLES JAMES MONK called and further examined.

17,214. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some explanation with regard to some part of the evidence that has been given by Mr. Lovegrove ; the Commissioners do not consider any explanation is necessary, but if you desire to state anything for your own satisfaction, we will allow you to do so ?—With the permission of the Commissioners I should like to refer to a report of the evidence given by Mr. Joseph Lovegrove as it appears in the "Morning Post" and "Gloucester Chronicle." He states,—"There is no doubt that Mr. Monk, the candidate "for Gloucester on the liberal side in 1859, was "the Tory candidate for Sandwich in 1852. I "did not make use of that information at the "nomination or throughout the election. I had "made one or two allusions as to Mr. Monk and "his position in holding certain ecclesiastical "offices, and these were met, as I conceive, in such "a peculiar way—such an evasive way—that I hesi-"tated before entering into another correspondence "with Mr. Monk. I had had no correspondence with "him, but he had met my objections in a way which "was not truthful." I have taken the first possible opportunity to appear here to give a most unqualified contradiction to the statement of Mr. Lovegrove that I ever met any allegations in either an evasive or in an untruthful manner. I never had any correspondence with Mr. Lovegrove. On the day on which I commenced my canvass (on Wednesday the 6th of April, I believe,) there was a Tory meeting at the Bell Hotel, when Mr. Lovegrove made certain statements respecting me and an ecclesiastical office which I hold in this diocese. He stated that I held an office of 800*l.* a year, giving it to be understood that I had a sinecure office of that amount. My attention was called to that statement, and also to a lead-

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C. J. Monk.

14 Oct. 1859.

ing article in the "Gloucester Chronicle" of the following Saturday by Mr. Innell, and I referred Mr. Innell at once to Mr. Holt, the Registrar of the diocese, and received that same evening from Mr. Holt the following letter, which I shall be glad to have entered upon the notes:—"The Registry, Saturday "afternoon, April 9th, 1859.—My dear Sir:—My "attention has this afternoon been drawn to the fol- "lowing passage in a leader of this day's 'Glouces- "'tershire Chronicle,' viz.: that you were at the "age of 13 appointed to a lucrative office in the "Church, which you do not see fit to resign, even "now that you have arrived at years of discretion. "Although it is not said that you receive the emolu- "ments of the office referred to, it is clear that that "is the insinuation intended to be conveyed to the "public. The office referred to must be that of "diocesan registrar, which I have held and exercised "solely since my appointment in August, 1837, the "whole emoluments of which I have received and "retained to my own use during the entire period. "I need not tell you that you have never received "any part of the emoluments of the office, but I may "add, neither have you, nor any one belonging to "you, ever derived any benefit from it in any way. "In fact you did not, even when you might have "done so, accept the appointment; you, therefore, "could not 'resign' what you never held. In "another part of the same paper I find it asserted "by a gentleman who made a speech at the Bell "Hotel on Wednesday evening, that you got an ap- "pointment of 800*l.* a year. I suppose this refers "to the same office as that spoken of in the leader. "This assertion is equally devoid of truth. The "only office you hold in the Church here (I refer to "the judgeship of the Consistory Court) is one the "emoluments of which will scarcely defray the ex- "penses of holding it. As soon as I became aware "of these slanders, I determined to refute them by "a letter to the editor; but as a week must elapse "before my denial could appear, I write you this "note at once, requesting you to make any use of it "you please. I remain, dear Sir, very faithfully "yours. THOS. HOLT. C. J. MONK, Esq." I think the Commissioners will be of opinion that nothing could be more distinct and clear than Mr. Holt's denial of the allegations which had been made against me by Mr. Lovegrove. I took no further notice of them myself than by forwarding this letter or a copy of it to Mr. Innell, the President of the Reform Association, at Gloucester, who had called my attention to the matter. There was a rejoinder, I believe, put in by Mr. Lovegrove, in a letter to Mr. Holt, explaining away, to a certain degree, what he had said, but stating that I held not only the judgeship of the Consistory Court, but that I was also Principal Surrogate, or in fact Deputy Chancellor, of Gloucester. Those three offices, I need scarcely say, are one and the same, and the emoluments derivable from them are about 50*l.* annually.

17,215. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then at the time of the election you held no other office in the diocese than those you have mentioned?—No; I was also Chancellor of Bristol.

17,216. Was that an office of 800*l.* a year emolument?—Certainly not; not a quarter of that sum. It had been the practice since the foundation of the See, in Henry the Eighth's time, that two names should be placed in the patent, and my name was put into the patent with Mr. Holt's, in 1837, but I never derived any benefit from the office; in point of fact when I was appointed Deputy Chancellor by Mr. March Phillips, the then Chancellor, in 1855, I wished to resign all right to the office of Registrar, but I was informed that I could not do so until I had accepted that office; that I should have to qualify by being made a notary public, at a considerable expense. I believe the Government stamp alone amounts to 50*l.*; and it was also stated that Mr. Holt's right to compensation would be prejudiced by a re-appointment of him in the year 1855. He was entitled to compensation on the testamentary jurisdiction being taken away from the ecclesiastical courts. I do not know that it is necessary for me to make any further observation with reference to the charge which has been made against me by Mr. Lovegrove. With the permission of the Commissioners, I will hand in Mr. Holt's letter.

17,217. You have given your explanation; I do not know that we shall be able to put it upon the notes?—I have been accused of conduct unfitting a gentleman in a public manner in this court.

17,218. You have had every opportunity of putting yourself right with the public of Gloucester, by making the explanation you have just made. I am only suggesting that it may not be material with reference to the object of our inquiry that that explanation should appear upon the minutes of evidence to be submitted to Her Majesty?—That I must leave to the decision of the Commissioners. I do not know that it is necessary for me to take up the time of the court by stating anything with regard to the other part of Mr. Lovegrove's statement, as to Sandwich; but, perhaps, you will allow me to state that I never was a candidate for Sandwich in 1852. I certainly was at Sandwich in 1852, but I was not twelve hours in the town. I never issued an address, nor did I become a candidate. It is very true I was brought up in a Tory school of politics. In 1852, if I had come forward as a candidate, I should in all probability have come forward as a supporter of Lord Derby. I had not given any serious attention to political matters at that time, but I have done so since, and I have become a liberal by conviction. The first time that I ever was a candidate was in 1857, and then I came forward as a candidate at Cricklade, as a liberal.

17,219. We have no question before us with regard to your political opinions, or any change in them; of course we will listen to any statement you make in explanation of what has been said here?—I feel exceedingly obliged to the Commissioners for their courtesy. A letter written by Mr. Wood, with reference to what I did at Sandwich, appears, I believe, in your minutes, having been taken down by your shorthand writer, and it appears also in all the newspapers; and I would respectfully suggest to you that if that letter is submitted to Her Majesty it is right my explanation should go with it.

17,220. (*Mr. Welford.*) The form of a telegraphic message which was brought to our notice led us to suspect that it referred to some confidential employment of a person to bring money to Gloucester in the way in which others did bring money to Gloucester, and it was with reference to that that Mr. Wood's letter came before us?—I should like to state that I went down to Sandwich in 1852, on learning that there would probably be a vacancy there for a candidate; I was told that Lord Clarence Paget would not come forward, and I went down. I saw Mr. Wood, the Mayor of Sandwich, and he said, "It is of no use "your coming here; if Mr. Macgregor will not stand, "we shall bring forward Mr. Knatchbull Hugessen," who is now one of the members for Sandwich, and the liberal whipper-in. I went up to London the next morning, and never canvassed or issued any address whatever. If I had stood then I should have stood as a liberal conservative.

17,221. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You would not have stood altogether as a conservative candidate?—No; but as a general supporter of Lord Derby's Government.

17,222. Then the statement contained in Mr. Wood's letter is true?—It is substantially true; but I never placed myself in Mr. Wood's hands, to be nominated without issuing an address or canvassing.

17,223. But if you had come forward as a candidate in Sandwich, it is true, as stated by Mr. Wood, that you would have come forward as a conservative, and as a supporter of the Lord Derby's Government?—That is so; but at the same time I mentioned to Mr. Wood that it would be as a free trader; it was at

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C. J. Monk.
14 Oct. 1859.

the time of the last struggle of protection against free trade.

17,224. Was your father alive at that time?—Yes, he was.

17,225. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If we consider that any portion of your explanation ought to appear on the notes for your justification, it shall appear?—I thank you. Mr. Lovegrove has made a direct attack upon my character for truthfulness, and as that has appeared I think that my answer ought to appear also.

D. Best, jun.

DECIMUS BEST, junior, sworn and examined.

17,226. You are a voter for Gloucester?—Yes.

17,227. In the same employment as your father?—Yes.

17,228. For whom did you vote at the last election in 1859?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

17,229. What did you receive for your vote?—10*l.*

17,230. From whom?—From John B. Hanman.

17,231. In 1857 for whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden and Admiral Berkeley.

17,232. What did you receive for your vote then?—I received of J. B. Hanman 4*l.*, and gave 2*l.* to my father.

17,233. Was that for your vote and your father's vote for Carden?—For Carden.

17,234. And 2*l.* you gave to your father out of that?—Yes, out of that.

17,235. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you get anything on the other side?—Not anything.

17,236. Did you tell your father that that 2*l.* was for his vote for Carden?—Yes; I wish to state this with reference to this last election, that the 10*l.* that I received was under the circumstances of illness—six months' illness, and never earning a halfpenny piece. I have a wife and six children, and very little coming in to support them—9*s.* 6*d.* a week; and what I received that 10*l.* for was under that painful circumstance, for the sake of my wife and children. Six months' illness is a long time.

17,237. You mean to represent that you were in distress, and that you were glad to get the money?—That was it.

17,238. Was that the case when you took the 4*l.* in 1857?—That was not the case then.

17,239. You mean to say that that justified you taking so large a sum as 10*l.*?—Yes.

W. H. Best.

WILLIAM HENRY BEST sworn and examined.

17,240. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A cordwainer.

17,241. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

17,242. What did you receive for your vote?—£4.

17,243. Who paid you?—Mr. Maysey.

17,244. For whom did you vote in the election in 1857?—I could not vote at all then.

E. Bourne.

EDWIN BOURNE sworn and examined.

17,245. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in Water-street?—Yes.

17,246. Did you receive from Mr. Whithorn 8*l.* in 1859?—I got 24*l.* of him.

17,247. Did you keep 8*l.* yourself?—Yes.

17,248. To whom did you give the other money?—£8 to John Bourne, and 8*l.* to William Bourne, and kept 8*l.*

17,249. That was to vote for Carden?—Yes.

17,250. Did you receive any money in 1857?—Not any.

17,251. For whom did you vote then?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,252. Were you a messenger in 1857?—No.

17,253. (*Mr. Welford.*) How did you vote before?—Always for the conservatives.

17,254. Before 1857?—Yes.

J. Bourne.

JOHN BOURNE sworn and examined.

17,255. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Edwin Bourne give you 8*l.* at the election of 1859?—He did.

17,256. To vote for Carden?—Yes.

17,257. How did you vote in 1857?—For Carden.

17,258. Did you get any money then?—No.

W. Bourne.

WILLIAM BOURNE sworn and examined.

17,259. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive 8*l.* for your vote at the last election?—Yes.

17,260. Who gave it you?—Edwin Bourne.

17,261. For whom did you vote in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,262. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

17,263. For whom did you vote before 1857?—For Mr. Hope.

H. R. Bourne.

HENRY RICHARD BOURNE sworn and examined.

17,264. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in St. Mary's Square?—I do.

17,265. Did you receive 8*l.* at the last election?—I received 12*l.* altogether.

17,266. What did you do with it?—Kept it.

17,267. From whom did you receive it?—Mr. Whithorn, for my expenses and my vote.

17,268. (*Mr. Welford.*) To vote for Carden?—Yes.

17,269. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What were your expenses?—£4.

17,270. What did you do—how were you employed?—I am a plumber.

17,271. Did you receive 4*l.* from Mr. Whithorn for plumbing at the election?—No; I came about 70 miles.

17,272. Where did you come from?—From Huntington, in Herefordshire.

17,273. That cost you 4*l.*, did it?—It cost me more than that.

17,274. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How did you vote in 1857?—I had no vote in 1857.

T. Bower.

THOMAS BOWER sworn and examined.

17,275. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive 10*l.* at the last election?—Yes.

17,276. Who gave it you?—George Bower.

17,277. For whom did you vote?—Price and Monk.

17,278. Did you receive any money in 1857?—No.

17,279. Had you a vote then?—No.

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T. Bower.

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THOMAS BOWER sworn and examined.

17,280. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

17,281. What did you receive for your vote ?—10*l.*

17,282. Who paid you ?—George Bowers.

17,283. For whom did you vote in 1857 ?—Carden.

17,284. What did you receive ?—3*l.* 10*s.* from Mr. Parker.

17,285. For whom did you vote at the election before that ?—For Price and Berkeley.

17,286. Did you vote in 1853 when Hope and Berkeley were candidates ?—Yes.

17,287. Did you receive any money then ?—Yes, I received some money ; I forget what it was now.

17,288. I am speaking of the election when Mr. Hope and Captain Berkeley were the only candidates ? —I forget what I received then, and who I polled for I can hardly say.

17,289. (*Mr. Welford.*) You do not recollect much about it ?—No.

17,290. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are sure you received something ?—I cannot say what I received.

17,291. How long have you been a voter for Gloucester ?—Since 1831.

17,292. Have you voted at every election ?—Not every one.

17,293. Have you always received some money ?—At each election I have received something.

17,294. (*Mr. Welford.*) Sometimes from one side and sometimes from the other ?—Yes, mostly on the liberal side.

17,295. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know a man named Hudson ?—Yes.

17,296. Did he often pay you ?—I have received money from him.

17,297. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that for any services that you performed ? Were you appointed a messenger ?—I went and posted bills for him.

17,298. Were you paid the ordinary price for bill opsting ?—Yes.

17,299. And nothing more ?—Nothing more.

17,300. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he ever lend you any money ?—No.

17,301. Were you a bill poster at all the elections ? —No, only at one.

17,302. Which election was that ?—That was when Mr. Price put up.

17,303. Did not Mr. Hudson ever lend you any money ?—No.

A. Brabant.

ALFRED BRABANT sworn and examined.

17,304. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—No. 4, Wellington Terrace.

17,305. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

17,306. For whom ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

17,307. What did you receive for your vote ?—3*l.* 10*s.*

17,308. For your vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

17,309. Who paid you for it ?—Mr. Pugh.

17,310. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

17,311. For whom did you vote ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

17,312. What did you receive for your vote then ? —I did not receive anything for my vote.

17,313. Did you receive anything at all ?—I received a sovereign for being on the committee for about a week or so ; that is all.

17,314. Were you a messenger, or what ?—No ; I suppose that was reckoned for my loss of time and trouble in going up to poll.

17,315. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did nothing else for your money but go to the poll ?—That is all ; I lost a day's work.

17,316. And for that you received one sovereign ? —Yes.

17,317. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Maysey.

17,318. Had you voted at elections previous to 1857 ?—Yes, but I have no knowledge so as to give you any statement about them.

17,319. You cannot tell how you voted in 1853 ?—No, I have no knowledge ; my memory is very bad.

T. Bossom.

THOMAS BOSSOM sworn and examined.

17,320. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—A carpenter.

17,321. For whom did you vote at the last election ? —Price and Monk.

17,322. What did you receive for your work ? —£4.

17,323. Who paid you ?—James Murrell.

17,324. To vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

17,325. For whom did you vote at the election before, in 1857 ?—I did not vote at all.

17,326. Were you a voter then ?—No.

T. Cole.

THOMAS COLE sworn and examined.

17,327. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—A fishmonger.

17,328. For whom did you vote at the last election ? —Carden and Monk.

17,329. What did you receive for your vote ?—I received nothing for my vote. I borrowed 8*l.* of Mr. Whithorn a day or two before, which I consider a loan, not a bribe.

17,330. When did you ask him for it ?—It was the day before the election. Nothing was said about my vote. I asked him to lend me the money and he did. All he said to me was, "Early to the poll." I had borrowed money of him before at different times which I paid him.

17,331. Did you ever pay him the 8*l.* which you borrowed of him at that time ?—No.

17,332. Has he ever asked you for it ?—No ; I am liable to pay it again.

17,333. When you asked him to let you have 8*l.*, what did he say ?—He said nothing about my voting ; he said, "Early to the poll."

17,334. Did he give you the money in sovereigns ? —Yes.

17,335. Did he take any memorandum for it ?—No ; I have borrowed money of him many times, and he never took a memorandum from me.

17,336. Do you mean to say that the 8*l.* was not given to you for your vote ?—I did not consider it as such, though he gave evidence as such.

17,337. Do you believe that you would have had the loan if it had not been election time ?—I have no doubt I should. I have had money of him many times.

17,338. Have you ever offered to repay him the 8*l.* ?—No, not yet.

17,339. Has he ever asked you for it ?—No.

17,340. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you asked him for the 8*l.* and he gave it you, and told you to go early to the poll, did you not understand that he was giving you the 8*l.* for your vote ?—I did not consider it so. I asked him to lend it to me, and he did so.

17,341. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was this on the evening of the nomination day ?—No, it was before that.

17,342. It was not on the morning of the polling, was it ?—No.

17,343. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did you go to him

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for it?—I went to his office in Bell Lane, but I had asked him for the money several days before, a week previous to that, perhaps.

17,344. Had he canvassed you for your vote?—No, I do not recollect his canvassing me, but I have generally voted that way.

17,345. Do you know that Mr. Whithorn considers that it was given to you for your vote?—Yes, I have understood so, and I am very much obliged to him; I shall not expect to pay it again now.

17,346. You expect that the debt is cancelled by your having given your vote?—No; but if the gentleman says he gave it to me as a bribe I suppose he does not expect to be repaid.

17,347. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you not go to him and ask him for the money, knowing it was election time?—Yes, I knew it was election time, but I did not ask for the money for my vote. I borrowed the money, meaning to repay it.

17,348. When he gave you the money on your application, and said, "Go early to the poll," did you understand him to mean that you were to go early and poll for Sir Robert Carden?—I understood him to mean that I was to go and poll in that way. I did not ask him for the money for my vote.

17,349. (*Mr. Welford.*) How long before that was it that Mr. Whithorn had lent you any money; was it at the previous election?—No; three months back.

17,350. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much?—£2.

17,351. How soon did you pay him again?—There was a little fish business; there was an account between us.

17,352. It was never paid back in money, but only by way of set off?—That account has been going on seven or eight years.

17,353. Did you ever receive 8*l.* from Mr. Whithorn except at the time of an election?—No.

17,354. Have you ever let Mr. Whithorn have any fish in reduction of that 8*l.*?—No, I have not.

17,355. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote in 1857?—Yes, I did.

17,356. Did you get anything for your vote then?—Yes; 1*l.* 15*s.*

17,357. Who from?—It was a man named Miles. He said, "If you will give me a crown, I can get "you 2*l.*"

17,358. Was that Thomas Miles?—Yes; he said he could get me 2*l.* if I would give him a crown, and I did so; he gave me 2*l.*, and I gave him 5*s.* out.

17,359. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was that money received from Miles for; that 2*l.*?—We spent it. It was an understanding that I was to vote for Carden; I understood that.

17,360. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did vote for Carden?—Yes; I am not certain whether I voted for Mr. Price at the same time or not.

17,361. But you voted for Carden at all events?—Yes; but I could not say whether I voted for Price as well.

17,362. This money was not given you to vote for Price, I suppose?—No.

17,363. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to swear that you did not receive that 8*l.* from Mr. Whithorn for your vote?—I considered it was not.

17,364. You received 1*l.* 15*s.* in 1857 to vote for Carden; you got from Mr. Whithorn, two days before the last election, 8*l.*, and he told you to go early to the poll. Do you mean to represent that that 8*l.* was not paid by Mr. Whithorn and received by you as a bribe for your vote?—I did not consider it such.

17,365. Do you undertake to say now that you considered it only a loan?—Only a loan.

17,366. Notwithstanding the interpretation which Mr. Whithorn puts upon the advance, and notwithstanding Mr. Whithorn says it was for your vote, you still say it was a loan?—I consider it a loan.

17,367. (*Mr. Welford.*) In 1853 for whom did you vote, when Hope and Berkeley were candidates?—I think I voted for Hope; but I do not consider I ever had any money with the exception of that 1*l.* 15*s.*

17,368. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you not receive any money at all?—No; not from any person in my life, except in 1836, after the voting was over. I voted for Mr. Hope half a vote, and he gave 50*s.* a piece for plumpers, and 25*s.* split votes; and I had 25*s.* at the Crown and Thistle.

17,369. That was in 1837?—In 1836 it must have been, I should judge.

17,370. There was no election in 1836?—It may have been in 1837; this was after the election was over. It was a present sent down; nothing was given to the voters before the election.

17,371. A present was sent down to all the voters after the election?—Yes; and I had 1*l.* 5*s.*; that was sent down afterwards; a sort of a godsend.

17,372. It was sent down to those who had served him; 50*s.* for plumpers, and 25*s.* for split votes?—Yes; that is all the money I ever had to do with in my life.

17,373. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where was the money paid you?—In the Crown and Thistle, in Bond Street. I was sent for, I believe; he was chaired at that time; it was after he was chaired.

17,374. That was the case generally, was it?—I never knew anything of the sort before or afterwards.

17,375. But at that election it was the usual practice?—Yes; it was with the Tories. I do not think they were promised it; but afterwards he made them a present.

17,376. Fifty shillings for plumpers, and 25*s.* for split votes?—Yes.

17,377. And that was done all round?—Yes; I believe it was to them that would have it.

W. Cole.

WILLIAM COLE sworn and examined.

17,378. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A fishmonger.

17,379. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,380. What did you get for your vote?—Seven Pounds.

17,381. To vote for Carden?—Yes.

17,382. Who gave it you?—Mr. Maysey.

17,383. For whom did you vote at the election before?—No one before; I had not a vote then.

17,384. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any money from Mr. Roberts?—No.

17,385. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not receive money on both sides?—No.

17,386. That is all the money you received from anybody at the last election?—Yes.

W. Faville.

WILLIAM FAVILLE sworn and examined.

17,387. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In St. Mary Magdalene's, in the London Road.

17,388. In the Hospital there?—Yes.

17,389. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Price and Monk.

17,390. What did you receive?—I received two sovereigns, and returned half-a-crown; but I did not know it was for my vote, because I never had a sixpence in my life for my vote.

17,391. From whom did you receive it?—I do not know.

17,392. Did it come to you from Hutton?—I was taken over to Hutton's shop by a man of the name of Cole they told me; but I did not know the man.

17,393. Were you taken to Hutton's shop?—Yes.

17,394. And did you there receive two sovereigns?—Yes, and they said I must give something back, and I gave 2*s.* 6*d.*

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T. Cole.
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17,395. Was that for your vote ?—No.

17,396. What did you think it was for ?—For having been a messenger.

17,397. Were you a messenger in 1857 ?—No.

17,398. But you thought you got it for being a messenger ?—Yes, I did, in the room of it; but it was not for my vote.

17,399. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I suppose you have voted at a great number of elections at Gloucester ?—Yes, and always liberal.

17,400. Have you always been a messenger ?—I was for years back.

17,401. What were you accustomed to get in those days for being a messenger ?—I think it was 3*s.*

17,402. Was it the same at all elections ?—I cannot say ; but I used to work hard for it.

17,403. You did, did you ?—Yes, but I was not aware that the money they gave me this time was for my vote, or they might have ate it if they had liked. I always reckoned myself an independent voter.

17,404. What did you think it was for ?—Not for my vote. I was going to vote. I might have had plenty of money on the other side years back, but no man could ever bribe me.

17,405. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) This time you were an independent messenger ?—I always thought I was an independent voter.

17,406. You thought yourself an independent messenger ?—I did not know there was any bribery in being a messenger.

17,407. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

17,408. For whom did you vote ?—Berkeley and Price.

17,409. Did you receive anything then ?—Not a glass of ale.

17,410. And you always voted Liberal, did you ?—Yes ; I split my vote to oblige a gentleman, for Mr. Hope, and he split his'n, to oblige me, for Mr. Berkeley.

17,411. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you vote in 1837 ?—Yes.

17,412. Was there any payment made as head money, or did you receive anything for voting then ?—Not for voting, I did not ; but I dare say I was a messenger. I cannot say now ; I dare say I was.

17,413. For whom did you vote then ?—I think it was Admiral Berkeley.

17,414. Phillpotts and Berkeley were the candidates ?—Then I voted for Berkeley and Phillpotts, perhaps, but I plumped for Berkeley once or twice, because I would not split my vote.

C. Hatch.

CHARLES HATCH sworn and examined.

17,415. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive 10*l.* from Mr. Whithorn at the last election ?—James Maysey had it.

17,416. Was that for your vote ?—Yes.

17,417. Did you vote in 1857 ?—I did.

17,418. For whom ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,419. Was that for your vote for Carden ?—Yes.

17,420. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In 1857 you voted for whom ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,421. Did you get paid ?—I did ; 3*l.*

17,422. From whom did you receive it ?—Maysey ; which I considered I worked hard for.

17,423. For your vote and services that was paid, I suppose ?—Well, I suppose it was.

J. Hyett.

JOHN HYETT sworn and examined.

17,424. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in Alvin treet ?—Yes.

17,425. Did you receive 10*l.* from Mr. Whithorn at the last election ?—Yes.

17,426. For your vote for Carden ?—Yes.

17,427. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

17,428. Did you receive any money then ?—No.

17,429. Is your name John Hyett, or John Watkins Hyett ?—My son's name is John Watkins Hyett.

17,430. Is he here ?—He has been examined.

D. Jeffs.

DANIEL JEFFS sworn and examined.

17,431. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Albert Street.

17,432. Did you vote at the last election in 1859 ?—I did.

17,433. For whom ?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,434. What did you receive ?—£10.

17,435. For your vote ?—Yes.

17,436. Who was that from ?—Mrs. Gainey, of the Pilot.

17,437. Did you vote in 1857 ?—I did not.

17,438. You did not vote at all in 1857 ?—No.

17,439. Did you vote in 1852 ?—I never voted before.

17,440. Were you an officer of the Customs in 1852 ?—I was.

17,441. Were you requested to vote in 1852 on behalf of Messrs. Price and Berkeley ?—No.

17,442. Had you a vote in 1852 ?—No.

17,443. You had no vote at all at that time ?—No ; I think I have made a mistake ; I had a vote. I never voted previous to the last election ; I cannot tell the year, but I came from Stourport to vote for Mr. Price, at his first election ; the first time he put up.

17,444. Was that in 1852 ?—I really cannot recollect.

17,445. You voted for Mr. Price the first time Mr. Price became a member for this city ?—No, I did not vote ; I had a vote.

17,446. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you in the Customs at that time ?—No.

17,447. Why did you not vote for Mr. Price ?—Mr. Price resigned.

17,448. (*Mr. Welford.*) He did not go to the poll then ?—He did not go to the poll.

17,449. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did you go into the Customs ?—I think in 1841.

17,450. And when did you leave ?—I was in the Customs four years.

17,451. From 1841 to 1845 ?—Yes ; I left the day that Mr. Berkeley was returned the last time as member.

17,452. The last time he was returned ?—The last time he was returned for Gloucester ; that was the day I resigned my commission in the Customs.

17,453. Was any application made to you by the superior officers of the Customs to vote in any particular way ?—No ; I had an application from Captain Berkeley's party to go and do duty for two voters that were at the docks as extra men ; they were acting as extra officers. I was requested by the party to go and do duty at the time while they went to the poll, as the collector had refused to let them go unless they could find a commissioned officer who would do duty for them ; it appeared that strict orders had been given to the inspectors not to let any commissioned officer take their places. I came up from Sharpness Point ; I was not aware of the order which had been given by the collector, and I went and stood for the men while they went and polled. One man's name was Thomas Davis, and the other was John Bonnewell. I was then told that I should be reported to the collector for interfering with the election, and in consequence of that I resigned my situation on the morrow morning.

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W. Faville.
14 Oct. 1859.

17,454. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect in what year that was?—It was the last time Captain Berkeley was returned for the city; I could tell you if I was at home.

17,455. Was Captain Berkeley returned?—I believe he was.

17,456. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was thought that you had interfered with the election?—Yes.

17,457. You being employed at the Customs?—Yes.

17,458. Therefore you were told you would be dismissed, and then you resigned?—I was told I should be reported to the collector, and I resigned at once; but I was not aware when I went to do duty for those men that I was doing wrong.

17,459. You are aware that officers in the Customs have no right to interfere at elections?—Certainly.

C. Jones.

CHARLES JONES sworn and examined.

17,460. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In St. John's Lane.

17,461. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

17,462. For whom?—For Carden and Monk.

17,463. What money did you receive?—I received 1*l.* to vote for Mr. Monk.

17,464. From whom did you receive it?—I think they call him Harry Jacobs, of the Dust Pan.

17,465. What other money had you?—I had nothing for Carden.

17,466. In 1857 did you vote?—Yes.

17,467. For whom?—Carden and Berkeley.

17,468. Did you receive anything upon that occasion?—No.

17,469. Nothing at all?—No.

17,470. Were you promised anything if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, by nobody; in fact, they put me on as a messenger, and did not pay me that.

17,471. Who put you on as a messenger?—Mr. Whithorn.

17,472. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was at the last election?—At the last election; they did not pay me that.

17,473. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you expect to get for being a messenger?—I expected to get 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* for the time I had been engaged; 3*s.* a day I think it was that they paid the messengers.

17,474. And you were disappointed that you did not get paid?—Just so.

17,475. You gave on that occasion one vote for Sir Robert Carden, and one vote for Mr. Monk?—Yes.

17,476. You voted for Carden because you were put on as a messenger, and you voted for Monk because you had received 1*l.*?—I did not vote for Carden because I was put on as a messenger; my mind was made up to vote for Monk and Carden, but I had just lost a situation and I wanted something, I was out of employ, I had nothing to do, and I could not live upon nothing; that is the reason why I would take the money, or else I am not a money hunter at elections.

17,477. I do not think you have told us all you got, have you?—Yes, every farthing.

17,478. You got 3*l.* from Mr. Harry Jacobs, did you not?—No, I will deny that in open court, it must be a wrong Jones; there is another Charles Jones who might have had it, who lives opposite the City prison.

17,479. You live in St. John's Lane?—Yes.

17,480. Where does the other Charles Jones live?—Down at Littleworth, opposite the City prison; he is a cabinet maker. I will positively swear that I only received one sovereign, and that was from a man they call Harry Jacobs.

17,481. Where was it that you received the sovereign?—In his own shop; I was promised it five or six days before.

17,482. What were you promised?—I think I asked for a sovereign, and they said, "Well, I dare "say we can do that," and in five minutes, if I had not seen the man, I should have voted without the money; but being out of work, I thought the sovereign would do me as much good as other folks.

17,483. Were you not a messenger?—Yes, for Sir Robert Carden.

17,484. And they did not pay you because you voted for Monk?—Yes; they considered, as I had voted for Carden and Monk, I had done them an injury.

17,485. And they did not pay you?—No.

17,486. What did you do as a messenger?—Nothing.

17,487. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When was it that you received the 1*l.*?—On the day of the election, when I should suppose Mr. Monk was 150 a-head. They told me they thought I should be too late, but as it was promised me before, of course the man kept his promise.

17,488. Jacobs knew, I suppose, that you were on the blue committee as a messenger?—No.

17,489. You did not tell him that?—No, of course not.

17,490. (*Mr. Welford.*) You kept that to yourself?—Yes; but he knowed I was going to vote for Carden.

17,491. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) And you are prepared to swear that he did not give you 3*l.*?—I will swear that I only had one sovereign.

17,492. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you get anything at any election before 1857?—No.

17,493. Did you ever vote before?—Yes.

17,494. At what election?—I voted in Cooper's time.

17,495. Did you get anything for your vote in 1852?—No, I was at the Customs.

17,496. In 1837 for whom did you vote?—I think I voted for Hope.

17,497. What did you get then?—Nothing.

17,498. Did you not get any little present?—No, I am a conscientious voter.

17,499. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any present come down to you after the election?—No, they never troubled about me; they hardly asked me for my vote, because they knew I was sure.

17,500. You were not invited to the Crown and Thistle after the election?—No.

17,501. You say you are a conscientious voter; when you gave one vote for Mr. Monk in 1859 you were an unconscientious voter, were you not?—Not exactly; it was not the sovereign that caused me to vote that way.

17,502. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who promised you that sovereign?—I had it of Harry Jacobs.

17,503. But who promised it to you?—A man of the name of Probert.

17,504. Did you go to him or did he come to you?—We met in a public-house.

17,505. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that Probert, junior?—Yes, Mr. Probert, junior.

17,506. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you get any money from him?—He was there when I was paid the sovereign at Jacobs'.

17,507. Did he give you anything else himself?—No; in fact he had the sovereign the while I went to vote; the man was afraid to trust me.

17,508. Who were at Jacobs' besides yourself when you were paid the sovereign?—We were only the three of us together; Jacobs went along with me to vote, and left the sovereign in Probert's hands while I did vote, and then I went back and received the sovereign.

17,509. He would not trust you?—No; and I am very glad you summoned me here to certify that I only had 1*l.* of Jacobs instead of 3*l.*

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J. Ireland.

14 Oct. 1859.

JAMES IRELAND sworn and examined.

17,510. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A porter.

17,511. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,512. Did you receive any money?—No, I did not at the last election. My wife received *5l.* from Obadiah Clutterbuck.

17,513. Was that at the last election?—Yes, at the last election.

17,514. Was that for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I went and voted for Sir Robert Carden. My wife said nothing to me about it.

17,515. Did she not tell you before you voted that she had received the *5l.* from Obadiah Clutterbuck?—No, certainly not.

17,516. When did she tell you of it?—She told me of it when I came back home.

17,517. When you came back from voting?—Yes.

17,518. Who canvassed you?—Sir Robert Carden and a party, and Mr. Lovegrove.

17,519. Did you see Mr. Whithorn?—No.

17,520. Did you see Mr. Maysey?—Yes, I did.

17,521. Do you know Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

17,522. Did he canvass you?—Yes.

17,523. Did he tell you you would get something for voting for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

17,524. Did you promise to vote for him?—No.

17,525. You did not promise?—No, not when I was canvassed.

17,526. When did you make up your mind to vote for him?—I made up my mind to my sister ten or eleven weeks previous; she came and asked me. She supported my family pretty well, and she asked me if I would vote for Sir Robert Carden, and follow her master's wishes; and I said, "As you have been "very kind to us and supported us, I will do so;" and after I had voted my mistress informed me that she had received *5l.* from Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck.

17,527. When did you learn that?—After I had polled; after I came home.

17,528. What did you do with that money?—I never had a penny or a shilling of it.

17,529. Did you tell your wife to take it back to Mr. Clutterbuck?—No, the money was very useful at our house.

17,530. Your wife kept it?—Yes; I never saw it.

17,531. And your wife used it?—Yes.

17,532. Did you not receive that *5l.* as payment for your vote?—I received nothing.

17,533. Your wife received it?—Yes.

17,534. And you did not return it?—No.

17,535. And you did not tell her to return it?—No, certainly not. She said she had had *5l.* given to her by Mr. Clutterbuck.

17,536. When she told you that, you knew it was for your vote, did you not?—No.

17,537. What did you think it was?—There was a conversation along with my sister. My sister had been a very good friend to me, and she asked me to give my vote that way. She was in service, and she said it would oblige her master, and I understood from her that something should be done, and I promised her that I would vote that way, as she had been very kind to us, and I went and voted; and when I came back my mistress said she had received *5l.* from Mr. Clutterbuck.

17,538. Did you not think that was the something that should be done that was mentioned by your sister?—I did not take it in that way; I only did it on her account.

17,539. Did you not think that the *5l.* you received from Obadiah Clutterbuck was for the something that should be done by your sister if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden? Did you not, in point of fact, when you found that your wife had received *5l.* from Obadiah Clutterbuck, consider that it had been given to her for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

17,540. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the election in 1857?—I had no vote; I was in the police force then.

W. Barker.

WILLIAM BARKER sworn and examined.

17,541. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—I live in Barton Street now.

17,542. Where did you live at the last election, in 1859?—At High Orchard.

17,543. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Price.

17,544. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing.

17,545. Nothing at all?—No.

17,546. Do you mean to say you received nothing?—Nothing.

17,547. Did not Mr. Maysey give you *5l.*—No.

17,548. Did you not receive any money from any person?—No.

17,549. In 1857 for whom did you vote, the election before the last?—For Mr. Price.

17,550. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you quite sure that you did not receive at the last election, in 1859, *5l.* from Mr. Maysey?—Yes, I did.

17,551. You said just now that you did not?—I thought you were asking me as to 1857.

17,552. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You received *5l.* from Mr. Maysey at the last election?—My wife did.

17,553. Was that for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

17,554. In 1857 did you receive anything for your vote?—No.

17,555. Did you vote for Mr. Price alone at that election?—Yes.

17,556. (*Mr. Welford.*) You gave a plumper for Mr. Price?—Yes.

J. Brookes.

JOHN BROOKES sworn and examined.

17,557. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in Pitt Street?—I do.

17,558. Did you vote at the last election for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

17,559. Did you receive *5l.* from Mr. Maysey?—I did.

17,560. For your vote?—I suppose it was for my vote, but I received it after the election, not before.

17,561. Did you receive anything in 1857?—I did.

17,562. How much?—£2 10*s.*

17,563. From whom did you receive that?—From Mr. Maysey.

17,564. For your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—For my vote for Sir Robert Carden,

17,565. Had you been on the register before?—Yes.

17,566. Had you voted before?—Yes, ever since Phillpotts was first elected.

17,567. In those days did you receive any money?—I might receive a little.

17,568. Have you always belonged to the blue party?—I always did, except I polled once for Mr. Price.

17,569. In what year was that?—I cannot tell you when; I believe it was when Mr. Price and Mr. Hope were here.

17,570. Did you get anything for your vote for Mr. Price?—No, I did not get anything at all.

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HENRY BROWNING sworn and examined. *H Browning.*

15 Oct. 1859.

17,571. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A freeman.

17,572. What are you by trade?—A blacksmith.

17,573. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Price and Monk.

17,574. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 5*l.* from Mr. James Payne, a stonemason.

17,575. You voted for Price and Monk?—Yes.

17,576. Did you receive anything from the other side?—Yes.

17,577. What?—£6; it was put into my pocket.

17,578. By whom?—By Alderman Whithorn.

17,579. What did he put that into your pocket for?—That was for my vote.

17,580. And did you promise him your vote?—I was in beer at the time; I cannot recollect anything about it further.

17,581. And you kept it, I suppose?—Yes.

17,582. And you kept also the 5*l.* which had been given you by the other side?—Yes.

17,583. For whom did you vote in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

17,584. What did you receive for your vote then?—£1.

17,585. Who paid it?—Alderman Whithorn.

17,586. Where was it that you received the 6*l.* from Alderman Whithorn in 1859?—In the back room; it was put into my pocket; I did not receive it in my hand.

17,587. Who put it in your pocket?—Alderman Whithorn.

17,588. Are you sure of that?—Yes, I held my pocket open.

17,589. Was it your waistcoat pocket?—Yes; not this one that I have on now, but the one I had on then; it is torn all to pieces now.

17,590. He came up to you and put six sovereigns into your waistcoat pocket?—Yes; I had not any money when I went in, and when I got outside I found it there.

17,591. You told us just now that you held your pocket open for him to put the money in?—Yes.

17,592. You say that it was given to you in a back room; was it a back room at the committee room in Westgate Street?—Yes.

17,593. And then you went and polled for Price and Monk?—Yes; after I was in there I got drunk.

17,594. Were you sober when you got the 6*l.* from Alderman Whithorn?—Yes, I was soberish.

17,595. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What o'clock in the morning was it?—About ten minutes to nine, I suppose.

17,596. (*Mr. Welford.*) You had been drinking, I suppose, all night?—No.

17,597. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you go in to Mr. Whithorn by yourself, or did somebody take you in?—Somebody took me. I do not know the person by name.

17,598. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know what Alderman Whithorn was going to do to you when he came up with the six sovereigns in his hand?—Yes, I agreed with him for it; he said he would give me six.

17,599. For your vote?—For my vote.

WILLIAM GAYNER BISHOP sworn and examined. *W. G. Bishop.*

17,600. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

17,601. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

17,602. What did you receive for your vote?—I do not know; it was a mixed medley job. I did not receive any money.

17,603. What did you receive?—I had a receipt for some money.

17,604. Who gave you the receipt for some money?—Mr. Clutterbuck.

17,605. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

17,606. How much was it?—He gave me a receipt for ten pounds. I think it was ten pounds; I think I have got it at home.

17,607. Did you owe him ten pounds?—No; but I owed it to somebody else.

17,608. To whom did you owe it?—Mr. Maysey.

17,609. So Mr. Clutterbuck paid ten pounds for you, and you gave him a receipt for it?—He told me he did.

17,610. Are you sure it was ten pounds?—Yes; it was rather more than ten pounds, I think.

17,611. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Clutterbuck says it was nine pounds that he gave you?—Well, the debt was more.

17,612. He gave you a receipt for nine or ten pounds?—Yes.

17,613. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The debt that you owed to Maysey was more?—Yes.

17,614. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that receipt given to you for your vote?—No; it was for house rent.

17,615. Your house rent was cleared for you to vote for Carden?—I do not know whether it was cleared or not; the landlord tells me it is not cleared.

17,616. But it was cleared to the extent of nine or ten pounds?—Yes; but I saw the landlord yesterday, and he says it is not cleared now.

17,617. What is the rent?—Eleven pounds a year.

17,618. Do you owe him two pounds still?—I owe him more than that.

17,619. How much did you owe at the election?—Three quarters' rent.

17,620. What Mr. Clutterbuck gave you was a receipt for the three quarters' rent, was it?—He gave me a receipt for ten pounds and some odd shillings; I do not know whether it was not near eleven pounds.

17,621. Have you got the receipt?—No, I have not got it with me; I did not know I should be wanted here to day.

17,622. Was that given to you for your vote?—Well, I do not know what he gave it me for; but I have rented his house these eight or nine years, and I was three quarters of a year behind with my rent, and then they told me if I would vote—they did not ask me for my vote at all.

17,623. If you would vote they would give you a receipt for your three quarters' rent?—Yes, and I voted.

17,624. And they told you to vote for Carden?—Yes.

17,625. They gave you a receipt for your three quarters' rent?—Yes.

17,626. And you voted?—Yes.

17,627. For whom did you vote at the election before, in 1857?—Captain Berkeley,—a plumper.

17,628. Did you receive anything for that?—No, I never received nothing any more in my life; and I never received anything in this instance.

17,629. But you got your rent cleared off, you know?—Yes.

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C. Hutton.

14 Oct. 1859.

CHARLES HUTTON called and further examined.

17,630. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the election of 1857, were you a canvasser at that election?—No, I did not canvass any one.

17,631. Did you take part in that election?—I did.

17,632. Did you receive any money?—I did not.

17,633. You did not receive any money?—Not any.

17,634. Not from any person?—Not from any one.

17,635. What part did you take in the election?—I merely took a part in the election on the polling day, getting the voters up to the poll.

17,636. Was that all you did?—That was all I did.

17,637. Were you at the Upper George on that day?—No.

17,638. Were you at any other public-house where voters were in the habit of assembling during the election of 1857?—I was at the Saracen's Head, I believe, and at the Fountain.

17,639. Did you offer any voters any money for their votes?—I did not.

17,640. Do you know of any persons who did?—No, I do not. I understood there was no money to be given for votes on that occasion by the liberal party, so I did not ask for any, and I did not promise any.

17,641. Do you know that any bribes were given by any persons at that election on either side?—I do not.

17,642. Did you see John Ward on the polling day?—Yes.

17,643. And Maysey?—Yes, I saw them going in and out of the committee room.

17,644. And Brewer Monk?—Yes.

17,645. And Probert?—Yes.

17,646. Did you learn from Brewer Monk or from Probert that there was any money which could be paid away in bribing voters for the liberal candidates?—I did not.

17,647. You did not hear it from either of them?—No.

17,648. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did either of them tell you there was no money to be given away on the liberal side?—They did.

17,649. Both of them?—Yes.

17,650. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You made inquiries?—Several parties came up into the committee-room, and inquired if there was anything to be had; but I cannot bring to my mind now who they were, and they were told that there was nothing to be given.

17,651. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where was the committee-room at that time of the liberal candidates?—Just below here; just down by the Shire Hall.

17,652. Voters came into that room to inquire if there was anything to be given away?—Yes.

17,653. To whom was that question put when voters came into the room?—To several of the most active supporters of the liberal party.

17,654. (*Mr. Welford.*) Brewer Monk?—Brewer Monk, and several more that there were in the room.

17,655. Was Mr. Jordan there?—I cannot say whether I saw him or not.

17,656. But active partisans of the liberal candidates were in the committee-room when voters came to make that inquiry?—Yes, some of them.

17,657. And the answer that was given was that there was no money to be given?—Yes; that there was no money to be given.

17,658. And as far as you know no money was given away?—Not a farthing, so far as I know. I did not see it given, or hear any talk about it, and I think I should if there had been.

17,659. Do you know of persons that were bribed to vote for Sir Robert Carden at that election?—There were plenty bribed then.

17,660. There were plenty bribed at that election?—Yes.

17,661. Did you hear as a matter of notoriety that there was money to be given away at that election to voters if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; I know Mr. Moss the builder was about between one and two o'clock. I heard him say there were fourteen or fifteen who would vote for the liberal party if they merely got paid their day's work. I am almost certain it was Mr. Moss; and he went to ask if there was anything to be given them, and they told him there was not a farthing to be given away, and consequently they went and voted for Sir Robert Carden.

17,662. There were fourteen or fifteen who would vote for the liberal candidates if they could have their day's work?—Yes; just their day's work.

17,663. Do you know of any other persons with whom you had conversation on the polling day in 1857 who made similar statements?—I do not recollect.

17,664. When was it that you first heard in 1857 that there would be money on the side of Sir Robert Carden?—It was made known two or three days previous to the polling day.

17,665. It was made known two or three days before the polling that money would be paid to voters by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; parties came to my shop and asked whether there would be anything given by the liberal side, and I said I could not tell them.

17,666. How soon before the polling day did they come to your shop and ask you that question?—On the nomination day I recollect one or two parties, that is, a man of the name of John Hyett and John Horatio Evans, who is now missing.

17,667. They came and inquired if any money would be given away on your side?—Yes; they said they could have so much on the Tory side, and if we would give them the same, they would vote for us.

17,668. How much did they say they could have on the Tory side?—They said they could have 2*l.* apiece.

17,669. Had you taken part in elections previous to 1857?—In 1852, when Mr. Price was returned.

17,670. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know of any treating going on on the liberal side on the polling day?—I did not.

17,671. Were you at the Saracen's Head on that day?—I was.

17,672. Did you see no voters there?—Plenty of them, but that was after the polling was over.

17,673. Was any treating going on?—What they had they paid for themselves. I do not know who treated them.

17,674. You do not know of any treating by the liberal party?—I do not.

17,675. Do you know Charles Webb?—I do.

17,676. Did you ever hear whether he received anything in 1857?—There was a report at the time that he received something, but I cannot tell, I am sure.

17,677. Charles Jellyman, did you ever hear anything about him?—I believe they said so on the petition in 1857?

17,678. And Samuel King?—And Samuel King.

17,679. Was it reported about all those men that they had received money—Webb, Jellyman, and King?—It was reported so; it was supposed that they had something, but I am sure I cannot tell whether they had or not.

17,680. (*Mr. Welford.*) On which side were they said to have been bribed?—On the liberal side.

17,681. Did you give them any money?—No.

17,682. Did you know of any money being given?—I had no money to give them.

17,683. Did you know of anybody else giving them any?—No.

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17,684. Or promising them any ?—No.

17,685. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know of any bribery having been committed in 1852 ?—No.

17,686. There was no bribery that you know of ?—No.

17,687. On neither side ?—I cannot say on the tory side ?

17,688. But you do not know of any ?—No.

17,689. Was the election of 1852 the first election you took part in ?—Yes, it was.

C. Hutton.

14 Oct. 1859.

MICHAEL JENNINGS sworn and examined.

M. Jennings.

17,690. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

17,691. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing for my vote.

17,692. What did you receive at all ?—I received 2*l.*

17,693. Who paid you the 2*l.* ?—A woman in Mr. Maysey's house, a fortnight after the election.

17,694. What woman was it ?—I could not say whether it was his wife, or who it was.

17,695. Did you go to Mr. Maysey's house ?—Yes, I did use to go there frequently; he is a hair-dresser.

17,696. How came she to give it you ?—She told me that it was left there for me; that is all I know, and I have not seen Mr. Maysey since, nor the woman.

17,697. Did you see Mr. Maysey before the election ?—Yes; I used to go there twice a week.

17,698. What did he say about the election before it ?—He said he could put me on the list, but he could not promise me anything.

17,699. Put you on the list of what ?—Messengers.

17,700. Did he put you on the list ?—I suppose he did, but I do not know whether he did or not.

17,701. You did not do anything for it; you did not work as a messenger ?—I visited a few friends who I thought were in favour of the party.

17,702. Did you attend at the committee room ?—No; I did not go there but once, for there was enough there without me.

17,703. After the election was all over you got 2*l.* ?—That was a fortnight after; that is what the woman gave me; I did not know what it was till I got home.

17,704. When you found it was 2*l.* what did you think it was for ?—I thought it was a favour.

17,705. For doing what ?—For my good will for the party.

17,706. And giving your vote ?—I would not have sold my vote for 2*l.*, nor 20*l.*; I never did.

17,707. Part of your good will to the party was to give your vote ?—But I always did; I always voted for the same party.

17,708. And you were told you would be put on to the committee ?—That is what Mr. Maysey told me; he said he did not know that anything would be given, but he would give me something if he could, and that is what I had.

17,709. That is what he got for you ?—Yes.

17,710. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How long have you been a freeman of Gloucester ?—Ever since the year 1800.

17,711. Have you voted at all the elections ?—Yes.

17,712. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote in the election before, in 1857 ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

17,713. And what did you get then ?—Nothing at all, not a glass of beer; I did not ask for anything.

17,714. Did you not get anything for being on the committee ?—No; I would not have anything to do with it.

17,715. You had nothing in 1857 ?—No.

17,716. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect the election of 1818 ?—I do not recollect the time. I voted for Morris; that was the first election.

17,717. Do you recollect when Captain Berkeley was a candidate in 1818 ?—I voted once for Berkeley with a blue ribbon.

17,718. What did you get on that occasion ?—I was asked to do it by the blue party.

17,719. What did you get ?—My dinner, that was all.

17,720. Nothing else ?—No.

17,721. Did you never get anything else ?—I was a constable at the time.

17,722. What did you get paid for being a constable ?—5*s.* a day.

17,723. How many days were you a constable ?—I was a fortnight, and had 5*s.* a day at Mr. Morris's election.

17,724. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you vote for Mr. Hope in 1837 ?—Yes.

17,725. Did you get anything after the election ?—No, not that I know of.

17,726. Was there not a present made you ?—No.

17,727. Were you not invited to the Crown and Thistle ?—No; I never went to the Crown and Thistle.

17,728–9. Did you not hear that a good many of the voters did ?—I had nothing to do with it.

17,730. Did you give a plumper or a split vote for Mr. Hope ?—I never split my vote in my life, and I never shall. I be not a split vote.

17,731. Then you think you had no present after the election in 1837 ?—No, I do not know that I had, I cannot recollect.

17,732. But you are sure you had nothing at the last election but one, in 1857 ?—I will swear I had nothing then.

17,733. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you been a constable more than once at elections ?—Yes, in former years, not of late years.

17,734. Not since the Reform Act ?—No.

17,735. Did you always get 5*s.* a day when you were a constable ?—Not always.

17,736. What did you get sometimes ?—I suppose 3*s.* 6*d.*

17,737. It was always 5*s.* or 3*s.* 6*d.* ?—Yes.

17,738. Have you ever been a messenger at any election ?—Yes, not to go to the city part.

17,739. Have you been at the committee room as a messenger ?—No; I have been in the committee room but very little.

17,740. But not so as to trouble yourself with it ?—No.

MATHEW TURK sworn and examined.

M. Turk.

17,741. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—I am an innkeeper.

17,742. What inn ?—The Great Western inn.

17,743. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—No one.

17,744. Did you take any part in it ?—No, not at all.

17,745. Were you a voter at the last election ?—Yes, I did not feel inclined to vote for any one.

17,746. Did you receive any offer of money for your vote ?—No.

17,747. And you took no part at all in it ?—No.

17,748. What did you do at the election before that, in 1857 ?—I voted for Mr. Carden and Berkeley.

17,749. What part did you take in that election ?—Nothing more than give my vote.

17,750. Did you receive anything from anybody ?—No.

17,751. Did you receive any money ?—No.

17,752. Nor paid any ?—No.

17,753. Had you any bill against the party ?—Not in 1857.

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17,754. Have you a bill against the party in 1859?—Yes, a small bill.

17,755. How much?—£3 10*s.*

17,756. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you a sister of the name of Turk?—Yes.

17,757. Does she keep another public-house?—No, that is a distant relation: a second or third cousin, I cannot say exactly which. She keeps the New Inn.

17,758. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is your bill against Carden's party?—Carden's party.

17,759. Who gave you the order?—Clutterbuck, Maysey, and Parker; I know very little of it myself. My mistress does at home.

17,760. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that for refreshments to voters?—To canvassers, the biggest part of them.

17,761. Canvassers and some voters?—Yes, I believe that was it.

17,762. Has it been paid?—No.

17,763. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you sent in your claim?—Yes.

17,764. To Mr. Lovegrove?—No, to Mr. Whithorn.

J. Keeling.

JOHN KEELING sworn and examined.

17,765. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the last election?—Price and Monk.

17,766. What did you receive.—£10.

17,767. Who paid you?—Bower.

17,768. George Bower?—Yes.

17,769. You went with Bower;—Yes.

17,770. Who gave the money to Bower?—I believe Mr. Jacobs gave the money to Bower.

17,771. But you received it for your vote?—Yes.

17,772. For whom did you vote at the election before—the one in 1857?—Carden.

17,773. And what did you receive then?—I received 3*l.*, I think.

17,774. Who paid you that?—Mr. Castree, after the election.

17,775. Mr. Charles Castree?—Yes.

17,776. Had he promised it to you before?—No; I was in a little difficulty at the time, and I asked him if he would make me a present, and he gave me 3*l.*

17,777. Was that for having voted?—I do not know whether it was upon that principle or not.

17,778. That was the reason why you applied to him?—Yes.

17,779. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you voted before?—Yes.

17,780. Before 1857?—Yes.

17,781. For whom did you vote before?—I voted one for Mr. Berkeley, and one for Mr. Hope, on account of the liberals taking up my freedom.

17,782. What does it cost to take up the freedom?—I do not know the cost now.

17,783. What was paid for your freedom?—I do not know what was paid; they paid it.

17,784. Who paid it?—A gentleman who is dead, Mr. Hudson.

J. Lane.

JOSEPH LANE sworn and examined.

17,785. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where do you live?—In Suffolk Street.

17,786. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Mr. Monk and Mr. Price.

17,787. What did you get for your vote?—I had a sovereign.

17,788. From whom did you have it?—Mr. Payne.

17,789. Was that to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

17,790. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—I did.

17,791. For whom?—For Mr. Price and Mr. Berkeley.

17,792. Did you get anything for your vote then?—Not a halfpenny.

17,793. Have you been a long time a voter for Gloucester?—Ever since Mr. Phillpotts's first election.

17,794. What party have you belonged to?—I have chiefly belonged to the liberals.

17,795. But sometimes you have belonged to the other side, have you not?—I never voted for anybody else but liberals, except I voted for Mr. Hope twice.

17,796. Did you get any money then?—No.

17,797. What made you vote for Mr. Hope then?—I do not know. He was a good sort of a man, and was respected in this town, and therefore I voted for him.

17,798. Did you vote for him in 1837?—I believe I did. I will not positively say whether I voted for him the last time he put up. I have voted for Mr. Price ever since he put up as a member; Mr. Price and Berkeley.

17,799. When you voted for Mr. Hope in 1837, was any present made to you after the election?—I do not know that there was, not to the best of my knowledge.

17,800. You did not hear that any money was sent down to be distributed among those who had voted for him?—No; and I think that if anything had come down to me, I should have heard of it. My wife never keeps anything from me that is received on that account.

17,801. Has your wife ever had anything?—Not to my knowledge.

17,802. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to say that when you voted twice you received nothing for it, either before or after the election?—Not anything at all; not to my knowledge; of course if I had received anything, I should have known of it.

17,803. You have such confidence in your wife that you are satisfied she would not have kept it from you if she had received any money?—No; I am quite confident of that.

J. Lewis.

JOHN LEWIS sworn and examined.

17,804. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the last election?—Sir Walter Carden.

17,805. What did you receive for your vote?—It was represented in this court that I had 2*l.*, but at the election of 1857 I asked Mr. Whithorn if he could employ me as a messenger, and he said, "I cannot, "but you know what I mean," and I considered from that that I was as a messenger. That election passed, and I had nothing at all. On this election in 1859, when they canvassed me, I mentioned that there was a fortnight due to me as a messenger, and that I had had nothing for it, and then Mr. Stamper told me it would be all right; and when the polling was passed over (I think it was on the Thursday after the election was over), I met him, and represented how bad I was off, and he said, "Well, I will give you 1*l.*" He told me the election was lost, and it was a bad job. I said, "It is no fault of mine," and on the Monday fortnight after that I think he gave me another 1*l.* He told me when he gave me that, that he was giving it to me out of his own pocket. That is the 2*l.* that Stamper stated in this court he had bribed me with.

17,806. You did receive 2*l.* from him?—Yes, in two different payments; 1*l.* each payment.

17,807. He gave you that for having voted?—I suppose it was on that consideration, but I considered it a just debt. I do not know whether it will be considered a just debt, but I represented my case.

17,808. You considered that it was due to you for having been a messenger at the former election?—I did.

17,809. And you would not have voted for Sir

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Robert Carden if you had not had something like a promise that you would receive that money?—I should have done so.

17,810. For whom did you vote at the election in 1857?—Admiral Berkeley and Sir Robert Carden.

17,811. And you were employed as a messenger?—I considered so, but I had nothing for my services.

17,812. Did you do anything as a messenger?—No more than the rest did, and that was a mere nothing.

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17,813. Then in truth the sum which you expected to receive as a messenger was merely a sum of money for your vote?—I do not know that it was particularly, but it might be treated in that light.

17,814. At the last election you mentioned that 2*l.* was due to you for having been a messenger in 1857, when you did nothing, and then Mr. Stamper told you it would be all right and afterwards paid you 2*l.*?—Yes; in two different payments.

CHARLES FREDERICK COOKSEY called, and further examined.

C. F. Cooksey.

17,815. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live in Southgate Street?—Yes.

17,816. What part did you take in the election in 1857?—I think I may safely say I took no part in that election; I was a liberal. I voted for Berkeley and Price, and I believe I canvassed one voter. I think I may say advisedly, though I am not positive, that I do not believe I canvassed more than one voter, and that was a man of the name of Thomas Mills.

17,817. What Thomas Mills is that?—A man living in Blackfriars.

17,818. Did you offer Thomas Mills any money?—No.

17,819. Did you give him any money?—No.

17,820. Did you offer to forgive him any part of his rent?—No, I most positively deny that.

17,821. How much rent did Mills owe you at the time of the election?—I do not believe Mills owed me 30*s.* rent. I think positively I may say it was not 30*s.*; it was under 30*s.* that he owed me at the time of the election.

17,822. Did you say anything to him with regard to forgiving him that rent?—No, certainly not, nor did I hold out any inducement or offer anything by way of bribery to Thomas Mills.

17,823. Is Thomas Mills your tenant now?—No.

17,824. Where does he live?—In Southgate Street. He is in such a state that I may safely say he is unable to give evidence.

17,825. You think he is in such a state as not to be competent to give evidence?—I speak advisedly; I do not think he is competent to give evidence.

17,826. You think he is quite incompetent from mental incapacity?—I believe so; I believe Mr. Lovegrove will bear me out in that.

17,827. Do you know that Mills gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons to the effect that you had bribed him?—I am perfectly aware of it.

17,828. By an offer of 5*l.*?—Yes, or something to that effect, but he has told me since that he did not know where he was, what he said, or what he was doing. I never was examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, but I think it was perfectly understood that Mills did not know what he was saying or what he had said.

17,829. You were in London at the time, were you not?—Yes.

17,830. Were you requested to come forward and rebut the evidence which Mills had given?—I had a telegraphic message from Mr. Ellis, requesting me to go up to London, and I went up and was prepared to go to the House of Commons if those gentlemen wished me to go. I was prepared to go on the conservative side if they chose to have summoned me, or on the liberal side, but neither of them summoned me, though I was to be found at any hour of the day.

17,831. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you in the committee room when Mills was giving his evidence?—No, I was not in the committee room.

17,832. Were you in London?—I was there after he had been examinied.

17,833. Was it after Mills was examined that you were telegraphed to?—Yes.

17,834. When you went to London did you go down to Westminster?—I went to Palace Yard.

17,835. And were you told that you were not to be examined?—I made an engagement with Mr. Ellis; he was very excited. I made an engagement to meet him, and I met him at a friend's house, and asked him why I was pulled up to London, and he told me of this evidence that had been given, and I said "Here I am "prepared to contradict the man's statement if it is "necessary to call me." I was prepared to go at any hour to refute it, and I am only sorry that I did not at the time refute it, because it was the basest piece of calumny that ever came out of the lips of mortal man.

17,836. Did Mills, when you talked to him about his vote, ever throw out any hint that he expected something from you?—No; I went down to him in company with Mr. Price. When I first saw him he said he wanted to see the candidate, and I went down with Mr. Price in a Hansom cab, and found the old man at home. I said, "Here is Mr. Price; will you "vote for him?" He hesitated, and then Mr. Price called me aside, and said "He is a dangerous old "man; he wants to be bought."

17,837. Did Mr. Price hesitate?—Not the least in the world. Mr. Price took a strong and noble ground, and quite repudiated the idea.

17,838. Did Mills hesitate in promising?—He is one of those decrepid old men that shakes and trembles whenever you speak to him. He had been hesitating for days and weeks past. He had always voted blue before, and was always bought for 5*l.*

17,839. What induced Mr. Price to say he was a dangerous man?—Knowing him to be a bribed man.

17,840. And from his manner, I suppose?—He evidently saw that he wanted to be bought. He did vote for Mr. Price; I am perfectly prepared to say that.

17,841. Did he vote for Mr. Price alone?—I do not know whether he voted for Admiral Berkeley or not.

17,842. Do you know who took him to the poll?—I think it was a person in my employ, Mr. Niblett.

17,843. Did Mr. Niblett promise him anything?—I am not aware that he did.

17,844. Did Mills always pay you all your rent?—He paid monthly, as regular as possible.

17,845. What was he?—A vegetable seller; he kept a small place.

17,846. At that time he had his senses, had he not?—He was labouring under great excitement. I should not have taken his evidence if I had been in a court of justice.

17,847. Did he attend to his trade?—He used to go along with a donkey cart with sticks.

17,848. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you ever say that Mills's statement was correct?—No; Mr. Lovegrove called my attention to that the other day, but I think I may safely deny it.

17,849. You never did say it?—Not to my knowledge.

17,850. Did you ever say that Mr. Price was aware of the transaction?—No; Mr. Price was not at all aware of the transaction.

17,851. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you remember a meeting of the cab company, when you said something about it?—No; I was one of the leading members of that company, and I think that on two or three occasions Mr. Taynton said something about it. Mr. Taynton is very fond of jumping at conclusions. I do not recollect uttering a single syllable on politics.

17,852. Was anything said at the cab meeting which led you to talk about Mills?—Sometimes at

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C. F. Cooksey.
14 Oct. 1859.

the general meetings there was a good deal of joking going on, and they would have been very glad to entrap me, but I was suspicious of the company I was in, knowing that Mr. Taynton was anxious to catch at words.

17,853. Whatever was said, do you say positively that you never did either give Mills anything, or offer him anything, or offer to forgive him his rent, and that you never did forgive him his rent?—I say emphatically that it is as false and base a charge as ever was made, and I did not deserve to have such a charge brought against me by those honourable gentlemen called the committee.

17,854. You did not give your contradiction to Mills's evidence before the committee, though you were in London?—No; Mr. Lovegrove says I was summoned. I beg to deny that I was summoned.

17,855. Can you account in any way for Mills going to London and making a statement before the committee which was not true?—I really cannot; I am at a loss to understand why he did. I can only state that I offered the man no inducement. I profess liberal principles to all people. I strongly object to bribery, corruption, and intimidation.

17,856. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had Mills ever voted before while he was in your house?—I think not; I am not aware of it.

17,857. Do you know by which party Mills was taken up to London?—I understood by the liberal party.

17,858. Do you know that he was?—No; it was stated that he was taken up by the liberal party.

17,859. Did you make any advance of money for the purposes of the election of 1857?—Not one single grain.

17,860. Did you pay any money for the purposes of the election?—No.

17,861. Or lend any money?—No; you may depend upon it I did not.

A.H. Phillpotts.

ABRAHAM HODGSON PHILLPOTTS sworn and examined.

17,862. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live in Gloucester?—I reside in the neighbourhood of Gloucester.

17,863. Have you taken an active part in the politics of Gloucester for many years?—I have been an active looker on more than taking an active part, I never canvassed half-a-dozen men in my life.

17,864. But you have been interested in the politics of Gloucester?—Yes, deeply interested since 1852.

17,865. Was the gentleman we have heard of as having been returned member for Gloucester in former years a relative of yours?—An uncle.

17,866. After the election of 1857 did you write to Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

17,867. For what purpose did you write to him?—With the permission of the Court I will explain. I had the honour of seconding the nomination of Admiral Berkeley at the election of 1857; I sat immediately opposite, and very close to Sir Robert Carden, within a yard or two; I therefore had an opportunity of hearing what he said, and of watching what he did; this enabled me to satisfy myself that the report of his speech as then delivered was correct, as he afterwards acknowledged himself at the Journal office; and he used actions during its delivery which had considerable effect upon my mind. He put his hand upon his heart when he was making certain statements. The election took place on the Saturday; on the succeeding Monday I went into Gloucester, and that evening I felt it my duty to address Sir Robert Carden to the following effect:—"Severn Hank, Minsterworth, Monday evening, "30th March 1857. Mr. A. H. Phillpotts respectfully presents his compliments to Sir Robert W. "Carden. Mr. Phillpotts was in Gloucester to-day, "and found the city free from personal ill-feeling as "the consequence of the late election; but the very "humiliating fact was admitted on all sides, that "Saturday's election was entirely decided by 'bought "'votes.' All respectable blues acquainted at all "with what was passing, admit it as freely as any "other portion of the constituency; hence the absence of angry disputes. But this unanimity does "not prevent the most grave imputations being "heard against Sir Robert from those who do him "(as Mr. Phillpotts believes) the great injustice of "supposing, that in the face of his recent public "avowals, and his expressed proud satisfaction for "his former course at St. Alban's, Sir Robert can "wish now to hold a seat for Gloucester, upon any "other terms than 'upon the basis of his own "'character, and from the free and unbiassed votes "'of the electors.'" That last passage is an extract from his speech, and it is quoted as language which had been used by him at St. Alban's. "Those who "take the less generous view very naturally shudder "at the future, since all know too well from past "experience what must be the consequence, should "a gentleman of Sir Robert's wealth and position "throw himself into the hands of those who have "been the most active in the late election. Mr. "Phillpotts respectfully invites Sir Robert's attention to the enclosed suggestion, and if it is viewed "favourably by Sir Robert, Mr. Phillpotts would at "once request the Admiral and Mr. Price to meet "Sir Robert and himself in London to go more fully "into details, not in the spirit of hostile candidates, "much less as electioneerers, but in the spirit of "English gentlemen, unwilling to degrade parliamentary honour by consciously owing a seat in "the House of Commons to bribery or illegal practices. Should Sir Robert fall in with the proposal, "Mr. Phillpotts is very sanguine of an honourable and "satisfactory understanding being speedily arrived at. "This confidence is based on former experience, when "the Admiral and Mr. Price met Mr. Hope at the "instance of and in the presence of Mr. Phillpotts. "A very few minutes settled all principles, and an "agreement resulted on which the battle was fought "in 1852, the fairest and purest contested election "ever seen in Gloucester, and at which more votes "were polled, Mr. Phillpotts believes, than on any "previous occasion. In venturing thus to address "Sir Robert, Mr. Phillpotts trusts that he shall receive credit for singleness of purpose, and the "absence of any motive but one, viz., the desire, if "possible, of retaining purity of election in Gloucester. Mr. Phillpotts writes from his private residence, without the knowledge or concurrence of "any person whatever, so that should Sir Robert "unfortunately not view his proposal favourably, no "electioneering use may be made of such refusal. "On the other hand, Mr. Phillpotts abstains from "any argument in favour of the course proposed, lest "he should do anything to deprive Sir Robert of the "full merit of taking a bold and decided course in "favour of that with which his name has hitherto "been associated, viz., 'purity of election.'" The proposal which accompanied that letter ran as follows:—"Sir Robert W. Carden, Mr. Price, and "Admiral the Hon. Sir M. F. F. Berkeley to meet "with a view to consider more in detail the following suggestion from Mr. Phillpotts, which it is "understood that Sir Robert views with favour "upon the assumption that Mr. Phillpotts's description is a fair one. For consideration at such meeting:—That a disinterested legal gentleman shall "be appointed to attend in Gloucester and hear the "statements as well of the agents of the candidates "at the late election as of any parties they may produce, and form his judgment thereon according to "law. In the performance of this task he will decide upon that portion of the evidence laid before "him which he sees no reason to doubt could have "been proved on oath before a Committee of the "House of Commons. He will then declare whether

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" the election was valid as to either or both of the " successful candidates, or whether either or both " ought in fairness to resign. Such decision to be " binding on both Sir Robert and Mr. Price, and " each or either to vacate his seat in compliance " therewith. In case of both vacating, the last elec- " tion to be considered as going for nothing; and in " case of all three starting afresh the contest to pro- " ceed upon a similar agreement to that of 1852; but " no coalition between any two candidates against " the other to be formed; each to fight single-handed. " In case of one seat only being vacated and a contest " resulting, the 1852 agreement or a similar one to " be adhered to, between the then rival candidates. " P.S. Details of agreement to form subject of settle- " ment between the parties, that of 1852 being only " named to indicate the object in view—a fair exposi- " tion of the wish of the constituency of Gloucester."

17,868. Did you receive any answer to that letter from Sir Robert?—I should say that my letter was written by me on Monday, but it was not posted till Tuesday morning at Minsterworth before I came into Gloucester. My letter, therefore, would only be transmitted by Tuesday's post. On the 1st of April I received the following letter:—" 2, Royal Exchange " Buildings, E.C., 1st April, 1857. Sir,—Your letter " of the 30th ultimo reached me only this morning. " Believing most sincerely that its allegations have " not an atom of truth in them, I have transmitted it " to my agent at Gloucester. I am, Sir, your obedient " servant, Robert W. Carden." Upon the receipt of that letter I must say I felt exceedingly hurt, because I thought that the tone I had adopted in addressing Sir Robert Carden should have shielded me from a reply which implied that I had been making statements to him for which there was not a shadow of foundation. I answered his letter in this way:— " Gloucester, 2nd April, 1857. Mr. A. H. Phillpotts " presents his compliments to Alderman Sir Robert " Carden. Mr. Phillpotts begs to acknowledge the " receipt of Sir Robert's note of yesterday's date, in " answer to Mr. Phillpotts's communication of Mon- " day evening (posted Tuesday morning from Min- " sterworth), and begs to state that unless he hears " to the contrary from Sir Robert he shall feel him- " self at liberty to make both letters public." The reply I received from Sir Robert Carden was to the following effect:—" 2, Royal Exchange Buildings, " E.C., 3rd April, 1857. Sir,—I have to acknow- " ledge your further letter of the 2nd instant, which " I have likewise transmitted to my agent at Glouces- " ter. As regards any publication you may choose " to make I shall hold you responsible. Your obe- " dient servant, Robert W. Carden."

17,869. Was that the whole of the correspondence?—The correspondence there ceased, and I did not make those letters public. To my astonishment, a month or two ago, a gentleman of the conservative party alluded to this correspondence, and I was greatly surprised to find that it had been a matter of conversation among gentlemen of the party politically opposed to myself.

17,870. You had given no publicity to the correspondence yourself?—I will tell you candidly what took place. Although I felt much hurt at the treatment I had received from Sir Robert Carden, I did feel that there were expressions in my first letter which would preclude me from making the correspondence public without first either obtaining Sir Robert Carden's assent, or putting myself in a position to be free from the obligation which I had imposed upon myself in my first letter. When I received the second letter I had doubts whether I should be justified in making the correspondence public, but I did feel at liberty to consult Mr. Robert Wilton, which I did; and his opinion was that it would not be wise to make the correspondence public, even if I was in other respects free to do so.

17,871. Were you in Court the other day, when Sir Robert Carden was examined?—I was.

17,872. Did you hear Sir Robert Carden state that he had no recollection of having received any letter from you?—Yes; and he said further, that if he had received a letter from such a person as myself, knowing me to be a political opponent, he should have taken no notice of the communication. I received from Sir Robert Carden the two letters which I have produced and read to you, and I cannot imagine how a gentleman could forget a correspondence of that kind.

A. H. Phillpotts. 14 Oct. 1859.

17,873. Did you write that first letter to Sir Robert Carden because you thought, from the expressions which he had employed in his speech, that he was sincerely desirous of having his election conducted on principles of purity?—I will tell you exactly what was the state of my mind on that subject. I had heard strong language used by Sir Maurice Berkeley. I had also been in communication with Mr. Robert Wilton, and I felt that the St. Alban's inquiry had left Sir Robert Carden in a very equivocal position. I felt it was very hard to think him pure, but, at the same time, I was very desirous to judge charitably of him if I could. I felt that his speech at Gloucester was either the speech of a man who, having been in an equivocal position, wished to get out of it honourably and well, and meant what he said, or that it was the speech of a consummate hypocrite. I could come to no other conclusion, according to the best judgment I was able to form; and I will frankly say that the correspondence was entered into on my part with the most perfect *bonâ fides*. I believe that if my proposal had been accepted it would have been acted on; but after the termination of the correspondence I never hesitated to express myself in the most unfavourable terms with regard to Sir Robert Carden whenever I was asked any question about him.

17,874. Had you any communication with Mr. Lovegrove on the subject of your letter to Sir Robert Carden?—Never: I believe that a communication was made by Mr. Lovegrove to some conservative gentlemen. I felt that it was of no use Sir Robert Carden handing over my letter to Mr. Lovegrove, who was the party charged with having permitted corrupt practices. Nobody in Gloucester doubted for a moment that any practices of a corrupt nature that had been resorted to in Gloucester had been resorted to with the illegal and improper knowledge of Mr. Lovegrove; that was never doubted for a moment. A person in his position can prevent such organized practices if he pleases.

17,875. Were you aware of the part that Alderman Whithorn had taken?—No; I must tell you that Alderman Whithorn's reputation is not of a high character, nor has it been for many years; but I had no knowledge of the extent to which corrupt practices had been carried; and as regards the election of 1859, I am as much taken by surprise as anybody by the revelations that have been made. I never imagined that the blue party had spent such a sum of money as they have been proved to have spent, and made so little show for it.

17,876. (*Mr. Welford.*) I think you say it was at your instance that the arrangement was made in 1852 by which the candidates on both sides agreed to contest the election without having recourse to bribery?—I hold in my hand the agreement which was then come to, and I am prepared to lay it before the Commissioners.

17,877. I understand you to say that the suggestion which you made to Sir Robert Carden was made in perfect good faith, in order to bring about a similar arrangement and a similarly pure contest to that to which the agreement referred?—I can assure you on my honour that nothing but the most perfect *bonâ fides* and singleness of purpose was animating my mind.

17,878. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you make the suggestion to Mr. Hope which resulted in the agreement to which you have referred?—In the contest before 1852, when my sentiments were conservative (for I only became a liberal when Sir Robert Peel changed on the introduction of free trade), I had a communication with Mr. Edward Washbourne and Mr. Richard

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Helps. Nothing came of that communication, because it was considered that we were too close on the election. I subsequently went to Mr. Price, who was then a candidate, I will not say for the first time, because he had been a candidate on the previous occasion, though he retired. Mr. Price had a committee in whose hands his election was left. I went to him first; I then went to Admiral Berkeley's representative in Gloucester, Mr. David Walker, and then to Mr. Hope, and the three candidates ultimately met at Mr. Hope's, and appointed a referee at my suggestion.

17,879. It was at your instance, then, that the agreement was come to?—Yes, and it was for that reason that I went into the matter at such length in my letter to Sir Robert Carden. It is only just to Sir Maurice Berkeley to say, that when looking over my papers the other day I was reminded of a letter which I received from Sir Maurice Berkeley at the intervening election between 1852 and 1857, a single-handed contest between Sir Maurice Berkeley and Mr. Hope in 1853. In consequence of a communication which I received from Admiral Berkeley, I called on Mr. Whitcomb and Mr. Helps, who were conducting the election on behalf of Mr. Hope, and showed them Admiral Berkeley's letter. Mr. Helps on that occasion declined to have another agreement. The letter which I received from Sir Maurice Berkeley was in these terms: It is dated "King's "Head, January 2nd, 1853.—My dear Sir,—It was "at your suggestion and through your interference "that the last election was carried on without those "scenes of drunkenness and immorality which had "disgraced the city on many previous occasions. I "am not aware that Mr. Hope is a party to the "present opposition to my return; were it otherwise "I should have proposed to him to act under the "same agreement that regulated the proceeding of "the last election. Will you permit me to ask if "you have any means of ascertainining the intentions of the blue party on this subject.—Yours very "truly, M. F. F. Berkeley." I took down Mr. Helps's answer at the time and in his presence. "Mr. "Helps informs me that it is the intention of the "blue party to use no colours or flags, and to conduct "the election with the strictest possible observance "of the law."

17,880. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then knowing what had taken place with Sir Maurice Berkeley at the previous election, you entertained no doubt that he would accede to the course you were then proposing to Sir Robert Carden?—Exactly so. I could have no reason to doubt that Sir Maurice Berkeley would be perfectly ready to fall in with the suggestion.

17,881. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the letters that passed between you and Sir Robert Carden, are you aware whether any inquiry was made by Sir Robert Carden with respect to the accuracy of the statement made by you in your first letter?—I cannot of course tell what inquiries he made. My inference is that he made no inquiry and took no step further than that of sending my letter to Mr. Lovegrove; but I looked upon his as a most dishonest answer to my letter, that is, I considered that it did not show a *bonâ fide* wish to get rid of bribery, because he was sending the letter to the very man who was charged, the real charge being against Mr. Lovegrove and those who were conducting the election on behalf of Sir Robert Carden. If Sir Robert Carden asked them whether corrupt practices had been resorted to, of course they would say no.

17,882. You furnished Sir Robert Carden with the means of ascertaining whether your allegations were true or not?—Yes; I felt that if he were honourably desirous to find out whether my allegations were true, he would either come down himself or send some person down to make inquiry into the matter, and to investigate it, if a *primâ facie* case were made out.

17,883. You heard the statement made by Sir Robert Carden that he never did make any such inquiry?—I dare say I did.

17,884. Did you take any part in the late election, in 1859?—I was in London on the nomination day, but slept in Gloucester on the nomination night. The part I took in the election was occupying myself during the day in the room which Mr. Higgs has referred to in his evidence, where the returns came in, and a note was taken of them. After that was over I went to a large meeting in the Shire Hall, where the members were announced. I was asked to speak, but I declined.

17,885. That was the only part you took with reference to promoting the success of the candidates?—Yes.

17,886. Do you remember when the petition was presented against the return of the liberal members?—I have a general recollection of its being presented, but I cannot recollect the exact date.

17,887. Do you remember, before the hearing of the petition, any communication being made to you by any of the friends of Sir Robert Carden?—On the Sunday afternoon, Mr. Swann drove over to my house to state that I was wanted in Gloucester, that I had better come back in the fly with him, and that he would explain why I was wanted as we went along, and he did so. An offer, it was understood, had been made by the agents of Sir Robert Carden, which had for its object (if my memory serves me correctly) the resignation of one or both members. Mr. Lovegrove can tell what the proposition was. At all events, I know it included Mr. Monk's resignation, and then, that upon the vacancy occurring, the battle should be fought on certain terms.

17,888. The proposition was that one or both of the members should resign, and that a fresh contest should take place?—Yes.

17,889. And was that contest to be conducted on the principles you had enunciated in your letter of 1857?—No, nothing of the kind was proposed. The proposition that was made was that some nine or ten gentlemen who were named (among whom I was one) should be precluded from taking any part in the contest.

17,890. Was there to be an equal number of gentlemen precluded on each side?—Oh no, the proposal was to preclude the leading liberals in Gloucester from taking part in the contest; it was not proposed to preclude people of their own party in any way.

17,891. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who made that proposition?—I believe it came through the parliamentary agents. I apprehend Sir Robert Carden's parliamentary agent made it to ours, and then it came down to the local solicitors to give effect to it.

17,892. Was anything said about a guarantee being given that that arrangement should be carried out?—I cannot charge my memory with the details, but the principle involved in the proposition was that which I have stated. A very strong feeling upon the subject was entertained by every gentleman present except myself. As far as I was concerned, I did not express any very strong opinion upon it, but all the gentlemen who met—Mr. Robert Wilton and some few others—were very indignant at it, and during the meeting there came a letter from Mr. Price, expressed in terms of such decided indignation at the proposition which had been made, that the whole thing was immediately rejected. I must state in justice to myself that it has since come to my ears that Mr. Lovegrove made a statement in the nature of a threat (as it was reported to me) that if the gentlemen referred to did not choose to accept the proposal that had been made, no gentleman had been named against whom bribery could not be proved; and I confess I did feel that if such a statement had been made by Mr. Lovegrove, it must have been made by him knowing it to be untrue.

17,893. No arrangement was ultimately come to and the petition was heard?—I knew nothing more of it after that.

17,894. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you aware at that time that the charges which had been made against the liberal party were likely to be proved?—I must

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tell you honestly and frankly, that my impression was that the charges were likely to be proved. I had no confidence whatever in the purity of the election of 1859.

17,895. (*Mr. Welford.*) On either side?—I thought there was extensive and systematic bribery on the liberal side, but I did not imagine, until this inquiry took place, that there had been large and extensive bribery on the conservative side; that took me quite by surprise. I thought that there might have been a hundred pounds or two spent improperly, but I had no idea that such a large sum had been expended, when I knew that they gave up so early in the morning; the rumours were so general in Gloucester, that it was impossible for me not to be aware that large sums were being spent ou the liberal side; it was quite notorious.

17,896. Have you generally taken an interest in politics in Gloucester?—Previous to 1852 I scrupulously abstained from it, my uncle taking a different view from me.

17,897. Previous to 1852 you were yourself a conservative?—I was a disciple to a great extent of Sir Robert Peel. After the introduction of free trade I changed, and when he was treated in the way he was I became a liberal.

17,898. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) That was before 1852?—Yes; but in 1852 I was precluded from taking part in the election, having negotiated the agreement to which I have referred.

17,899. But previous to that agreement you had always supported Mr. Hope?—I never gave a vote, because I would not give it against my own uncle.

17,900. You belonged, however, to that party, did you not?—I always avoided attaching myself to any party. I abstained from it out of respect to my uncle. I did not wish to oppose him, though I was entirely opposed to him in politics; my own principles were conservative, and my wishes at that election were no doubt in favour of Mr. Hope and Mr. Price.

17,901. Did you take part in the election of 1852?—I felt precluded in honour from voting on either side, or taking any part in the election, I having negociated the agreement.

17,902. You negociated that agreement as a neutral party acting impartially between the candidates, and with a view to preserve the credit of your city?—Yes, and all three candidates met my proposition in the most satisfactory manner possible.

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17,903. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you take an active part in the election of 1837?—No; I kept myself entirely out of it, for the reason I have given.

17,904. Do you know from Mr. Hope, or from any of his friends, what money was spent at that election?—No; I know nothing of Mr. Hope's expenditure beyond common rumour, and the notorious fact that during Mr. Hope's connection with Gloucester very large sums of money were invariably spent in one way or another; but the general impression in Gloucester is, that the money was not honestly spent, and that a good deal of it was intercepted, and never reached the electors.

17,905. But it was a matter of notoriety that large sums of money were spent by Mr. Hope in his elections?—Yes; and not only at the elections but there were large spreads, and dinners, and blanket funds, and coal funds, and all sorts of things; in fact, there was a strong feeling on my friend Mr. Price's mind (he would not, perhaps, like to say it here himself, but he has said it often to me, and I believe that many respectable men in Gloucester entertain the same opinion), that Mr. Hope had debauched the constituency through his profuse expenditure of money. There were tons of coals and quantities of blankets given away at Christmas, and although there was no election then coming on, there was no doubt what the object was.

17,906. The system was to give away money at the elections, and blankets and coals when there was no election?—Yes; it is generally believed that large sums of money left Mr. Hope's pocket which did not reach the pockets of the people for whom the money was intended. I should tell you that Mr. Hope was personally very popular; there is no doubt about that; he was very much respected in Gloucester, particularly among the higher classes; his attainments were of a high order, and he was much respected even by his political opponents. I never heard anybody speak unkindly or unfairly of Mr. Hope, and there was a general feeling that, if we were to have a conservative at all, we could not have a better man than Mr. Hope.

17,907. Have you any further information you can communicate to the Commissioners?—I have nothing further to communicate as within my own knowledge.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called, and further examined.

J. Lovegrove.

17,908. (*Mr. Vaughan*) You have heard the evidence which has just been given by Mr. Phillpotts, and I understand you wish to make some observation with reference to it?—If you please; I would say in the first place as to the wholesale charges of peculation which have been made by Mr. Phillpotts, that those charges must be answered by the parties who had the conduct of the election at that particular time, because I personally took no responsible part in the conduct of any election previous to the election of 1857. With respect to the letter which Mr. Phillpotts has read to you that was sent to me by Sir Robert Carden, I may state that it was very carefully considered at the time, and I at once say that I thought that the charge therein insinuated was directed against myself, and one or two others. I felt, therefore, anxious that that letter should receive some answer, and I was prepared to give an answer to it, but I consulted several parties in Gloucester upon it; I also saw Sir Robert Carden; and in consequence of the course which had been taken by Mr. Phillpotts at the previous election that letter was not answered, or taken any further notice of than that which Mr. Phillpotts has just detailed to you. The conduct of Mr. Phillpotts that excited, and always has excited the attention of gentlemen on the conservative side was this,—Mr. Phillpotts had always been a supporter, as we supposed, of Mr. Hope, and he, behind the backs of the conservatives in Gloucester, and without consulting (as I think) any one of them, got the agreement entered into to which your attention has been called. That agreement would not have been disapproved of if it had been carried out in its integrity, but when Mr. Hope came down here to fight the election with that agreement of 1852 in his hand, Mr. Phillpotts was the first to withhold his support from Mr. Hope. Mr. Hope I know felt that very severely, and he made, I believe, some observations upon the subject at the hustings, not mentioning Mr. Phillpotts by name, but alluding to what appeared to him to be very peculiar conduct. The election of 1852 proceeded, and as Mr. Helps explained to you yesterday, I think there were twelve voters who had generally played in the band; those voters, it was supposed, in order to induce them to vote for the liberal candidates, were employed; they could not be employed in Gloucester, but they were employed by the liberal agents to play at Cheltenham; and we have always been under the impression that that was the inducement which was held out to those men in order to get their votes, and that it was through those votes that Mr. Hope lost his election; he lost by twenty votes.

17,909. Mr. Helps stated that yesterday, but when we referred to the numbers polled, it appeared that the majority was about 80?—Mr. Hope only lost that election by 20 votes, and his losing it was always attributed to the desertion of Mr. Phillpotts himself, and to the employment of this band; the conserva-

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tives, therefore, have ever felt that Mr. Phillpotts did not deserve any confidence at their hands, and that was the reason why his letter to Sir Robert Carden received no further attention. Something has been said about a proposition having been made for withdrawing the petitions, and it has been said that that proposition came from our side; I deny that most emphatically, because I know all that took place upon that proposed arrangement, and I will tell the Commissioners what it was that did take place. Mr. Baker, the agent of the Reform Club, waited upon Mr. Rose, and was very anxious that some arrangement should be come to for settling the Gloucester petitions; Mr. Rose, our parliamentary agent, told Mr. Baker that nothing could be done without consulting the people at Gloucester, and accordingly a communication was made to me upon the matter, and I went to town and met Mr. Baker at Mr. Rose's office; they had previously had a private conversation together, and Mr. Baker was very anxious that the Gloucester petition should be withdrawn upon one or two other petitions against conservatives being withdrawn. I at once told Mr. Rose that that would not meet the wishes of the Gloucester constituency, that our petition was not a sporting one, and that it was a petition that would be heard upon its merits, unless an arrangement was made for one of the seats being given up. It was left for Mr. Baker to see certain parties and to communicate the result to me again; I had a telegram from Mr. Rose in a day or two afterwards, saying that Mr. Baker was still anxious to carry out some arrangement, and desiring me to come to town, I think on the Saturday before the hearing of the petitions. I went to town and met Mr. Baker again at Mr. Rose's (I had in the meantime called a meeting of our party), and I told him that the only proposition that I could listen to, would be that one seat should be given up. Mr. Baker at once consented to give up one of the seats; I asked him which, and he said, "It cannot matter to you which seat we give "up, whether Mr. Price's or Mr. Monk's." "Oh," (I said) "it does. We shall require Mr. Monk to "resign." "Well," (he said) then, I think that can "be managed." "But" (I said) "you must go a "little further than that. What is to become of the "vacated seat?" Mr. Baker was very anxious to come to an arrangement, and wanted to hear what my notions were; I said, "It appears to me that Sir "Robert Carden should not be put to the expense of "a contested election, and that a single-handed "election too, and consequently the liberal party, if "they are sincere in giving up one seat, ought to "withhold any opposition to Sir Robert Carden's "return." Mr. Baker promised to communicate that to the parties, and it was communicated to them, and I understood that the meeting which took place on the Sunday was the result of that communication. Nothing came of that, and the petition was heard; as to the statement of Mr. Phillpotts that I said something in the nature of a threat with reference to the gentlemen who had acted in support of the liberals, I have not the slightest recollection of making use of any such threat, or even of insinuating such a thing, nor do I believe that I did.

17,910. The statement made by Mr. Phillpotts with regard to that was, that the names of certain gentlemen were mentioned as parties who were to be precluded from taking part in the subsequent election, because it was alleged that they had been mixed up with the illegal practices that had been carried on?—It was not so. Mr. Baker said, "If this proposition is "to be made, whom would you be satisfied with being "quiescent in the next election, as a guarantee for an "unopposed return?" and I then gave him the names of certain gentlemen. He suggested several, and I gave him several others who, I thought, if the arrangement was at all entered into, ought to pledge their honour that there should be, as far as they were concerned, an unopposed return.

17,911. You thought that the seat being vacated, Sir Robert Carden ought to be returned unopposed?—Yes.

17,912. And then, for the purpose of effecting that, you wished an arrangement to be come to that certain gentlemen who had taken an active part in liberal politics in Gloucester should be pledged to remain quiescent at the forthcoming election?—Yes; and the proposition was not made from any notion that they were mixed up with any corrupt practices, or feared inquiry at all; it was merely meant as a guarantee of their sincerity if the arrangement was come to. We looked upon the proposition with a good deal of suspicion, and thought the object might be in the first place to get the petition withdrawn, and then to say that the seat could not be vacated; or we thought that if the seat were vacated we might have a violent opposition single-handed to fight over again.

17,913. Then any proposition for an arrangement prior to the petition being heard emanated, I understand, from the agents in London?—Yes; it came from Mr. Baker, the agent of the liberal party in London.

17,914. When the letter which Mr. Phillpotts sent to Sir Robert Carden was sent down to you, was any inquiry made by Sir Robert Carden as to the probability of the allegations contained in it being true?—Immediately after the election, threats were made use of that a petition would be presented against Sir Robert Carden's return; and it was thought that if such a petition was presented there would be an investigation, and we should be able to meet any charge that was made in that letter.

17,915. That is hardly an answer to my question; the letter which had been written by Mr. Phillpotts was sent down to you by Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

17,916. At the time when that letter was sent down to you, was any inquiry made of you by Sir Robert Carden as to whether his election had been obtained by corrupt means?—No, I do not know of

17,917. There was a subsequent letter written by Mr. Phillpotts to Sir Robert Carden, and that was also sent down to you?—Not the subsequent letter, I think; only the first, I believe.

17,918. Do I understand you to say, that from the first time that that letter was sent down to you, up to the time when the settlement was come to which you spoke of yesterday, no inquiry was made of you by Sir Robert Carden as to whether his election had been conducted on pure or impure principles?—I do not recollect any direct inquiry of that kind being made, and I must say this, that no doubt there were irregular practices, and so on, but until after the hearing of the petitions I was under the firm impression and belief that no direct bribery had been practised.

17,919. I am not asking you as to your belief. My question is directed to inquiries made by Sir Robert Carden?—I am not aware of any such inquiries as you refer to having been made.

17,920. (*Mr. Welford.*) You said you considered that the letter which Sir Robert Carden sent down contained a direct charge against you and one or two others. Was Mr. Whithorn one of those against whom a charge was considered to be made?—I do not know what my impression at the time was; indeed I did write to Mr. Phillpotts a reply to the letter he had written to Sir Robert Carden, but in consequence of the petition pending, and his behaviour (as we considered) to us as a party, and in consequence of my having had an interview with Sir Robert Carden, that letter was never sent.

17,921. You prepared an answer to the letter of Mr. Phillpotts, and before sending that answer you consulted one or two persons in Gloucester?—Yes.

17,922. Was Mr. Whithorn one of the persons you consulted?—I have no doubt he was.

17,923. Did it form a part of the answer which you were prepared to give to Mr. Phillpotts's letter, that there had been no corruption in Gloucester, at that election, on your side?—No; I think I should

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have called on him to point out who it was against whom he made those charges.

17,924. Did you and the rest of your friends, having had that consultation together, inform Sir Robert Carden as a fact that there had been no corruption practised on his side?—I have no doubt I informed him what I believed at the time, which was, that there had not been any direct bribery.

17,925. What could have been the nature of your consultation with Mr. Whithorn, if it had not brought out the result that his election had been obtained by bribery?—Mr. Whithorn never informed me at all upon the matter or what had been done.

17,926. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you communicate personally or by letter with Sir Robert Carden?—I took the letter in my pocket when I was going to town, and saw him.

17,927. Had you a conversation with him?—Yes; I laid the case generally before him, and told him what had taken place between Mr. Phillpotts and Mr. Hope before, and that a petition was threatened against us.

17,928. (*Mr. Welford.*) Your defence proceeded rather on what you considered to be the position of Mr. Phillpotts with respect to your party than on an attempt to purge your party from the charge of bribery?—Yes; and the fact that an investigation was inevitable also influenced me.

17,929. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I understand you to say that Sir Robert Carden did not at any time direct you to take any steps to ascertain whether there was any truth in the charge contained in the letter of Mr. Phillpotts?—No, I never received any specific directions in the matter; the fact was, the Conservatives felt that they had been sold by Mr. Phillpotts, and consequently but little attention was paid to the letter he sent to Sir Robert Carden in 1857.

17,930. Did you understand that Sir Robert Carden put himself entirely into your hands, and into the hands of his friends, to make any defence they pleased to this charge?—Sir Robert Carden could judge for himself as a man of the world, and he had all the facts before him.

17,931. Did you understand that he had put himself entirely in the hands of the Conservative party?—No; I think he was rather disposed to let the matter rest where it was.

CHARLES JAMES MONK called and further examined.

C. J. Monk.

17,932. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some statement to us with reference to the evidence which has just been given by Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; I wish simply to state that neither Mr. Baker nor any one else, had the slightest authority from me for saying that I would resign my seat; I was not prepared to resign my seat, or to sell the constituency of Gloucester to Sir Robert Carden.

17,933. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you made acquainted by Mr. Baker with the fact of a negociation having commenced?—I was made acquainted with the fact of a negociation having commenced, and I wrote a letter to Mr. Baker, stating, in very strong terms, that I would not be a party to the compromise.

17,934. Then the suggestion for a compromise did not come from you?—Certainly not.

17,935. It came from Mr. Baker?—I understood that it came from Mr. Rose. Mr. Baker had been in communication with Mr. Rose, and asked me whether I would resign my seat.

17,936. Then Mr. Baker first suggested the compromise?—I heard of it from Mr. Baker.

17,937. Did you hear whether he had communicated with Mr. Price also?—I knew that Mr. Price was one of the eight or ten gentlemen who were asked to join in a guarantee for the purpose of securing the seat to Sir Robert Carden.

17,938. Are you aware whether Mr. Baker had any instructions from Mr. Price to negociate, or whether Mr. Baker informed Mr. Price that he saw reason for a negociation, or that he had commenced a negociation?—I cannot state that with certainty.

17,939. (*Mr. Welford.*) As far as you are concerned, Mr. Baker did not make such a proposal with your sanction?—Certainly not.

17,940. And when you knew what the proposal was, you repudiated it?—Yes; and I hear now, with surprise, Mr. Lovegrove's statement, that I should be ready to resign my seat, which would be a tacit admission on my part that I had been guilty of that which was charged against me in the petition.

ABRAHAM HODGSON PHILLPOTTS called and further examined.

A. H. Phillpotts.

17,941. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to add something to your evidence?—I merely wish to say that I am very glad entirely to withdraw the charge which I made against Mr. Lovegrove, of having stated that all the ten gentlemen he indicated to the parliamentary agent had been guilty of bribery. I made no charge of that kind in my letter to Sir Robert Carden, as will be seen on reference to it. I merely stated the fact of the belief generally entertained on his side, no less than on ours, that the election had been carried by bribery. With regard to the course taken by me in 1852, I may state that I distinctly remember when I applied to Mr. David Walker as representing Sir Maurice Berkeley, and when I communicated with Mr. Price, I said that I, undertaking to negociate such an agreement, should take no part in the election itself, and that I scarcely felt at liberty to vote for either candidate, because that would have been taking part in the election. I therefore think that the assertion made by Mr. Lovegrove as to my having sold the Conservatives, and so on, is quite puerile, for I had undertaken not to give expression to my political sentiments, and I felt that I should have placed myself in an equivocal position if I had done so.

17,942. You considered yourself to occupy a neutral position?—Yes, purposely.

17,943. And you suggested the arrangement of which you have spoken as a neutral party?—Yes; and I had also named the referee.

17,944. Did you give Mr. Hope any reason to believe that if that agreement were carried into effect you would vote for him?—So far from it that when Mr. Hope canvassed me, I felt he had committed an impropriety in doing so in so pressing a manner, and I told him distinctly that I would not vote for either candidate.

17,945. Had you told him that at the time when the agreement was made?—I believe so, but I am not confident; I have a strong belief that it took place before the agreement was completed.

17,946. Mr. Hope was aware that he would not have your support?—Mr. Hope must have perfectly well known that it was impossible for me in my position to take any part in the election.

17,947. Are you aware that Mr. Hope afterwards complained of your having deserted him?—The first time I ever heard of it was from Mr. Lovegrove's lips just now, but I am aware that Mr. Hope was under an impression that he lost his election in consequence of that agreement; whatever may have been their cause of complaint, Mr. Hope had agreed to abide by the decision of a referee, to whom his supporters should have appealed, instead of coming forward at this time and trumping up these charges.

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B. Jordan.

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BENJAMIN JORDAN called and further examined.

17,948. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are clerk to Mr. Ellis?—Yes.

17,949. And you were so in 1857?—Yes.

17,950. In 1857 did you act as clerk in the committee-room of Messrs. Berkeley and Price?—I did.

17,951. And I suppose that on that occasion you took charge of the canvass books, and entered the returns that were made from time to time, the same as you did in 1859?—I did; these are the books in which the returns were kept (*producing them*).

17,952. Mr. Robert Wilton was then acting as the agent for Sir Maurice Berkeley, was he not?—He was.

17,953. And Mr. Ellis was acting for Mr. Price?—Yes.

17,954. Were all the payments that were made to the messengers and the clerks made by you?—I paid the amount that was paid to the clerks and messengers to Brewer Monk in one sum.

17,955. In 1857?—In 1857. I paid in one sum the amount due for messengers, and in another the amount due for clerks. I paid 68*l.* 16*s.* for messengers, and 28*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* for clerks.

17,956. You paid both those sums to Brewer Monk?—To Brewer Monk.

17,957. What was the number of messengers that were employed?—I do not know the number.

17,958. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you no return of their names?—No.

17,959. You left that to Brewer Monk?—Yes; he kept the account.

17,960. Mr. Robert Wilton has told us to-day that he paid you several sums of money; what was the total amount that you received from him?—He made a mistake; he said he paid it previous to the election, but you will see by the dates he gave that most of the payments were after the election.

17,961. What did you do with the rest of the money?—I paid the whole of the auditor's account, except, I think, the under sheriff's account. I think that was the only one that was paid by him.

17,962. You paid the whole of the money contained in the auditor's published account?—Yes.

17,963. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) For whom?—For the auditor.

17,964. For Admiral Berkeley?—For both candidates. I received a sum from Mr. Wilton, and a similar sum from Mr. Ellis; it was a joint account.

17,965. In each case you received a similar sum from the two agents?—Yes; the accounts were joint.

17,966. The auditor's accounts were separate, were they not?—They were sent in separately, with a note at the bottom that half was to be paid by the other candidate.

17,967. I do not see how you could pay the sums you say you did to Brewer Monk from the sums you received from Mr. Robert Wilton?—I received cheques from the auditor.

17,968. What cheques did you receive from the auditor?—This is a debtor and creditor account (*referring to a book*).

17,969. What money did you receive from the auditor?—I received a cheque for messengers, and another for clerks. All the moneys I received, either from Mr. Wilton or from Mr. Ellis, went to pay the auditor's account, except 44*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, of which I will give you an account.

17,970. How do you account for that sum of 44*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*?—On the 28th of August I paid Mr. Johnston 1*l.* 5*s.*

17,971. Who is Mr. Johnston?—A furniture broker.

17,972. Was that for the hire of furniture?—Yes; the account was either mislaid when we made out the auditor's account, or it came in too late. The next payment was 11*l.* 2*s.*, to a printer named Allen, of Bristol, who made a claim upon Mr. Wilton, which Mr. Wilton rejected for a long time, and on the 9th of August the amount was remitted.

17,973. What was that for?—For printing and for his services here. He came here and went round lecturing for or against the Maine Law, I don't know which, during the election. I paid Brewer Monk for his services 15*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*; to Withers, for his services during the election or the petition, (I do not know which, or it may have been on both,) 4*l.*; to Watkins for the same, 4*l.*; to Mr. Edwin Thomas, two guineas.

17,974. What was that for?—That was for services.

17,975. It was all for services?—Yes; and Robert Davis, two guineas, for services.

17,976. Do you know what services they had rendered?—No. Mr. Thomas was a clerk.

17,977. Was the payment made to him for services as a clerk?—I think he was in the district committee—I am not sure. To Abell, three guineas; that was for travelling expenses, I think; that makes the 44*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* Those claims were sent in either to Mr. Ellis or to Mr. Wilton.

17,978. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are they included in the account which Mr. Wilton has given us?—Yes; 22*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* is the moiety of that sum, that is, the whole of the money I paid, except the auditor's account.

17,979. And you had a balance in hand of 10*l.*, which you returned?—Why I had to hand Mr. Wilton 10*l.* was, because Mr. Wilton paid me 20*l.* on the 4th of April, and Mr. Ellis did not, and therefore I had to receive 10*l.* from Mr. Ellis, and pay it back to Mr. Wilton.

17,980. That was the part which you took in the disposal of money at that election?—That was all I had to do with it.

17,981. Did you know of any bribery that was practised at that election?—None whatever.

17,982. Neither on the one side nor on the other?—None whatever.

17,983. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) There was a further account paid to Mr. Ellis of 83*l.* 15*s.* by Mr. Robert Wilton; had you anything to do with making up that account?—I had nothing to do with it.

17,984. You did not see the account?—I did not.

17,985. It appears that it consisted of several sums paid to different people, but Mr. Wilton could give us no account of it, can you?—No.

17,986. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know Allen yourself, the printer, to whom the 11*l.* 2*s.* was paid?—I think I saw him once in the committee-room; I did not know him.

17,987. Was he brought here for the purpose of making any opposition by speeches to Sir Robert Carden?—He brought some printed bills, and I think he went about lecturing at meetings with respect to the Maine Law. Whether he was for or against it I do not know.

17,988. He brought some bills with reference to the Maine Law?—Yes.

17,989. Do you know what the nature of those bills was, except that they had reference to the Maine Law?—I do not know.

17,990. And it was for those bills and his services that he was paid?—Yes; Mr. Wilton objected to pay his account for a long time, but ultimately he paid it on the 29th of August.

17,991. You do not know whether or not the same principle prevailed at the election of 1857 with regard to the appointment of messengers as prevailed at the last election, and that they were to a large extent voters?—I did not know who they were at all.

17,992. (*Mr. Welford.*) I understand you to say that the account which you paid for messengers to Brewer Monk, was paid afterwards. You did not give him so much money to expend for messengers, but he brought you an account of what he had expended for messengers?—He gave me the amount. I was aware that he had paid it.

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B. Jordan.
14 Oct. 1859.

17,993. But as to the employment of the messengers, you left that entirely to him?—Yes.

17,994. He brought you an account, and you paid him, he having been authorized to employ the messengers?—Yes.

17,995. And so as to the clerks; you had not anything to do with the appointment of the clerks, though they worked under you?—No; I had not.

17,996. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Why was Mr. Brewer Monk's remuneration not introduced into the election auditor's account?—I do not know.

17,997. Who authorized you to pay that?—Mr. Wilton and Mr. Ellis; that was in August after the petition was over; how that was made up I do not know.

17,998. What is it you say was paid after the petition was over?—All the sums I have mentioned to you composing the 44*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*

Adjourned to to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

Eighteenth Day.—15th October 1859.

W. P. Price.

WILLIAM PHILLIP PRICE called and further examined.

17,999. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I have now to put to you some questions with regard to the election of 1857; what payments did you make in respect of that election?—I stated in my evidence before that my election had cost me from 350*l.* to 360*l.*; that I stated from memory. I do not think it cost me so much as that, but the total amount I paid for the election and for the petition (I must speak of them together, because I cannot separate the sum) was 741*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*

18,000. (*Mr. Welford.*) You cannot separate the election expenses from the petition expenses?—I have no doubt that Mr. Ellis will be able to do so, but I cannot do it myself. I can give the separate amounts in which that sum was paid; I can give you the amount of each cheque that I paid.

18,001. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I do not think that is necessary unless you can give us the names of the parties to whom the money was paid?—I should think they were nearly all paid through Mr. Ellis. A short time before this inquiry commenced I took out of my own private ledger the several amounts I had paid in respect of the election and petition of 1857, and the sum I have given you is the aggregate of those amounts.

18,002. Then all your payments have not been made through Mr. Ellis?—I think every item but the last was paid through Mr. Ellis.

18,003. What is the last item?—The last item is 94*l.* 10*s.*

18,004. To whom was that paid?—I have no knowledge of the application of that money; it was charged to my account in the books of the firm; the other amount is made up of five items. Shall I give the different items?

18,005. (*Mr. Welford.*) If you please?—April 1st 1857 (that was certainly to Mr. Ellis), 300*l.*; May 8th, Mr. Ellis, 50*l.*; September 7th, (I have it entered here as "Petition," but I presume that is Mr. Ellis,) 200*l.*; 29th, (also entered as "Petition," though I do not think it was for that,—I think that was for the election,) 64*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*; February 1st, 1858, 32*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*; and April 19th, 94*l.* 10*s.*

18,006. Have you any idea what that last cheque was given for?—For that item under the date of the 19th of April there was never, in fact, any cheque at all given; it was charged to my account in the books of the firm, and though charged to my account on that day, I was not aware of its payment until some time early in the present year.

18,007. Was the 19th of April the day on which that sum was paid, or was it then only that it became an entry in the books of your firm?—I think that is the day on which it was carried to my debit in the books of the firm, and it was never transferred to my own private ledger till the early part of 1859.

18,008. It does not follow that it may not have been paid earlier than the 19th of April?—I have no doubt it was.

18,009. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know by whom that sum was charged to the debit of your account?—Of course by the accountants of the firm, and no doubt by the direction of one of my partners.

18,010. Are you aware whether in the sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* there was included a sum of 83*l.* 15*s.* which was spoken to by Mr. Robert Wilton yesterday?—I did not hear Mr. Wilton's evidence yesterday, but I knew nothing on earth about the application of that money. I relied upon the fact I stated when I first gave my evidence, that 741*l.* was so small a sum for a contested election and a petition, that I thought there really was no room for inquiry upon it.

18,011. With regard to the election of 1857 did you understand from any person prior to the election that unless money was supplied either by yourself or by Admiral Berkeley one of you must go to the wall?—On the night before the election it was represented to us that money was being spent on the other side, and that notwithstanding the favourable aspect of the canvass it was probable that one of us would be defeated if we did not spend money. Sir Maurice Berkeley and myself both refused to advance one single shilling. On the following morning in the course of the election I was myself told by a gentleman that the election might be saved for 50*l.*; I was twice asked for that money, and on both occasions I refused to advance a shilling.

18,012. The information that you received on the night before the election, that money was being spent on the other side, came, I presume, from some one of your own supporters?—Yes, it did.

18,013. And did you consider him a reliable authority?—Certainly. I can give you the name of the gentleman who spoke to me on the following day, because I have his authority to do it.

18,014. Who was it?—Mr. Powell Chandler.

18,015. You refused to spend any money on that occasion?—I refused to spend any money on that occasion; there was one witness (I think his name was Cole) who, I see by the reports, stated yesterday that he was bribed by what he called a loan of 8*l.* That man came to me two or three days before the election and said that he wanted 8*l.*, and that if I would lend him 8*l.* he would vote for myself and Sir Maurice Berkeley. He is a fishmonger. I refused; in fact I turned away from him without giving him any answer at all, and I have no doubt that he got the 8*l.* from the other side.

18,016. How long before the election was it that he came to you?—I have said that it was two or three days; I am not sure exactly as to the time; but it was a short time before the election.

18,017. He asked you for the loan of 8*l.*, and said that if you would lend him that 8*l.* he would vote for yourself and Admiral Berkeley?—Yes.

18,018. Was the canvass that was made by yourself and by Admiral Berkeley considered favourable?—Unquestionably; it was made with very great care, and every man's promise was tested accurately by his performances at preceding elections. We took every possible means to verify the accuracy of our account of every vote; it was done, not by me.

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W. P. Price.

15 Oct. 1859.

but by gentlemen much more acquainted with the subject than I could be. I think that no canvass was ever more carefully made, nor was there ever any canvass in which the aspect was more favourable to the return of the liberal candidates.

18,019. Did you find that many of the promises on which you had reason to rely were unfulfilled at the election?—There were somewhere between 90 and 100 men (I had a list of them, but I have lost it) whose promises we most distinctly relied on, but who deserted us on that occasion, and some of them in a manner wholly unaccountable to me; many of them being people who, I believe, could not have been influenced by money.

18,020. Up to a period almost immediately before the polling did you consider that those promises would be performed?—Yes, I had no doubt about it; always supposing there were not extravagant expenditure on the other side, because we know it is impossible to calculate on any canvass if temptations of that sort are held out to certain classes of voters.

18,021. I understand you to say that you yourself were not aware that any bribery at all was committed on your side in the election of 1857?—I stated when first I gave my evidence that the only reason I had to suspect bribery was from the testimony given by certain witnesses on the petition in 1857. There were several cases that were exceedingly trumpery, having, I believe, no substantial foundation whatever; but there certainly were some two or three cases which I found it very difficult to resist, and the impression on my mind was that those men had been bribed by somebody; I stated that in my first day's examination. Apart from that I had no reason whatever to believe that there was bribery, and I am sure, as far as Sir Maurice Berkeley and myself were concerned, our anxious desire was that not one shilling should be spent improperly.

18,022. Did you state to your supporters generally that you were anxious that the election should be conducted on the purest principles?—We stated it as strongly as it was possible for men to state it and incessantly, and I believe it was rigidly acted on with the slight exception I have mentioned.

18,023. Comparing the canvass that you made in 1852 with the canvass that you made in 1857, did you find that you had a greater number of promises in 1857 than you had in 1852, or was it the reverse?—I had many more promises in 1857 than I had in 1852, and for this obvious reason, that I was not a stranger to the town and the constituency in the capacity of a candidate as I was in 1852, and there was no doubt whatever that Mr. Hope was a most difficult man possible for me to contest against. He was exceedingly popular in Gloucester, and there was a strong feeling on the part of the constituents that there was (to use their own language) no vacancy, that is, that neither of the old members had retired, and I had a great many conditional promises from people who said they would vote for me when there was a vacancy (as they called it), and many of my own party abstained from voting for me because they thought Mr. Hope was in possession of the field and that he was a man they did not wish to displace. In 1857, therefore, when Sir Robert Carden came as an entire stranger I had a great many promises that I had not in 1852, and I should consider that my position was very far higher upon the canvass in the latter than it was in the former year.

18,024. Did you personally canvass the electors in 1857?—Yes, and in 1852; in both those years I personally canvassed them.

18,025. Do you concur in the opinion which has been expressed here that the Conservative strength had considerably increased between the years 1852 and 1857?—No; I do not at all. I have no doubt at all that the Conservative strength was more efficient in 1857. I think that they had taken a great deal of pains to organize themselves; that they had established this Conservative club (which I always regarded on as a mere bribery agent); that they had strengthened themselves in the town council, and that they had, I may say, "lived, and moved, and had "their being" ever since 1852 with the exclusive determination of returning a Conservative member in 1857; but that they had more conservative votes upon the register I do not believe; I believe the fact to be quite the reverse.

18,026. Are you of opinion that the fact of a candidate being a stranger in Gloucester is a disadvantage as regards his chances of success?—I am sure it would be a great disadvantage to a candidate on our side, but I think it would be a matter of no consequence on the other side, because, as you heard from a witness yesterday or the day before, there are a great many voters who would be prepared to vote for a mop stick if it were dressed in blue ribbons.

18,027. You think from your knowledge of Gloucester that the Conservative party would rally round a stranger, as much as they would round a person really connected with Gloucester?—If he paid.

18,028. But not if he did not pay?—No, I think not.

18,029. (*Mr Welford.*) If both parties would honestly agree to abstain from corruption, do you think that the liberal party would usually carry the election of two liberal candidates?—Yes, I do think so. With reference to the proposal which has been so frequently made in the conservative organ in Gloucester, that we should divide the representation, I have always said, I "object to the division of the representation until you "prove your case; but if you would agree to strike "off from the register the venal voters (which it "would be perfectly easy to do), there would be no "difficulty in two or three gentleman on either side "sitting down and ascertaining within ten votes what "the political bias or tendency of the Gloucester con-"stituency is; and if the Conservative party could "show that they had a reasonable claim to one mem-"ber, I would be the first man personally to concede "it to them; but I have always objected to the prin-"ciple of dividing the representation, simply with a "view to put down practices of this description which "ought to be put down from higher motives."

18,030. In 1852, when an agreement is said to have been acted on by both parties to abstain from corruption, how do you account for the fact that Mr. Hope, the Conservative candidate, was only beaten by twenty, when it is said also that some ten or twelve voters, forming the band, were unfairly sent away and did not vote?—Of course when I speak of the liberal party, I speak of my own party. Upon that occasion I beat Mr. Hope, who was the most popular man who had represented Gloucester for many years, by something like eighty,—I am not quite sure as to the number.

18,031. Your majority then over Mr. Hope was much larger than twenty?—Yes, and when you bear in mind that I was a stranger to the constituency and that Mr. Hope was one of the most popular men I could have to fight with, and that he fought with ample command of appliances, I say that the fact of my having a majority of eighty-two upon that occasion, shows that even then the Liberal party was in a very large majority.

18,032. Then you consider that your majority over Mr. Hope was a better test of the strength of the Liberal party then Admiral Berkeley's?—At all events it shows the strength of the party to which I should appeal in any arguments I am addressing to you; but local and personal circumstances often disturb the strength of one candidate or the other.

18,033. Possibly the larger majority which you obtained than that obtained by Admiral Berkeley arose from split votes?—Very likely; there were a considerable number of split votes, but that cuts both ways. The Commissioners probably are not aware that there had been unfortunately dissensions in the Liberal party for many years, and that those dissensions have materially impaired our strength; they were not obliterated even in 1852, though they were much lessened, but we generally found that in the

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alternate elections the preponderance of the liberal strength went one time to Mr. Phillpotts, who preceded me, and the next time to Sir Maurice Berkeley, and I suppose it was my turn in 1852.

18,034. It has been suggested that about fifty of the Conservative party appear to have split their votes with you in 1852?—That is a very nice question. The question is whether when a man voted for Hope and Price it was a Conservative splitting for Price or a Liberal splitting for Hope.

18,035. That, nothing but an investigation of the poll book would show?—No; but if we want any proof of the relative strength of the two parties it is found in this, that in 1859, after the very lavish expenditure of the conservative party compared to ours (because it was greater than ours at all events), they were in a minority of 212. I understand that the evidence is to this effect, that there was 1,700*l.* proved to have been spent on Sir Robert Carden's election, while no such sum is proved to have been expended by us.

18,036. The evidence is that Mr. Wilton had 1,000*l.* to spend, and what was advanced by other parties would amount to more than that?—I am only taking the aggregate. I take the aggregate amount spent by Sir Robert Carden. I have always dealt with the aggregate amount, and it has appeared to me that their expenditure was much larger than ours, and yet they were beaten by 212.

18,037. Referring to the election of 1852, have you any reason to believe that some of Mr. Hope's supporters did not act strictly upon the agreement that there should be a pure election?—My impression always was that the election of 1852 was a perfectly pure election. That was always my impression until recently. I considered that Mr. Hope behaved excessively ill to me on that occasion, but I have no ill will towards him on that account. I always believed and still believe that Mr. Hope was no party to any dishonourable breach of that contract until after the election was over; but my attention was called at the time to one very remarkable circumstance, and that was at No. 6 booth, the booth where all the out-voters polled (the Coopeys *et hoc genus omne*). Although Mr. Hope was in a very small majority over me upon the aggregate (only something like four or five) yet after one o'clock in the day Mr. Hope polled 81 votes, Sir Maurice Berkeley 49, and I polled 52, and yet on the whole of the day Mr. Hope had only a majority of two over me.

18,038. You mean at that one polling booth?—Yes, at that one polling booth. Now, what was suggested to me as a natural inference from that was that they were honest till they saw they were beaten, and that then they commenced bribing, and that the moment they began bribing at one o'clock it told on No. 6 booth where the out-voters polled; that was called to my mind at the time, but I never believed it. I had always believed it to have been a pure election until four or five witnesses here, and among those the Vailes, stated that they had always voted yellow until the three last elections, including the election of 1852, and that then they were bought to vote for Hope and Berkeley, and that statement has been repeated by four or five voters since. I say therefore that that establishes the fact that there was bribery at that election, and accounts for the remarkable coincidence, that Mr. Hope began at one o'clock to poll so rapidly at No. 6 booth. Then there is another remarkable fact. I have always observed in all our elections in Gloucester that whoever has a majority at ten o'clock or thereabouts wins, and not only that but that he strengthens his majority at the close of the polling. My majority at ten o'clock was about 140, I do not know that it was not more, and by one or two o'clock it was frittered away down to 82. I say that would not have taken place if there had not been some other influence at work different from those influences which prevailed in the early part of the contest.

18,039. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you cognizant of the transaction as to the engagement of the Conservative band?—I think it is a great misfortune that no proof upon that subject can be given by a living witness. Unfortunately, the only man who could have proved it, if it had been the fact, is dead. All I can say is that I never heard of such a charge until it was mentioned here by Mr. Helps; I certainly never heard of it before, and, in plain terms, I do not believe it; but even if it were true, it is perfectly absurd to say that my majority of 82 was obtained by Mr. Hudson getting ten musicians to go over to Cheltenham to play there.

18,040. But it would have affected Admiral Berkeley's majority?—Yes, it might. It was part of our agreement that we should employ no musicians, and therefore there were a number of musicians hanging about Gloucester out of work. Mr. Craven Berkeley had a severe contest with Sir Willoughby Jones in Cheltenham. They were not under the same restrictions as we were, and I dare say Mr. Craven Berkeley may have thought that music might have some charms for the Cheltenham people, and therefore availed himself of those discontented bandsmen who could not find employment in Gloucester; but that there was any compact or arrangement that those men were to vote for us in consequence of their being employed at Cheltenham, I do not at all believe.

18,041. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The suggestion was that those persons who were engaged in that band belonged to the conservative party, and that you managed to get their votes, or induced them not to vote at all, by sending them to Cheltenham?—I understand the insinuation; but it is unfortunate that if we broke our contract, they cannot adduce a living witness to show that we did so; of course we cannot summon Mr. Hudson now.

18,042. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Mr. Hudson the manager for the liberals who undertook that kind of department?—He was.

18,043. He took the same share in the management of the election that is now taken by Mr. Brewer Monk?—Yes; and since his death he has been made to carry much more than ever was charged against him in his lifetime—the employment of this band among other things, I suspect.

18,044. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you aware that Mr. Hudson had organized a system of corruption upon an extensive scale for the promotion of the liberal interest in Gloucester?—The first election that I was concerned in myself actively was in 1847; on that occasion I did not go to the poll, and therefore there was no time for corruption. In 1852 there certainly was no corruption, and I was too young to be admitted to the secrets of the party at any election antecedent to that.

18,045. You can give us no information as to the mode in which Mr. Hudson conducted elections, the conduct of which was entrusted to him by the Liberal party?—I can give no information about it; of course I always knew what was said, that if bribery was done by the Liberals, it was done by Hudson, and I have no doubt it was so; in fact, I am sure that if we bribed at all we bribed through him.

18,046. Are you aware to what extent he was in the habit of bribing?—At what particular election.

18,047. I ask you generally. You say you were too young to know much about the elections before 1847, but you state also that there is no doubt that if bribery was done it was done through Hudson; have you any knowledge as to the extent of bribery to which he was a party at elections, when he acted for the Liberal party?—I could have no knowledge of that except at elections in which I was myself concerned; I could only know of it from being a party to it.

18,048. What have you heard upon the subject?—I always heard and supposed that if money was spent he would be the party to spend it, and I have no doubt he did; I am quite sure that if money was spent it was spent by him.

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W. P. Price.
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18,049. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Hudson concerned for you in 1852?—Yes, he was concerned for the party, not for me personally, but for myself and whoever the other candidate might be.

18,050. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know of any system of spending money on voters that Mr. Hudson had?—No; I should not be likely to know. The election preceding that of 1847, was the election of 1841, and I was scarcely of an age then to be very actively concerned in it.

18,051. The suggestion is that he operated with a view to elections in general, and not with a view to particular elections, and that he was in the habit of lending money to voters, and then, on the eve of an election, if they promised their votes, of striking off their debts?—All I can say is that at the time when I was actively connected with the party, Mr. Hodson never asked me for a shilling for that purpose; and I do not believe that he could have applied a shilling to that purpose; if he did I do not know where he got the money from.

18,052. You never heard of it?—No, I do not think it was Hudson's way of doing business either. My belief is that if he spent money at all he would have spent it at the right moment and in hard money; I do not think he would have taken that round about mode of doing it.

18,053. It is a mode which has been adopted in other boroughs?—But it never obtained here, I believe.

18,054. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had Hudson resources of his own?—He had some property, but not a great deal. He was not a man who could have had much money of his own I think, to spend in elections: he lived at little expense, and had a certain amount of house property.

18,055. He had no great amount of ready money?—No, I should have thought not. One expression that I often heard Hudson make use of always struck me forcibly: he used to say that the liberal party never had occasion to bribe, that all they had occasion to do was to keep their own men honest; that I heard him say a hundred times over.

18,056. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He was an agent for the Liberal party?—Certainly he was.

18,057. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Supposing your extra expenses were the same as Admiral Berkeley's; deducting that amount from the balance you would have only 150*l.* 13*s.* to spend upon the petition, is not that a very small sum?—Excuse me for saying that is putting a hypothetical case; I do not know that I had any extra expenses.

18,058. You must have had some because there is charged to Admiral Berkeley a sum of 83*l.* 15*s*?—I know nothing about extra expenses; all I can do is to swear most solemnly that I have not paid more than 741*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*

18,059. However that may be divided between the election and the petition, that is the total amount paid by you in respect of the election?—That is the total amount paid by me in respect of the election; and perhaps you will allow me to say that an insinuation which has been thrown out here by, I think, Mr. Buchannan, that other people have found money for me, is a most ungenerous and cowardly one, for it is an imputation which it is impossible for me to meet, except by my own denial of it. If he would say that ten or twenty people he chose to name had found money on my account, I could produce them to give a direct contradiction to it, but for me to prove so large a negative as his charge involves is out of the question, and I think it is a most ungenerous way of bringing a most unfounded charge. To the best of my belief no one has paid a shilling on my account that has not ultimately come out of my own pocket.

18,060. You were not a petitioner in 1857?—No, I never have been a petitioner.

18,061. But you were petitioned against in 1857?—Yes.

18,062. And the expense to which you were put on that occasion was only the expense of defending your own seat?—Yes.

18,063. You had nothing to do with the petition against Sir Robert Carden?—No.

18,064. Then the expense of Admiral Berkeley's petition would be greater than yours?—Yes, because I had not so many witnesses to take up to London; I think we were before the Committee altogether four days; my case was on for two days and Sir Robert Carden's two days. My counsel were there only two days when I was concerned, and Sir Maurice Berkeley's counsel would only be there when he was prosecuting his own petition; Sir Robert Carden's counsel would be there all four days.

18,065. The petition by Sir Robert Carden was against you as well as against Admiral Berkeley, was it not?—That was in this present year.

18,066. Was it not so in 1857?—No, he only petitioned against me then. Sir Maurice Berkeley petitioned against Sir Robert Carden, and Sir Robert Carden petitioned against me *en revanche*, his amiable object being to induce me, if he could, to put some pressure, supposing I could do it, on Sir Maurice Berkeley, that being the object of his other petition, so far as I have been able to learn.

18,067. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you ever subscribed to any fund for the prosecution of Municipal Elections in Gloucester?—Never to a fund, nor do I know of any such fund, but I have been asked for money at municipal elections. When I first became a member in 1852 I positively refused to identify in any way Parliamentary with municipal elections, and I gave most positive instructions to Mr. Ellis, my agent, never on my account to pay any money towards municipal contests, but at the same time I am free to admit that on two or three occasions I have paid sums for that purpose, but whenever I have done so it has been always because application was made to me in a personal form, which I felt I could not resist. Generally speaking whenever I was asked for money for municipal elections I always refused, but on one or two occasions personal friends have said, "If you "will not subscribe to the elections will you make me "a present of so and so" or "Give so and so." From 1847 to the present time I do not believe I have paid more than 70*l.* I remember giving 25*l.* on two occasions; whatever I have given on any other occasion has been in small sums, and that only once or twice. I am sure that the whole would not amount to more than 70*l.*

18,068. But in whatever form the money was given, it was given substantially to fight the liberal elections at municipal contests?—Certainly, and I knew it. I have a great objection to mixing up the two; a great evil has arisen in this borough from the vicious system that has been carried out the last few years of making the one an accessory to the other.

18,069. How far has the Gloucester Reform Club, of which we have heard something, assisted you in your elections?—As far as I am personally concerned I think the Gloucester Reform Club has been my greatest bane. I always objected to it; I am an honorary member of it, and I have subscribed 10*l.* to it as a benefit society, but I never was present at any meeting and never took any part in it. My great objection to it was this: I knew it was founded upon the model of the Gloucester Conservative Club, which I believed to be a gigantic evil in Gloucester, and I was very sorry to follow what I believed to be a very pernicious example.

18,070. Then there is another Reform Club: have you ever had any assistance from the Reform Club in London?—I never asked for assistance in my life, nor would I condescend to accept a shilling from any man living in reference to my own election; and I wish also to say, because I am a member of that club, that it is a monstrous delusion if any body supposes that the funds of the Reform Club in London are applied to election purposes.

18,071. There seems to be a subscription by the Liberal Party which is called the Reform Fund; have

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you ever received any aid in the way of money from any fund of that sort?—I have never been in a position to ask it; if I had asked it I might have had it, but my circumstances were such that I never had occasion to ask for assistance.

18,072. And it was never offered to you?—It was never offered, certainly.

18,073. Who, in connexion with your firm, will give us an account of the application of the 94*l.* 10*s*?—My friend Mr. Potter, who is here.

18,074. What was the cost of your election in 1852?—I think about 820*l.* or 830*l.*, including 125*l.* which I gave to the Mayor. I should say that at that time it was the practice for successful candidates to be chaired; I made it a condition of my coming forward that I should not be chaired. I thought it was a very humiliating thing to the man who was chaired, and to those who had to carry him. There was a little dissatisfaction felt at my insisting on the condition I had made being acted on, and I got rid of it by giving the mayor 125*l.* to distribute in the town. Mr. Helps reminds me that there was an agreement that there should be no chairing on that occasion; that is true, but still great pressure was put upon me to allow myself to be chaired, and through the influence of Mr. Clutterbuck, the then mayor, I got that pressure stayed by the payment of 125*l.* to charities; but the sum I have mentioned includes also a sum of about 100*l.* which was expended, I think, by Mr. Ellis in what is commonly understood as watching the petitioners, because there was a petition presented against me immediately after my return. It was a long time before that petition was tried; I think it was not tried till the following year, and during that time we were obliged to employ people to look out with a view to ascertain what the nature of the case was against us.

(*Mr. Helps.*) That petition was never tried.

(*The Witness.*) I know it was never tried, but we were all in anticipation of its being tried.

18,075. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Does the sum which you have mentioned of 820*l.* refer only to the expenses of the election exclusive of the payment of 100*l.* to the watchers, and the 125*l.* you gave to the mayor?—It includes both those sums.

18,076. That would make the expense of your election about 600*l.* deducting those two sums?—Yes; if it should be considered material, I can give you the precise figures; I am speaking entirely from memory.

18,077. It was stated yesterday by Mr. Robert Wilton that the election in 1852 cost Admiral Berkeley 210*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; I want to know what you put it at in order that I may make a comparison between your cost and the cost to Admiral Berkeley?—Then it is right you should have this further explanation, that on that occasion I felt strongly that my coming forward was a means of subjecting Sir Maurice Berkeley to a contest which he otherwise would not have had, and that I therefore volunteered to pay, and did pay, two-thirds of the expenses.

18,078. With regard to the sum which you paid with reference to the municipal elections do I understand you to say that the money you paid was paid to individuals who solicited you to bear a propotion of the expense of their election?—No doubt.

18,079. And that has been upon two or three occasions?—I have been asked to do so on several occasions, but I recollect paying two sums of 25*l.*, and I dare say I may have paid some other sums amounting to about 70*l.* altogether.

18,080. I presume those moneys were paid by you for the purpose of lending countenance and strength to what might be considered your party in Gloucester?—My only object in paying the money was, that I was asked by people whom I could not refuse. If it had not been for personal solicitation I would not have given it, but it was asked by gentlemen who stood in that relation to me with reference to political matters that I could not say nay to them; I would not have given it from political motives; I gave it from feelings of personal friendship.

18,081. Do you consider that a preponderance of Conservative or Liberal councillors is a source of strength to either party at a parliamentary election?—No, not the least; I do not think it is in that way that it operates. As far as my connexion with the Liberal party is concerned, I would as soon the Conservatives were in a large majority in the town council as not, more particularly as things are at present; but the way in which it operates is that the men are bribed to vote at the municipal elections, on the condition that their parliamentary votes shall follow; the one is made the indirect channel of bribery for the other.

18,082. Do you wish to represent that a man who received 1*l.* for his vote at a municipal election would hold himself bound to support the same party at a parliamentary election, though he might be offered two or three pounds on the other side?—No, that is putting a very extreme case. I believe the man would sell himself to the best bidder when the time came; but I have no doubt that the amounts the voters receive for their votes at municipal contests inclines them to be faithful to the party from whom they have received the money, in parliamentary contests.

18,083. Then it comes to this, that the payment of any money at a municipal election is a delusion?—I think not, because in 1857 nobody doubts that the Liberal party in their parliamentary contest were honest for the greater part of the time, at all events, and gave no bribes; and under those circumstances, no doubt, the Conservatives polled a great many votes by reason of what they had paid at their municipal contests. The voters had no inducement offered to them by the Liberal side, and in that instance, therefore, it was a good investment.

18,084. (*Mr. Welford.*) The municipal and parliamentary electors are not quite the same, are they?—No.

18,085. For instance, the out voters do not form part of the municipal constituency?—No; but independent of that there is a certain amount of organization involved in all these matters, and it is in an indirect manner that it tells as well as in a direct way by the mere pecuniary amount.

RICHARD POTTER sworn and examined.

R. Potter.

18,086. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are one of the partners of Mr. Price?—Yes, I am.

18,087. We hear that there was a sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* which was entered in the books of your firm on the 19th April 1858, carried to the debit of Mr. Price's account?—Yes.

18,088. Was that sum entered under your directions?—It was.

18,089. Can you state what payments that sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* comprised?—On the day of the polling in 1857, I think at about two or from that to a quarter-past two, the state of the poll was unfavourable to Berkeley and Price, and in the committee room I constantly heard Brewer Monk, and others who were taking an active part in getting up the voters, complain that they had no money to pay the out voters their expenses; and hearing that, I went, without communicating with any one, either with Sir Maurice Berkeley or Mr. Price, to the office and brought this money and gave Mr. Brewer Monk 94*l.* 10*s.* Some time afterwards, in the spring of 1858, I told the cashier to pass this amount to Mr. Price's debit, and I also mentioned to Mr. Ellis, Mr. Price's agent, that I had given 94*l.* 10*s.* to Mr. Brewer Monk at that period of the day in 1857. I do not think that either Mr. Price or Sir Maurice Berkeley were aware of it; indeed, I do not think that Sir Maurice Berkeley knows it now, nor did Mr. Price know of it till he saw it in his accounts, and then he did not ask me any question about it.

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18,090. Did Brewer Monk tell you that he wanted money for the purpose of buying the votes of any of the out voters?—No, I do not think a single word passed between Brewer Monk and me. I went to him with this money and gave it him; I do not think a single word was said by either of us.

18,091. You say you heard Brewer Monk and others in the committee room say they required money for the expenses of the out voters; was anything said besides that with respect to paying money for votes of the out voters?—Nothing was said.

18,092. What did you understand by the expenses of the out voters?—I did not define in my own mind very distinctly what the money was for; I knew that Brewer Monk was the man who was dispensing these expenses and I did not inquire.

18,093. He did not define what expenses meant?—No, not at all.

18,094. You might have thought that under "ex-" penses" there would probably be some bribery?—Undoubtedly I might have suspected that.

18,095. You do not seem to have placed this sum to the debit of Mr. Price's account till a long time afterwards; why was it not placed to his account for so long a time after the money had been advanced?—I do not know that I had any particular reason for it. Mr. Ellis asked me if I had advanced any money for Mr. Price about that time, and I think that called it to my recollection.

18,096. (*Mr. Welford.*) About April 1858?—Yes, I do not think I had any particular reason for it. Very often small accounts of that kind are kept in the cash balances without being placed to the credit of any partner for months.

18,097. Was that a period at which you entered up the books or put any loose items in?—No; I think it must have been done upon Mr. Ellis's request to me to give him the amount of any sums of money I had paid. I should think it probable that Mr. Brewer Monk may have mentioned to Mr. Ellis that he received this money from me about this time.

18,098. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you mean to state that it was from forgetfulness that that sum was not entered into the account against Mr. Price?—I really cannot state that positively. I do not recollect that there was any particular motive for it.

18,099. Might there have been a feeling on your part that it was not desirable that Mr. Price should know anything about it?—I think very possibly there might.

18,100. There might have been a feeling upon your own mind that inasmuch as Mr. Price did not know of it at the time of the election, it was as well that he should not know of it till some time after the election?—I think it is very likely I had some such feeling as that.

18,101. And that would be from a suspicion that you had that that money had been advanced for the purpose of procuring votes?—I think so. I think at that time, in the excitement of the moment, I should suspect that some of this money would be spent loosely without being very nice in observing the boundary line between legal and illegal expenses.

18,102. Have you received any account from Brewer Monk since you paid him that money as to how he spent it?—No, I have never exchanged a word with Brewer Monk about it.

18,103. Do you know of any other sum that was paid with respect to Mr. Price's election besides the sum you have spoken of?—None whatever that I am aware of.

18,104. Did you take any other part in that election in the way of advancing money except the advance of that 94*l.* 10*s.*—None whatever.

18,105. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Robert Wilton referred to a sum of 94*l.* 10*s.* as having been claimed by you. That is the 94*l.* 10*s.* we have been talking of?—Yes.

18,106. Did you in the same way advance money or was money advanced by your firm on Mr. Price's behalf at any other election?—Since I have been a member of the firm the last ten years, I do not believe there has been any other sum except that advanced by any member of the firm in any way. I think I should have heard of it if there had been; I am pretty sure that no other sum has been advanced during the last ten years.

18,107. What was the object of the cashier of your firm in holding such a sum as this in suspense?—We are all in the habit of taking small sums of money from him and having small accounts paid by him, and sometimes for months he holds them against any particular partner,—at this moment there may be some 40*l.* or 50*l.* that he has spent for me in small bills,—and I settle with him every four or five months, and then the amount is passed to my debit and the same thing is done to Mr. Price.

18,108. This 94*l.* 10*s.* until April would be held as against you?—Undoubtedly.

18,109. Do you know a person named David Fear?—No, I do not.

18,110. I am requested to ask whether you know that in settling an account of your firm with David Fear forty per cent. was struck off the balance due from him?—I do not know such a man; it is very likely he deals with us, but I do not know it.

18,111. He is a cooper in Southgate Street?—I do not know him; I interfere very little with the details of those small accounts.

18,112. If such a transaction as that had taken place, who of your firm or who of your *employées* would know of it?—When was it; was it recently?

18,113. In 1859?—I should think it would be perhaps Mr. Lee, our foreman, if it is a small account, or a man of the name of King who deals with the coopers.

18,114. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know of any such transaction?—No, I do not know even the man's name.

18,115. Would any person in your establishment be authorized to deduct forty per cent. from any bill without mentioning it to you?—Not without mentioning it to one of us; certainly not.

J. Chadborn.

JOHN CHADBORN sworn and examined.

18,116. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you took some part in promoting the election of Mr. Price in 1857?—I did.

18,117. There were some payments of money which you made, I think?—There were.

18,118. Can you tell me what sums of money you paid in respect of that election on behalf of Mr. Price?—The money I paid in respect of that election, as far as I can possibly recollect, amounts to about 47*l.* I should wish you to understand that all documents and papers I had with regard to that election were destroyed, and I have also been advised by my medical attendant not to keep in my recollection anything belonging to the election more than I can possibly help.

18,119. As far as your memory serves you, will you state to whom you paid the different sums amounting to 47*l.*?—I paid 15 men, who I employed on my own account. I must beg you to understand I had strict instructions not to spend any money at all, but I did this on my own responsibility.

18,120. From whom had you such instructions?—From Mr. Price himself, more than once, and I remember one case in particular. We were canvassing the island on one particular day, when a man named Samuel Lee asked me to give him something, as is usual when people are canvassing, and I went back and gave him a shilling, thinking Mr. Price did not see it; but Mr. Price saw me give it to him, and he called me, and told me in Lee's presence that if I

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gave anyone a single shilling, and he were petitioned against, he should not think of defending his seat; and he gave me specific directions more than once not to attempt anything of the kind.

18,121. How much did you pay the 15 men you employed?—I gave them 20*l.*; that was for two days' attendance. They were a kind of roughs, that I employed to protect the voters that I was taking to the poll, in case there should be an attempt at a rescue.

18,122. Were the men you employed for that purpose voters?—No, certainly not.

18,123. How did you spend the remainder of the money?—I paid the expenses of several men who had come from a distance to vote. One of them came out of Staffordshire, a man of the name of Hooper, and another man named Allen. I paid a third man's expenses in coming from Swansea, a man named Gardener; but there were three or four more, whose expenses I think came to 10*l.* or 12*l.*; that was for the legitimate travelling expenses of these men. I personally knew most of them; these three men I recollect, but I do not recollect the names of the others.

18,124. Did you make any inquiry whether or not the amounts you paid to them would be fair for travelling expenses?—I did; they amounted to 1*l.*, and in some cases to 1*l.* 10*s.* or 2*l.*; it depended on the distance.

18,125. Nothing was paid to them in respect of their votes, as well as for travelling expenses?—Nothing.

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18,126. That you are clear about?—I am.

18,127. To whom did you pay the remainder of the money?—In the 1853 election there was a man that worked for me named Romans. At that period there was a little refreshment had at his house, amounting to 3*l.* or 4*l.*, and I had told him that if at any time I had the opportunity he should receive that money from me, and I paid it to him either previous to or after the election; that was one portion of it. It was a debt incurred in 1853. I do not know whether I was responsible for it, and the payment of it would not have made any difference in the man's voting.

18,128. That was a debt incurred in 1853, which you paid about the time of the election?—I did.

18,129. Can you remember any other persons to whom you paid money?—No; the balance of this money that was left after paying my own personal expenses must have gone in incidentals.

18,130. That is as far as you can recollect about this matter?—It is. I should like to tell you that from Mr. Ellis I received a further sum of 35*l.* in October; and that was money given to me on account of the petition. Mr. Ellis employed me principally in getting up evidence on the petition. I had to look to the whereabouts of a family named Drinkwater (who, I do not suppose, often drank water), and for my own expenses and trying to get up evidence I received 35*l.*, which Mr. Ellis paid me. That 35*l.* I should say extended over a period of four or five months.

JOHN VINER ELLIS called and further examined.

J. V. Ellis.

18,131. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the election of 1857, we learn from Mr. Price that he paid you different sums of money?—Yes.

18,132. Just see whether or not the amounts agree. On the 1st of April 1857 did he pay you 300*l.*?—Yes.

18,133. May the 8th, 50*l.*?—Yes.

18,134. September the 7th, 200*l.*?—Yes.

18,135. September the 29th, 64*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*?—Yes.

18,136. And on the 1st of February, 32*l.* 9*d.*?—That is correct.

18,137. Are those all the sums you received from Mr. Price?—Yes, those are all the sums I received from Mr. Price.

18,138. Were those the total payments you received in respect both of the election and the petition?—Yes, both for the election and petition.

18,139. Can you divide the expenses, and tell me how much you applied to the election, and how much to the petition?—I applied to the election 235*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, the amount of the auditors' account, including the auditor's fee of 17*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, and there was also a sum of 22*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* to Mr. Jordan for after expenses.

18,140. What was that payment to Mr. Jordan for?—Mr. Jordan gave you the account yesterday; it was made up of five or six items; that account was settled by Mr. Jordan.

18,141. Was that the total amount that was applied to the election of Mr. Price?—It was.

18,142. Were there no additional expenses?—That was all the expense; that is, all I applied to the election account; there is the 83*l.* 15*s.* which I am keeping distinct.

18,143. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you not consider the 83*l.* 15*s.* applied to the election?—I will give you that account afterwards; it will be better, perhaps, to keep them distinct.

18,144. It was stated by Mr. Robert Wilton, that Admiral Berkeley's expenses were 395*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, including the auditor's account?—I do not know how he made that up; whether he put in the 83*l.*, a moiety of the 167*l.*, or not.

18,145. He did?—Then mine is the same. I will make out my account differently from his, if you please, and come to the 83*l.* afterwards; that Mr. Robert Wilton gave me a cheque for. This is all I had from Mr. Price for the election account. I paid Mr. Coppock's bill, upwards of 300*l.*,—the exact amount I cannot say, I think it was about 340*l.*,—I have it not now; then I paid John Chadborn 35*l.*

18,146. That is the last witness?—Yes; that was for the petition; the election account I will come to afterwards; then I had other small expenses for witnesses, and other things.

18,147. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What were the small expenses?—I cannot tell you; the 235*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*, the 22*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, Mr. Chadborn 35*l.*, and Mr. Coppock's 300*l.* or 340*l.*, pretty nearly bring up the amount; my account is, 646*l.*

18,148. That is for the election and petition?—Yes; my cash account with Mr. Price is 646*l.*

18,149. You account for 632*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*?—Yes, and I had some other expenses. My great expense was Mr. Coppock's bill. I had fewer expenses on that petition, because the circumstances were these,—the Conservatives petitioned against Mr. Price because of the petition that had been presented against Sir Robert Carden; I remonstrated with Mr. Wilton, and urged that I should be put to as little expense as possible for witnesses, and Mr. Wilton charged Sir Maurice Berkeley's account, I have no doubt, with as much as he could.

18,150. Altogether, you received 741*l.*, did you not?—£646.

18,151. Was there anything else that you paid?—No, I can remember nothing in connexion with that account; there is another man who comes into this 83*l.* account, who was useful to me, but I had very few petition expenses.

18,152. What do you say to the 83*l.* 15*s.*?—I applied it in this way; there was Mr. Chadborn, 35*l.* for the election, Mr. Jones, 10*l.*

18,153. (*Mr. Welford.*) What Jones is that?—Mr. Samuel Jones; Mr. J. W. Hughes, 10*l.*; a man named Mills,—a man on the petition,—4*l.* 15*s.*

18,154. Is that a man who was said to have been bribed?—Yes, he was subpœnaed on both ides, both on Admiral Berkeley's and Mr. Price's and on Sir Robert Carden's side, and when he returned from London Mr. Wilton paid him. He went to Mr. Lovegrove and he insisted on my giving him something, and we compromised it for 4*l.* 15*s.*; it was considered

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by Mr. Taynton, who was then with Mr. Lovegrove, that that was about a fair amount for his time.

18,155. What is the next item? — Billingham, 19*l.* 10*s.*

18,156. Was he a witness?—He is dead; he was the other man that I employed on the petition, besides Chadborn.

18,157. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What other sum did you pay?—That is all, except telegrams and newspapers; there is a difference, I think, of about 3*l.* I had little expenses continually occurring, which would account for the 3*l.*; we were telegraphing a great deal, and I paid several people money for telegrams.

18,158. Similar sums were paid by Mr. Wilton to these parties, were they not?—No, not by Mr. Wilton to those parties. Mr. Wilton gave me a cheque for 83*l.* 15*s.*, as a moiety of 167*l.* 10*s.*, which, I think, he has described to you; he gave me that 83*l.* 15*s.*, and with that sum I paid the several men I have spoken of.

18,159. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How was the other moiety of the 167*l.* expended?— I had nothing to do with that; Mr. Potter has explained to you that that amount was carried to Mr. Price's account; I took those other accounts and paid them.

18,160. (*Mr. Welford.*) You took the 83*l.* 15*s.* as a payment by Mr. Price?—As a payment by Sir Maurice Berkeley, if anything.

18,161. In order to make up the 167*l.* 10*s.*, you brought into account the 94*l.* 10*s.*, did you not?—Yes.

18,162. With these other sums?—Yes.

18,163. And then you got that from Sir Maurice Berkeley's agent as his moiety of all those sums?—Yes, I did.

18,164. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who was Mr. Samuel Jones to whom there was a payment of 10*l.*?—That payment was not made till September 14th, after the petition, nor did I hear of it till after the petition. I think Mr. Hughes applied to me first and said, that during the election, he had advanced Brewer Monk money to pay travelling expenses, as he said he could not poll his votes for want of it. Mr. Jones also gave him 10*l.* I asked Brewer Monk about it, and he said the money went for travelling expenses.

18,165. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is Mr. Samuel Jones a resident in Gloucester?—In the neighbourhood.

18,166. And is Mr. Hughes also a resident here?—He is.

18,167. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I do not exactly understand from whom you got that cheque of 83*l.* 15*s.*?—From Mr. Robert Wilton, as the agent of Sir Maurice Berkeley.

18,168. Part of that money, I understand, went towards the payment of the expenses of the petition?—Billingham's; nothing more than his; he was most active in the petition and was of greater use to me, except Mr. Chadborn, than any one.

18,169. There was only one cheque for 83*l.* 15*s.*?—Nothing else.

18,170. Did you pay to the various parties the sums you have mentioned?—Yes.

18,171. Did any other sums of money with respect to that election pass through your hands, besides those you have mentioned?—No.

18,172. Did you yourself know that money was illegally spent at the election?—No, I did not, and I had every reason to believe that none was being spent. The day of the election was the most troublesome one I ever had; the people were clamouring so for money that I was obliged to go down to Messrs. Phillpott's office and take refuge there; I could not stand it.

18,173. People were clamouring to you?—To everybody.

18,174. Were they clamouring for money from both parties?—Well, I saw very clearly as the fly sheets came in that there was money going on the other side, and the voters saw the fly sheets too, and they knew it and that made them worse, I think.

18,175. When people came clamouring to you, what did they say?—"We could win the election with a little money;" all through the day I said I had orders not to spend money, and that if half-a-crown would win the election nothing should induce me to spend it; I did not, nor did I sanction the expenditure of any money.

18,176. Were they voters who came to you and said that?—Yes, most of them, and some of them were friends of voters.

18,177. Did they say that if you did not give them money they would vote on the other side?—That they always say; if they want to get money they will always say they can get it on the other side.

18,178. Whether it is true or false?—Yes, they always say that.

18,179. Do they come and say these things when they are not true?—Yes, they do. I have no doubt they say the same thing to the other side, for that is part of their scheme. They begin with both sides; they go to one side and say, "The other side are spending "money, and now you must begin."

18,180. You say you took refuge in Mr. Phillpott's office to avoid these importunities?—I did.

18,181. You resisted them throughout the day?—Yes, and I was not aware that any money was spent; both Sir Maurice Berkeley and Mr. Price were so decided upon that matter that I did not know that any had been spent.

18,182. You did not know that any application from Brewer Monk for travelling expenses had met with a response?—Not till after the petition, when Mr. Hughes asked me for his money; I asked Brewer Monk about it, and he told me it was for that, and said he could give me the names.

18,183. We shall know from Brewer Monk how he spent the money; but with the exception of that illegal expenditure (if it were illegal), are you aware of any money having been improperly spent at that election?—No, there was no fund to pay travelling expenses; if he had come to me, it being a moot point whether the payment of travelling expenses was legal or not, I should have been so frightened about it that I would not have advanced him a shilling.

18,184. We have generally found that here travelling expenses means more than the expenses of travelling?—I am well aware of that.

18,185. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know to what extent money was spent on the Liberal side for the municipal elections?—They cannot get much; really I cannot say much for the Liberal party about that; if anybody was to give the money I believe they would spend it, but they cannot get it. I want to say just what the fact is, with regard to municipal matters; the party that gets the most money (and usually the Conservatives are the most fortunate in that) generally succeeds.

18,186. Do you think that success in obtaining a seat in the municipal council depends mainly upon the expenditure of money?—Altogether; there is no "mainly" in it; they are not very particular about the qualification; we have had some strange people elected; Mr. Kirk, for instance.

18,187. Do you think that the expenditure of money to secure seats in the municipal council would not be a useful application of money by the Liberal party?—I do not exactly share the opinion which I heard Mr. Price express as to that; I think it has an influence to some extent, but not to so great an extent as he appears to think. I do not fancy it influences the parliamentary elections so much as he thinks; it does influence them to some extent no doubt, but Mr. Price I think is disposed to attach more importance to a municipal expenditure than I am.

18,188. You do not think that the organization that ensues from the expenditure of money for the purpose of municipal elections is useful with reference to parliamentary elections?—Yes; there, I think, lies its great strength.

18,189. Is that because the same agents who purchase votes or bring up votes in the one case will be ready agents to bring up votes in the other?—Yes.

18,190. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It produces a combina-

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tion and a cohesion of parties?—Yes, it is useful, no doubt, in that way; and then there is an intimacy created by it, and people say, "You voted for us in "the municipal election, and we hope you will do so "in the parliamentary."

18,191. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you find that the same agents who communicate with the voters in the municipal elections are the men who communicate with the lower class of voters in the parliamentary elections?—Yes.

18,192. And that is the case, I suppose, on both sides?—Yes, on both sides.

18,193. You say it is difficult to get money on the Liberal side for the purpose of municipal election: is more money spent in those elections on the Conservative than there is on the Liberal side?—Yes, there is not the least doubt of that.

18,194. Do you believe that considerable sums are spent on the Conservative side in that way?—Yes, I believe they have been spent, and that they are spent.

18,195. Are you aware that Mr. Eassie is said to have spent 500*l.* on a municipal contest between himself and Mr. Stafford?—That was a contest that I never saw the like of in the city; I should think it cost both candidates 500*l.*, if it cost them a penny; there were bands and colours, and treating to an extent that was perfectly fearful.

18,196. When did this contest occur?—About five years ago, I think.

18,197. Were Mr. Eassie and Mr. Stafford men of sufficient fortune to be able to afford such an expenditure?—Mr. Eassie had the means; as to Mr. Stafford I should certainly say he had not. I should not think he would spend 500*l.* in electioneering.

18,198. Was there at that time a subscription made?—I should think Mr. Stafford's expenses must have been met by a subscription from the wealthier parties. I do not say anything against his property; but I should not think he could afford to spend 500*l.* in a municipal contest.

18,199. Is it your opinion that persons who had voted for the blue party at a municipal election would vote for the yellow party at a parliamentary election?—Sometimes they do; it is on that account that I do not go as far as Mr. Price. Whenever a parliamentary contest comes again, those people who receive bribes are always looking out for themselves.

18,200. But does that change in the character of their voting result from a larger amount of money being paid at the parliamentary election on the one side than would be paid on the other?—I do not know.

18,201. If they voted blue at the municipal election, and yellow at the parliamentary election, would that difference in their mode of voting arise from the fact of their being paid more money at the parliamentary election for voting on the yellow side than for voting on the blue side?—I should think that is very likely. I should think the amount of money would influence them altogether.

18,202. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Has the expenditure at municipal elections been considerable since the contest between Mr. Eassie and Mr. Stafford?—I think it has been very much worse since that election.

18,203. And has that been continued down to the present time?—I have thought that neither party has been able to get so much money the last contest or two; there has not been so much money going; they have not polled the same numbers; you can generally tell how things are going by that.

18,204. Is it your opinion that the corruption existing at municipal elections tends materially to demoralize the minds of the electors at parliamentary elections?—It is my decided opinion that it does.

18,205. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know whether, in the election of 1857, a person of the name of Dobbs was brought up from Bristol, and put on as an inspector, employed for a few minutes only, and then paid 5*l.*, his employment being merely colourable?—I do not know it; I do not know the name of Dobbs.

18,206. Who was the person who would put on inspectors?—I do not know; Mr. Wilton managed the books for the hustings, and, I think, the inspectors and poll clerks. I appointed none; I think, as he had more to do with it, he did that.

18,207. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In the election auditor's account, messengers are charged 34*l.*?—Yes.

18,208. Had Mr. Brewer Monk the whole control of them?—Yes.

18,209. Mr. Brewer Monk was the person who had, under you and Mr. Jordan, the sole direction of that part of the election?—Yes; and the clerks in the writing-room, too.

18,210. Was there anybody but Mr. Brewer Monk who had anything to do with the appointment of messengers?—No; I looked to Monk altogether.

18,211. In the election in 1859, the Reform Club generally seem to have acted?—Yes.

18,212. But in 1857 no one acted but Brewer Monk?—No one but Brewer Monk.

18,213. Are not the sheriff's charges in Gloucester very large?—I think they are. Mr. Monk last time objected to the sheriff's charges very much, telling us what he paid at Cricklade; he said the charges were excessive, and instructed his agent not to pay them. I said, I was willing to pay whatever was satisfactory to Mr. Monk and his agent.

18,214. Do you know how they came to be so high?—No; he sent us the particulars, but I have not them with me; the amount seemed to me very large.

18,215. (*Mr. Welford.*) That charge includes the erection of the hustings, does it not?—Yes; but the contract for that was about 25*l.* Then there were the poll clerks he had.

18,216. In point of law, the candidates ought not to pay the expense of hustings at all?—No; the sheriff is compelled to provide hustings. Mr. Matthews was annoyed because we objected to what he wished to do this time.

18,217. Is the expense increased in consequence of the number of polling booths?—It may be a little increased, but the polling booths are all in front of this building; there is only one polling place, though there are several booths.

W. Probert, jun.

WILLIAM PROBERT, junior, called and further examined.

18,218. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What part did you take in the election of 1857?—I was engaged as canvassing clerk.

18,219. Were you engaged by Brewer Monk?—I think it was him who spoke to me first about it.

18,220. Had you anything to do with the employment of messengers under Brewer Monk?—No.

18,221. Nothing at all?—I think not. I may perhaps have recommended one or two; I am not certain.

18,222. Had you anything to do with the payment of them?—I think not.

18,223. Did you receive any money at that election?—I did.

18,224. How much did you receive?—£10 for my services and expenses on the canvass.

18,225. Who paid it to you?—I think it was Mr. Robert Wilton. I am not certain, it is so long ago now.

18,226. Did you pay any money to any voters?—Yes.

18,227. To whom?—To a person named Goode I paid 4*l.*; he is not on the register.

18,228. What was he?—A tailor.

18,229. Was he a freeman?—No, a householder.

18,230. Where did he live in 1857?—In Westgate Street; I gave it to the son for him.

18,231. Did you give that to his son for his vote?—Yes; he said he was tempted by Mr. Ward; that he was bothering him for some time previous; in fact, that he had offered him and his son 10*l.* not to vote at all.

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18,232. (*Mr. Welford.*) His son was a voter then?—Yes; but he received nothing for his vote; not the son; he had voted when I gave him the money for his father.

18,233. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How long before the election was it that he told you Ward had offered him 10*l.*?—On the morning of the polling.

18,234. How came you to give him the 4*l.*?—He had always been a good man of ours. I never knew him have a penny before, but he said business was very bad with him, or words to that effect, and that money was very tempting.

18,235. When was it that you paid him the 4*l.*?—On the morning of the polling day, before he polled.

18,236. (*Mr. Welford.*) At what time in the morning?—I think it was getting mid-day, between twelve and one.

18,237. He was hanging back?—He was, through this temptation which had been held out to him by Ward.

18,238. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You gave him that for his vote for Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley?—Yes, I suppose so; I did not tell him who to vote for, but he took the money and went and polled.

18,239. From whom did you get that money?—From Brewer Monk.

18,240. Did you tell Brewer Monk that you wanted the 4*l.* to give to Goode?—No; I went to him and said, "Cannot we get any money? we are losing our "men; our good men are running away. Cannot you "get me a few pounds? if you can, I think I could "stop some of them," or words to that effect, and he gave me, I think, 8*l.* or 9*l.*, to do the best I could with it.

18,241. You found out that your own men were running away, and you got money from him to prevent their doing so?—Yes.

18,242. What other persons did you find running away?—I gave a man named Hyett some money.

18,243. What is his christian name?—Lewis Hyett I think his name is; he was very tipsy at the time.

18,244. How much did you give him?—£3.

18,245. Where does he live?—I think he has left the country. I have not heard anything of him for some time past.

18,246. Where was he living in 1857?—He resided in College Street.

18,247. You gave him that for his vote for Price and Berkeley?—Yes.

18,248. What other person did you give money to?—That is all that I have any recollections of.

18,249. Those two?—Those two.

18,250. What time in the day did you get the money from Monk?—It must have been mid-day I should think.

18,251. It was mid-day when you received it from him?—Yes.

18,252. Did you offer any money to any person?—No, I do not recollect that I did; I have no recollection whatever of offering other people any money.

18,253. Where did you meet Lewis Hyett?—I found him at the Crown; a man named Rea had been tampering with him, and had offered him 3*l.* to vote for Carden he told me.

18,254. You found him at the Crown?—Yes.

18,255. Was that Henry Rea?—Yes, the same man.

18,256. Do you know how Hyett had voted at previous elections?—I do not think he was a voter previous to that, but he always professed liberal principles.

18,257. (*Mr. Welford.*) You considered him one of your men?—I did; if the other parties had not promised him money, I think he would have voted for us for nothing.

18,258. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you consider Goode a Liberal?—He had voted many times for us, and to the best of my belief he had never had anything before that.

18,259. Do you know where Hyett lives now?—No.

18,260. Do you know where Thomas Goode lives?—I think he lives in Barton Street.

18,261. Do you know any other persons who were bribed to vote for Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley upon that occasion?—No, not to the best of my recollection.

18,262. Did you offer a person of the name of John Powell any money?—I do not know him. I do not know a voter of that name.

18,263. You do not know John Powell?—To the best of my recollection I do not know him.

18,264. Did you offer any person 5*l.* at the election of 1857 to vote for Berkeley and Price?—Not that I recollect.

18,265. You say you do not know John Powell and you did not offer him any money at all?—At this moment I do not recollect him; I do not know any one of that name.

18,266. Do you know a person of the name of Thomas Lapington?—Yes.

18,267. Did you offer him any money?—No.

18,268. Do you know whether he was bribed?—No, I do not.

18,269. Do you know anything of a person named Brewer in Suffolk Street?—No.

18,270. You do not know a person of that name?—No, I do not to the best of my belief and recollection.

18,271. Do you know a person of the name of Snowsell?—Yes.

18,272. Did you offer Snowsell any money?—No.

18,273. Do you know whether he was bribed at that election?—I do not.

18,274. Do you know a person of the name of Jermey?—Yes.

18,275. Do you know whether that man was bribed?—I do not.

18,276. Did you offer him any money?—No.

18,277. Do you know a man of the name of King?—I know him also, but I never offered him anything.

18,278. Do you know whether King was bribed?—I do not.

18,279. Do you know a person of the name of Edward Butler?—Yes.

18,280. Do you know if he was bribed?—I do not.

18,281. Frederick Bailey?—Yes; I know Frederick Bailey very well.

18,282. Did you offer him any money?—I did not.

18,283. Have you any knowledge about his being bribed?—I have not; not the least.

18,284. Does your memory serve you as to any other persons to whom you gave money besides the two you have mentioned?—No; I cannot recollect any but those two.

18,285. Have you told us all the money that passed through your hands?—Yes, to the best of my recollection. I may have received a pound or two more; I cannot tell exactly; it is three years ago.

18,286. Did you treat any voters?—It was not a system of treating, but if a man polled for us I may have treated him with a glass as a good friend of the cause.

18,287. You did not treat any person for the purpose of getting his vote?—No, not that I am aware of.

18,288. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any of the men who have been named to you apply to you for money?—Not to the best of my recollection.

18,289. Had you any applications from other persons besides the two to whom you paid money?—Yes; a man named George Bowers the night before the polling came to me and asked me what was to be done.

18,290. He wanted money?—Yes; he said there were three or four of them together. I told him there was no money on our side whatever.

18,291. What did he say?—He said he did not think that was right at first. I said to him, "I have

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" tried everywhere I know of to get some ; I see we " shall be beaten if we do not."

18,292. You told him that?—Yes ; I said, "We " cannot move ; I do not know where to go to; they " are taking them all off;" he said, "Well then I " must go and try what I can do on the other side," or some words to that effect. He said, he had heard something about Brewer Monk,—that he had no money here, and that he thought, perhaps, I had got some.

18,293. Did you mention these applications at the committee room?—Me and Monk would have a conversation ; it was of no use to mention it there, for if you said a word about money, they would not listen to you.

18,294. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You had been actively engaged at previous elections had you not?—No.

18,295. How came the voters to apply to you?—Because I canvassed them.

18,296. Was it because you had canvassed him that Bowers thought you a likely person to have money?—Having had to do with the registration, and with the party, he would naturally come to me.

18,297. (*Mr. Welford.*) You had assisted in the registration?—Yes ; I had assisted Monk.

18,298. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You had been employed before that, had you not?—Yes ; I think for one year before, 1857.

18,299. And that is the reason why you think Bowers would naturally apply to you?—Yes, seeing me about at the election, and on the canvass, and so on.

18,300. Have you taken any part in the municipal elections?—Some little.

18,301. On the Liberal side?—Yes.

18,302. Has much money been spent in the municipal elections?—There has been some ; there was one very strong contest between Mr. Eassie and Mr. Stafford.

18,303. Do you give money to the municipal electors for voting for the Liberal candidates?—Yes ; sometimes we are obliged to do so if our opponents do.

18,304. Do you consider that when men have voted on your side at the municipal elections that gives you a sort of claim upon them to vote for the Liberals at the parliamentary elections?—No ; certainly not.

18,305. You think there is no connexion between the two?—No ; they are not the same class of men.

18,306. Some of the municipal voters have not parliamentary votes; No; that is the case as to a great many of them.

18,307. Do the men who take money for giving their parliamentary votes take money for giving their municipal votes?—There is no doubt that many of them do.

18,308. Is that within your own knowledge?—Yes.

18,309. And do those who vote for the yellow side in municipal elections consider themselves bound at all to give a preference to the yellow side in parliamentary contests?—No ; I have never found that to be the case.

18,310. You think there is no connexion between the two?—Sometimes; men that we call our own good men never run away from us.

18,311. Your own good men vote for you in both sorts of elections?—Yes.

18,312. Supposing you had bought an elector in a municipal contest, should you expect to be able to buy him in a parliamentary contest?—I could speak more freely to him, I think.

18,313. Corruption once begun in the one case is likely to be followed in the other?—Yes.

18,314. But I suppose there are many men in humble circumstances in Gloucester to whom you would never think of offering a bribe in either case?—Yes, many.

18,315. Persons who have votes at parliamentary elections and municipal elections, if they are venal are venal at one election as well as at the other?—I believe they are.

D. Fear.

DAVID FEAR sworn and examined.

18,316. (*Mr. Welford.*) You are a cooper?—Yes.

18,317. Have you transactions in business with Messrs. Price and Company?—I have.

18,318. Have you ever received during the past year a discount of 40 per cent. off any account in respect of which you were indebted to Messrs. Price as a consideration for your vote?—I never have.

18,319. Have you ever received in any way a discount so large as 40 per cent. off any account in which you might have been indebted to them?—No.

18,320. Has any inducement been held out to you to vote for Mr. Price in consideration of your having a considerable discount or rebate in respect of any amount in which you might be indebted to them?—Not in the least.

18,321. Your vote has not been influenced by any consideration of that kind?—Not the least ; they know themselves too well to speak to me about my vote.

18,322. Have you ever had anything more than the usual discount?—Never.

18,323. What would the usual discount be?—For the last bill (I cannot exactly say the amount of the bill, but I think it was 140*l.* and some few shillings), I gave Mr. Jeffs a cheque for 138*l.* ; I was allowed two pounds three or four shillings, or something like that. I think the bill was 140*l.* 2*s.*, or 5*s.*

18,324. And that is the ordinary rate of discount?—They always allow me something, but I never had so large a discount as that before. In fact I never paid them so large a bill before, but they charged me 21*l.* a thousand for staves which I could have bought in Bristol at the same time for 18*l.* 18*s.* ; of course I did not know it at the time, and I said to Mr. Jeffs, " You must allow me something on this account as I " could have bought the staves cheaper in Bristol.

18,325. Then any allowance that has been made to you has been made purely upon commercial grounds, and no other?—No other.

18,326. You have come down to give this explanation yourself, I believe?—Yes.

18,327. You were not summoned?—No.

J. L. Hadley.

JOSEPH LEONARD HADLEY sworn and examined.

18,328. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you a supporter of Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley in 1857?—Yes.

18,329. Did you pay away any money on their behalf at that election?—No.

18,330. Did you receive any money from any person to pay away for them?—No.

18,331. Did you offer any money to any person in 1857 to vote for Messrs. Price and Monk?—No.

18,332. Do you know any person who did?—No.

18,333. Or any person who gave money?—No.

18,334. Did any money pass through your hands in 1859 with reference to the election?—No.

18,335. You neither received nor paid any money in support of the election of Mr. Price and Mr. Monk?—No.

18,336. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you canvass actively at either of those elections?—No, I did not.

18,337. Did any of the voters apply to you for money?—No.

18,338. Not upon the occasion of either election?—No, they did not.

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J. W. Hughes.

15 Oct. 1859.

JOHN WODLEY HUGHES sworn and examined.

18,339. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A draper.

18,340. Did you receive any money in 1857 at the election?—No, I paid some money.

18,341. What money did you pay?—10*l.*

18,342. To whom?—To Brewer Monk.

18,343. When?—On the day of the election.

18,344. What for?—He told me it was to pay some travelling expenses, and so on; it was about eleven o'clock in the day as near as I can remember.

18,345. Did he say for whom he wanted it?—No; he did not say it was for any one in particular; he merely said he wanted to pay travelling expenses, and so on; that he was very much pushed for money, and I advanced him 10*l.*

18,346. Do you know how it was that he came to you?—Or, rather, I may say, I was down at the place at about eleven o'clock, and he stated that he was very much pushed for money, that there was no money going forward, and that he would feel obliged to me if I would make an advance of a small sum of money.

18,347. Was that in the committee-room?—No; it was somewhere near there, near the polling booth: he said it was to pay travelling expenses, and so on. Perhaps I had better state exactly how it was, for I did not exactly pay it myself. I said "If you require "the money and will go to Mr. Newman, he will "advance you 10*l.*, and I will see him and give "directions to that effect." I think I did not pay it myself, but I was responsible for it.

18,348. He was to go to Mr. Newman and make use of your name, and say you would guarantee the payment of it?—Mr. Newman had the management of my business at that time.

18,349. He was your manager?—Yes, my manager. I then went up the street and saw Mr. Newman, and told him if Mr. Brewer Monk should come to him for any money to let him have 10*l.*

18,350. Did you suspect when you said you would let him have 10*l.*, that it was to be devoted to the bribing of voters?—I did not suspect it at first, but afterwards my suspicions were aroused, though I had no knowledge of the thing.

18,351. When were your suspicions aroused?—An hour or two afterwards in the day I saw there was very great confusion among the different voters, and I suspected then that the money might have been wanted for other purposes than travelling expenses, but I did not know it; he said it was for travelling expenses.

18,352. What did you see?—Nothing particular. I never saw any money pass, but I saw parties who seemed to be excited and a little in liquor, and so on.

18,353. Did you think, when you saw that, that your money was devoted to bribery?—No, I did not think that, but still I was not satisfied; he told me when I let him have the money that it was for travelling expenses, and there it ended.

18,354. And you saw that some of the voters were rather excited by liquor?—Some of them were coming from one side and from the other; some were coming from the blue committee room and some from the Liberal. I saw there was great excitement going forward; between twelve and one o'clock in the day that was, I should say.

18,355. You saw people coming in liquor from 12 to 1 o'clock in the day from both committees?—At least, I fancied they were in liquor; they were excited, at all events, if they were not in liquor.

18,356. Was that the only sum of money that you paid?—The only sum.

18,357. Do you know of any other person having advanced money in the same way that you did?—I heard that Mr. Samuel Jones had advanced money.

18,358. Did you hear how much he had advanced?—£10.

18,359. Did you hear of any other person who had advanced money?—No, no other.

18,360. Did you know of any persons who were bribed at that election?—I did not.

18,361. You did not hear from any person that bribes were given, either on one side or on the other?—I heard general conversation going forward, but I cannot state any particular person or persons; it was merely general rumour, if I may so express it.

18,362. General rumour that there was bribery on both sides?—It may have been so.

18,363. Was it so?—I cannot exactly say; the general rumour was, that there was bribery going forward, but I do not know that it went further than that.

18,364. Was the bribery confined to one side, or was it extended to both?—I do not know that it was confined to either side; it did not specify either side.

18,365. Did you advance any money at the election in 1859?—No.

18,366. Were you applied to for any money?—No.

18,367. Do you know of any person who did advance any money?—No.

18,368. Do you know any persons who were bribed in 1859?—No.

18,369. Did you take the same active part in 1859 that you had taken in 1857?—No, I did not canvass at all. When Sir Maurice Berkeley retired I retired also, if may so express it; I took no active part.

18,370. Mr. Brewer Monk was not so hard pressed for money, was he, in 1859, as he was in 1857?—I do not know anything about that.

18,371. However, there was no occasion to resort to you?—They did not resort to me.

18,372. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive the 10*l.* afterwards which Newman had paid to Brewer Monk?—Yes; Newman told me some time afterwards that it was paid.

18,373. By whom was it paid?—I do not know who it was paid by.

18,374. To whom did you mention the fact that you had advanced 10*l.* to Brewer Monk?—I think it must have been Mr. Ellis or Mr. Wilton; Mr. Ellis, I should think.

18,375. When did you first tell Mr. Ellis that you had advanced this money?—That I cannot say.

18,376. Was it at the time of the election?—Soon afterwards. I told him that I was applied to by Brewer Monk for this 10*l.* for expenses, and that I had advanced it; I think I told Mr. Ellis that soon afterwards.

18,377. Had you heard the general rumours of bribery to which you have referred before you let Brewer Monk have the 10*l.*?—No, I had not; nor for an hour or two or three hours afterwards.

18,378. And you then began to suspect that your 10*l.* might have had something to do with it?—I did not know about that, for Brewer Monk asked for it for a specific purpose.

18,379. Perhaps you are aware that the term "travelling expenses" in Gloucester implies a good deal more than the cost of travelling?—Perhaps it may.

18,380. Were you aware of that?—No; he stated that it was for travelling expenses for out-voters who were coming in and so on.

18,381. You had not taken an active part in canvassing voters had you?—I canvassed with Sir Maurice Berkeley on that occasion in 1857.

18,382. You saw nothing indicating bribery or corruption?—No.

18,383. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you heard the complaints that have been spoken of that there was no money at the committee room?—Yes; I heard that generally, that there was no money on the liberal side.

18,384. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you heard that before you advanced your 10*l.* to Brewer Monk?—Yes.

18,385. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know that Mr. Ellis had taken refuge in Mr. Phillpotts's office in order to get out of the way of voters who were importuning for money?—No; but I think it very likely, for I heard at the time, now that you remind me of it, that Mr. Ellis was not to be found; I think I heard so.

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JOSEPH MOSS called and further examined.

J. Moss.

15 Oct. 1859.

18,386. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What part did you take in the election of 1857?—I canvassed the same as I had always done for years past.

18,387. What else did you do?—I did nothing more in 1857; nothing at all.

18,388. Did you give any money to any persons?—No, I had none to give; I never had any in my life but on the present occasion from the party in any shape or form for bribery purposes, or for any other purposes that I know of.

18,389. Were you applied to in 1857 by any persons for money?—Yes, continually.

18,390. By whom?—I cannot recollect now, because it is a common practice in Gloucester for them to ask; that is it is a common practice with all those who are in the habit of receiving money to ask if they cannot get something this time on one side; that is the general remark.

18,391. You were continually applied to by voters were you?—Yes, I was.

18,392. How long before the election in 1857, were you applied to for money?—Two or three days is the general time when they begin to inquire what they will be able to get.

18,393. Did they come to you because they knew that at former elections they had received money from you?—No; but because I have always been a canvasser, and they have generally reported to me what they wanted. I am pretty generally known in the town, more especially among the working classes.

18,394. Had you obtained money for them at previous elections?—Never.

18,395. You never gave any money as a bribe to any voter at previous elections?—Never in my life to the best of my knowledge. I have reported the names to the different parties concerned in the election; I have told Mr. Hudson in his lifetime what parties have said they would be glad to get, but I never gave anything in my life, and never knew whether the parties received it or not with any certainty.

18,396. When Mr. Hudson was alive you reported the names to him?—Yes.

18,397. And when he was dead to whom did you report the names?—I think I reported them to Mr. Brewer Monk.

18,398. Did you report any in 1852?—I have no recollection that I did; I dare say I did, I have no doubt I did; I generally have done so.

18,399. Did you in the election of 1853?—I have no recollection of it.

18,400. Did you in the election of 1847?—I do not recollect who were the members at that time, I never took any part till Mr. Price retired out of the field the night before the election, and then I sat on a committee consisting of a few friends who were determined that there should be no bribery. We sat at Mr. Higgs's room, some thirty or forty of us, and said we would not support Mr. Price unless he came forward on entirely purity principles; that was the time when Mr. Price was requested to retire at twelve o'clock at night.

18,401. In the elections that followed after the election of 1847 you seem to have reported the names of persons who came to you to know whether there was any money to be had?—I do not know whether I gave the names or not.

18,402. But you reported that there were such persons?—In 1857, the first election of Sir Robert Carden's, finding the men in an excited state and offering to vote on our side for very small sums, I did go into the room and ask for a private audience with Mr. Ellis and Mr. Wilton, and I believe I became rather too severe with them, and said they were letting the election be lost for want of a little money; but I am not aware that I mentioned any names; men were then standing about the streets in all directions.

18,403. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you say that there were fifteen men who would vote for Price and Berkeley if they were paid for their day's work?—I think I told them that there were more than fifteen men standing in the streets who would vote if they would find them a little money.

18,404. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say that you were severe at that election with Mr. Ellis and Mr. Wilton; why were you severe with them?—Because I thought we were losing the election through not paying a few men for their day's work, and because while the other side were doing so much in the shape of bribery we were doing nothing at all.

18,405. Did you find that you could get no money from them?—Mr. Ellis said he would not give a shilling, for that Sir Robert Carden would be sure to disfranchise the place; and not being able to do anything I retired from the room in disgust.

18,406. You were disgusted because they would not do anything in the shape of bribery, when the others were doing so much?—The men wanted to be paid for their day's work.

18,407. To whom did you report in 1852, that there were persons who had applied to you to know if there was any money?—I am sure I cannot say; I should fancy it must have been to Brewer Monk. I think he was the agent at that time acting for the party, but I do not recollect.

18,408. If you reported it to anybody in 1852 it was to Mr. Brewer Monk?—I should fancy so.

18,409. Do you know whether Mr. Hudson was alive in 1852?—I do not; I never take any notice, or have anything to do with elections, except at election times. I get too excited, and I would rather keep out of it.

18,410. You got excited at the last election, did you not?—I generally do, unfortunately for me.

18,411. Do I understand you to say that you did not know of any money being advanced at the election of 1857?—Not a farthing.

18,412. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have mentioned Mr. Hudson's name; were you cognisant of his mode of operation on the electors at Gloucester in those day?—Not much, I was a young beginner at election matters altogether in those days.

18,413. You were not acquainted with his secrets?—No, I was not.

18,414. Were you aware that he had the command of any sums of money?—No, I was not.

18,415. (*Mr. Welford.*) In the election of 1857, did you understand that the blue party were paying money to voters for their votes?—I am so well acquainted with many what are called venal voters, who always expect money, that when I see them go up to poll, I am quite certain they would not vote unless they were paid.

18,416. How early on the polling day in 1857 did you see such men go up to poll?—Continually; quite early in the morning; many of them came at nine, and between that and ten.

18,417. Was that for the blue side?—Yes, and I went and reported the case.

18,418. Did you find men of that kind who usually voted for the yellow party, abstaining from voting?—They were standing idle about the street, thinking that they ought to get a little as well as the others.

18,419. There were voters who you considered your own men, standing about waiting for money?—Decidedly there were.

18,420. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know those persons yourself by sight?—A great many.

18,421. Could you give us a list of them?—I could not now, but you have had, I think, the greater number of those that I know anything about.

18,422. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose when a man has once received a bribe he generally expects it at future elections?—Yes, you may generally calculate upon that man being always picked up.

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J. Coopey.

15 Oct. 1859.

JOHN COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,423. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A freeman.

18,424. What is your business?—A dealer.

18,425. Where do you live?—I live in the parish of Churcham.

18,426. What do you deal in?—Sheep, and pigs, and cattle.

18,427. Who did you vote for at the election at Gloucester in 1859?—Sir Robert Carden.

18,428. What did you receive for your vote?—£7.

18,429. Who paid it you?—This gentlemen here, John Ward.

18,430. He paid it to you yourself, did he?—He did.

18,431. Did you receive it on behalf of anybody else?—No, he gave it me; he said he would give me 7*l.* if I would vote for Sir Robert Carden, and I told him I would, and I did so.

18,432. Where did he pay it to you?—At William Tandy's, at the Rising Sun.

18,433. Was that after you had voted?—No, before.

18,434. How did you come into Gloucester. Did you come in with any more voters?—Yes, there was a lot more of us—eight or nine—we Coopeys was together; we came in on a coach.

18,435. Who did you vote for at the election before the last, in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

18,436. And what did you receive for your vote then?—£3.

18,437. Who paid it to you?—John Ward.

18,438. Did he pay it into your own hand, or did he pay it to anybody else for you?—I think he paid it into another person's hands, but I had the money after.

18,439. You were present when it was paid, I suppose?—No, I did not see the money, but another person gave it to me.

18,440. Who gave it to you?—My sister.

18,441. What is her name?—Mary Coopey.

18,442. Had you voted before 1857?—I have voted four times; I voted twice for Mr. Hope, and twice for Mr. Carden.

18,443. What did you receive when you voted for Mr. Hope?—Nothing at all.

18,444. How was it that you came to vote for nothing?—Nobody ever offered me anything, and I could not take it.

18,445. Then the election in 1857 was the first election at which you were paid for your vote?—That was the first money that ever I had for voting.

18,446. That you swear?—Yes. In 1857 I was paid, and I do not see altogether why I should not be. I lost the market through coming to vote, the polling day happened to be on Saturday, I could not take my things to market, and I do not think that what I had was too much for my expenses.

18,447. What market do you attend?—The Gloucester market, and sometimes Worcester.

18,448. Is Saturday the market day in Gloucester?—Yes.

18,449. How long does it take you to go to poll; does it take five minutes?—I was in before the polling began. We went to the Rising Sun and had to walk down again. We could not all poll at one time; we polled as fast as we could, but I was too late for the market; I do not know exactly what time I voted; 10 o'clock perhaps.

18,450. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many were there at the Rising Sun in 1859?—That I could not tell you, some walked in and out.

18,451. How many of your family were there?—That I could not tell you.

18,452. How many are there of your own family?—Two brothers and my own self; William, John, and Joseph; they are living in different places.

18,453. How many cousins have you got?—That I cannot tell you.

18,454. How many of your family, mothers, cousins, sisters, and brothers, and so forth, were assembled together at the Rising Sun in 1859?—Most of them were there.

18,455. About how many were there altogether?—Eight or nine.

18,456. Eight or nine, including your sister, and all the rest of your family?—My sister was not there.

18,457. Was your wife there?—No, I came on the coach with a lot more Coopeys.

18,458. Was the coach taken out for you?—I do not know, but a lot of us was brought in on the coach.

18,459. How many came?—I could not tell you; there was women and children; it was a coach full.

18,460. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who drove the coach?—One of the servants from the Bell, I think; but I know I rode in on the coach.

18,461. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many of your cousins and brothers were there; were there eight or nine of them?—I should think there were; we are three brothers, and I have a man as works with me, he came along, Joseph Coopey.

18,462. There were eight or nine brothers and cousins?—Yes.

18,463. They were all voters?—Yes.

18,464. And sisters and wives?—No; my brother's wife, Joseph Coopey's wife, came along, but not my wife; she never came on the coach, and I do not know that either of my cousin's wives came.

18,465. How many women were there on the coach, belonging to the Coopey family?—That I do not know; I rode in the front part of the coach; I could not see what there was behind; there was a lot of them—I cannot say whether they were freemen's wives or not,—but there was a lot of them; there was a load on the coach of some sort.

18,466. Were they not all your own family and the family of your cousins and so on?—There were a good many there. I did not know who they were for, whether they were Yellows or Blues, or what they were.

18,467. How long before the election was it that you had agreed with Ward for the 7*l.*?—I think it was the day of the election.

18,468. Not before?—No.

18,469. Had you had no contract or arrangement with him before that?—No; I never asked him about money.

18,470. Do you remember Mr. Ward and Mr. Clutterbuck coming out and having a drink of cider?—I saw them over there.

18,471. Were you all assembled together?—I do not know that we were all there, but some of us were.

18,472. Were you not there all together four or five of you?—Yes.

18,473. Did you not strike a bargain then?—No; I never struck any bargain at all with Mr. Ward.

18,474. Did you all get alike for your votes; were you all paid the same sum?—I do not know what the others had; I know what I had myself. I did not see the others pass any money; I did not trouble myself about them.

18,475. Was not the money paid to you when you were all together?—He might pay other people; I did not see him pay them. He paid me and I was satisfied.

18,476. You only received seven sovereigns?—I only received the seven sovereigns that he gave to me; what he did with the others I do not know. I did not see him pay any money to anybody.

18,477. Did you get any money for the dead man that was paid for?—I was a live man.

18,478. Did you receive any money for the dead man?—No, all the money I received was for myself.

18,479. You did not receive any money for the dead man?—No.

18,480. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not poll for the

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J. Coppey.
15 Oct. 1859.

dead Coopey?—No, I am a live Coopey, and polled for myself.

18,481. You did not poll twice?—No, I did not that day. I have polled twice for Sir Robert.

18,482. But you did not poll twice in one day?—No.

18,483. Who was it that polled for the Coopey whose name was on the register, and who was then dead?—That I do not know; I did not see any body polling for the dead man.

18,484. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was the John Coopey, who is dead, your father?—No; my father has been dead these 25 years.

18,485. Who was that John Coopey?—He was a first cousin of mine.

18,486. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did he die?—Eighteen months ago, or upwards of that.

18,487. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you come in the same way in 1857 that you did in 1859. Did you all come in a coach?—We did to the best of my knowledge; I know I rode in.

18,488. You all came in, in a coach in the same way as you did in 1857?—A coach or a fly; there was a lot of us together, but whether we were all together I cannot say.

18,489. Where did you get your money paid in 1857?—I could not be accountable for that now.

18,490. Was it at the Upper George?—I think it was; to the best of my knowledge that was the place.

18,491. Are you quite certain that you never got anything before 1857 for your vote?—Never a farthing.

18,492. Nor for your expenses?—No, no more than I might go and get a glass of ale or brandy and water in a public house; some little refreshment.

18,493. Did you never get anything before 1857 for your trouble in coming into Gloucester to vote?—I never had anything from Mr. Hope.

18,494. Or from anybody else?—No, that I will take my oath of.

18,495. Did your brothers?—That I cannot tell.

18,496. You know you did not yourself?—I did not.

18,497. Do you swear that you only voted twice before the election of 1857?—I voted twice for Mr. Hope, and twice for Sir Robert Carden; and I had money both times for voting for Sir Robert Carden, and the twice that I voted for Mr. Hope I had nothing at all; I had no kind of money at all.

18,498. Neither before nor after the election?—No.

18,499. Were you promised anything?—No.

18,500. Were you canvassed for your vote?—Yes. I told several of the gentlemen I should vote for Mr. Hope any time; I did not hear talk of giving any money; if I had, I should have been as likely to have some as anybody else.

18,501. Were you offered any money for your vote by any other person?—No, I never was; there was a man on the polling day when I went into the Fountain said to me, "William Stevens wants to see you."

18,502. What year was that?—This last election, in 1859. He says, "If you will vote for Mr. Price "and Mr. Monk, my master, William Stevens, shall "give you 10*l.*" I said, "I will never vote yellow, "never, as long as I live. I have always voted blue, "and always will; and if there is not a blue man put "up I will not vote at all."

18,503. Whether you get anything or nothing you would always vote blue?—I should.

18,504. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you not canvassed by the yellow party early in the election? Were you not asked for your vote then?—No, they never asked me any more than the rest.

18,505. But a week or a fortnight before the last election, did none of the yellow party come and ask you for your vote?—Yes; William Stevens came to Hereford fair, and came and asked me. He says, "Will you come and have something to drink?" I said, "No, Mr. Stevens, I do not want it." Me and my two brothers, and my man that works with me, was up at Hereford fair. He followed me a smart bit, and I said "Mr. Stevens, I can do very well "without your company." He said, "Come and "have a glass of something." I said, "I tell you "I shall not, for I never will vote for either Monk "or Price."

18,506. Did he make you any offer?—No; he never offered me anything.

18,507. Were you offered anything on the liberal side?—Not more than William Stevens sent a man to me, who said, "Here is William Stevens in the "Fountain, and if you will come in and vote for "Price and Monk, he will give you 10*l.*;" and I said, "I shall not vote for them at all."

18,508. Did old Mrs. Coopey tell you of any offer that had been made for the whole lot of the Coopeys?—No; she never did, and I never asked her.

18,509. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that your mother?—Yes.

18,510. Is she living?—Yes.

18,511. How long have you been a freeman?—About twenty years.

18,512. Did you take up your freedom yourself, or did one of the parties do it for you?—I did not pay anything for it. I think it was Mr. Hodges Carter paid it; I did not pay anything.

18,513. Mr. Hodges Carter was the agent for the liberal side, was he not?—I do not know who he was agent for.

18,514. Did you vote for Berkeley?—No; I voted twice for Hope and twice for Sir Robert Carden. Those were the only times that ever I voted.

18,515. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you ever prevented from voting by finding that the clock was wrong?—No, I never was. I generally put the clock forward instead of back.

W. Withers.

WILLIAM WITHERS called and further examined.

18,516. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Can you give us any information with regard to the election of 1857?—Yes; I was about a bit in 1857. I went to several voters at a beerhouse called the Victory; there were several voters of the name of Drinkwater there, I think.

18,517. Did you offer them any money?—No; I had none to offer.

18,518. Did they ask you for anything?—Yes; they wanted 2*l.* 10*s.* a-piece.

18,519. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many of them were there?—Four or five altogether, but I cannot say their names.

18,520. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How many Drinkwaters were there?—I cannot say how many. I understood there were four or five voters, and they came rushing on to know what we would give them.

18,521. What time in the day was this?—In the morning, between ten and eleven.

18,522. On the polling day?—Yes. I told them I had no money, and that if they would not go to poll they might stop away; and they were taken off in a fly and polled for Carden.

18,523. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who took them off in a fly?—I do not know. I did not stop to trouble myself about them. I went off to see what I could do in other ways.

18,524. Did you report this at the committee room of Price and Berkeley?—I think I did.

18,525. But the men were gone before you could report them?—Yes. In about half an hour I went up the street towards the committee room, and as I was going up the street a party said to me, "There is the "Drinkwaters gone by in a fly," but who took them to poll I am sure I cannot say.

18,526. Did you pay any money at the election in 1857?—No.

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W. Withers.
15 Oct. 1859.

18,527. Did you receive any ?—No, I received no money. I received 4*l.* from Mr. Jordan in September.

18,528. What was that for ?—For services rendered ; I went to London.

18,529. That was on the petition ?—That was on the petition.

18,530. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is that all you can tell us with regard to the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,531. Do you know a voter of the name of King ?—No, I do not.

18,532. Jermey ?—No, I do not.

18,533. Butler ?—Nor Butler.

18,534. Powell ?—No.

18,535. Frederick Bailey ?—Yes, I know him well.

18,536. Which way did he vote in 1857 ?—On the liberal side. I think he is as honest a voter as any man in the city of Gloucester.

18,537. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you mean he is a man who would not take a bribe ?—No, he would order any man out of his house if he offered it to him.

18,538. Do you know Hancock ?—Yes.

18,539. How did he vote ?—On the liberal side ; I had nothing to do with him.

18,540. You do not know whether he received any money or not ?—I do not think he did, not a farthing. As for Bailey, I know there is not an honester voter in the city of Gloucester ; he came out of the country in 1859 to vote, and never received a farthing for his expenses.

18,541. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know the name of any person who was bribed in 1857 ?—No, I do not ; not on our side.

18,542. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know of any who were bribed on the other side ?—I have heard talk of it, and I believe that that man named Drinkwater was bribed.

18,543. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you been an elector in Gloucester for many years ?—No, not many years.

18,544. Do you recollect Mr. Hudson ?—Yes, I knew him ; I never had any transactions with him.

C. Bossom.

CHARLES BOSSOM sworn and examined.

18,545. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What are you ?—A freeman.

18,546. Do you live in Worcester Street ?—Yes.

18,547. Did you receive 1*l.* from Mr. Hall for your vote ?—Mr. Hall's wife gave it to my little child.

18,548. For your vote ?—Yes.

18,549. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the last election ?—Yes.

18,550. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,551. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote ?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1857.

18,552. From whom did you receive the 1*l.* to vote ?—I received it from Mr. Monk.

18,553. Was that at the last election ?—Yes.

18,554. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote for Monk and Carden in 1859 ?—No.

18,555. For Price and Monk ?—No, for Carden and Monk.

18,556. For whom did you vote in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

18,557. What did you receive then ?—Nothing.

18,558. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you get from Sir Robert Carden's side at the last election ?—Nothing.

18,559. Then the 1*l.* which you received was for voting for Mr. Monk ?—Yes ; I told them I wished them to pay my expenses.

18,560. Where do you live ?—In Worcester Street.

18,561. What did your expenses come to ?—Taking up my freedom when I first came to live in Gloucester.

18,562. When did you first come to live in Gloucester ?—In 1847.

18,563. Twelve years before the last election ?—Yes.

18,564. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did it cost to take up your freedom ?—Sixteen shillings besides my expenses in going to get my register.

18,565. What were those expenses ?—I had to go to Micheldean.

18,566. Did that cost 4*s.* ?—It cost more.

T. Knight.

THOMAS KNIGHT sworn and examined.

18,567. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Oxford Street.

18,568. What are you ?—A freeman.

18,569. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Mr. Monk and Sir Robert Carden.

18,570. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6 from the one and 10*l.* from the other.

18,571. Who gave you the 6*l.* ?—Mr. Bowers gave it me.

18,572. George Bowers ?—Yes.

18,573. That was to vote for Monk ?—Yes, that was to vote for Monk.

18,574. And who gave you the 10*l.* ?—I took it off a table ; it was through Mr. Whithorn.

18,575. And that was to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—That was to vote for Sir Robert Carden.

18,576. For whom did you vote in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

18,577. And what did you get for your vote then ?—I got, I think it was, one guinea.

18,578. Who paid you that ?—Mr. Whithorn, as a messenger.

18,579. When did he pay it to you ?—He paid it to me, I think it was, three or four days after the election.

W. C. Cooke.

WILLIAM COSHAM COOKE sworn and examined.

18,580. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a grocer in Southgate Street ?—I was formerly.

18,581. Do you know a person of the name of Henry Cox ?—Perfectly well.

18,582. Did you canvass him at the last election ?—Yes, I asked him for his vote.

18,583. Did you tell him that, if he would vote as you wished him to, you would remit him a sum of money that he was indebted to you ?—I never did.

18,584. For whom did you canvass him ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,585. Was there a sum of money that was owing by him to you ?—Yes, there was.

18,586. How much ?—The debt was formerly, when he first contracted it some years ago, sixteen or seventeen pounds.

18,587. How much was it at the last election ?—I think it was from nine to ten pounds ; between nine and ten pounds ; I cannot say to a few shillings.

18,588. Did you hold out any inducement to him that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden you would forgive him that debt ?—The only expression I made use of to him was this,—he had paid me 10*s.* when he possibly could to endeavour to liquidate the debt ; it had been standing some time ; he said he was incapable to pay it all at once, and I would run in to him occasionally to ask him for 10*s.* on account, and on one of those occasions I said to him, "Mr. "Cox, how are you going to vote this time ? Are you "going to vote the same as last ; if you can give Sir "Robert Carden one it will greatly oblige me." That was all.

18,589. You say you did not say anything further to him than that as an inducement to him to promise his vote ?—"You will oblige me," was the expression I made use of.

18,590. You are quite sure you did not tell him you would forgive him the whole or part of the debt

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W. C. Cooke.
15 Oct. 1859.

he owed you if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—I never did.

18,591. Did you hold out any other inducement to him ?—I did not.

18,592. Did you promise to give him any money ? I did not.

18,593. Is there any other person to whom you did make any promise ?—No.

18,594. Did you canvass any other person ?—No ; what I have told you as to Cox passed merely in conversation, being in his house at the time. I said in conversation, "How are you going to vote this time ? " If you can give Sir Robert Carden one, you will " greatly oblige me ;" that was all I said. I entertain my own opinion, and I would allow no person to interfere with that, and I should be very sorry to interfere with anybody else's opinion.

18,595. Had you canvassed Cox in 1857 ?—I do not remember that I did.

18,596. Do you know how he voted in 1857 ?—For Sir Robert Carden ; I saw that in the poll book.

18,597. Did you, in 1857, give him any money, or make him any promise ?—I never did. I have never given a halfpenny of money to anybody for election purposes.

18,598. (*Mr. Welford.*) Or made any allowance ?—No ; he passed through the Court directly afterwards. I should have been most happy to have received the money.

18,599. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know any person who gave or received money in 1859 ?—No, I do not.

18,600. Or in 1857 ?—No, nor in 1857 ; that was the first time I had the honour of voting for Gloucester.

Adjourned to Saturday next, 22nd instant, 11 o'clock.

Nineteenth Day.—22nd October 1859.

S. Jones.
22 Oct. 1859.

SAMUEL JONES sworn and examined.

18,601. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a solicitor ?—No ; my brother is a solicitor.

18,602. Did you take part in the election of 1857 ?—I canvassed occasionally with Sir Maurice Berkeley and Mr. Price, but I did not take any very active part in it.

18,603. Were you a party to any arrangements for procuring money for the purpose of the election ?—Not at all.

18,604. Did you see Mr. Potter upon the day of the election ?—I do not remember seeing him.

18,605. Were you in the committee room of the liberal candidates ?—I believe I was there once or twice in the course of the day ; not more, certainly.

18,606. Did you receive upon that occasion any money at all from Mr. Potter ?—No ; not any.

18,607. Did you receive any money from any person for the purpose of the election ?—Not at all ; perhaps you will allow me to state what I did. I met Brewer Monk in the course of the day, I think about the middle of the day, and he said that he understood there were several out voters who were waiting to be settled with for their travelling expenses, and that he had no money to pay them, and would I advance him a sum of 10*l.* for that purpose. I said, "Why do " you come to me as I have taken so very little part " in the election ?" and he said "I cannot find Mr. " Ellis anywhere ;" and after a little further conversation, I cannot say what, I let him have the 10*l.*

18,608. What time in the day was that ?—As near as I can recollect it was from about one to two o'clock, but I cannot call to my recollection the exact time ; it is now some years ago, and I did not expect ever to have been spoken to upon the subject again.

18,609. Have you any knowledge at all as to what the state of the poll was at that time ?—The state of the poll was decidedly in favour of Sir Robert Carden. I should say so from my recollection.

18,610. Did Brewer Monk tell you at the same time that he wanted money for the purpose of bribing any voters ?—Certainly not.

18,611. He said simply that he wanted money for the expenses of the out voters ?—Yes, distinctly.

18,612. Did you understand that to be for travelling expenses ?—Yes, what I considered legal expenses. I did not know what the expenses were that were particularly defined by the law, but I understood him to say the money was wanted for strictly legal purposes.

18,613. Was that sum of 10*l.* afterwards repaid to you ?—It was.

18,614. By Mr. Ellis ?—By Mr. Ellis.

18,615. Was that all the money that you advanced at that election ?—It was, or at any other election.

18,616. You had no pecuniary transaction connected with the election in 1857 besides the one you have mentioned ?—None whatever.

18,617. In 1859 had you ?—I took no part in that election except to canvass one voter, which I did at the request of the liberal committee ; that was the only part I took in that election with the exception of giving my vote. I considered that I had done with elections for Gloucester when Sir Maurice Berkeley was defeated.

18,618. Can you suggest any reason why Brewer Monk should have applied to you for that money rather than any other person ?—I believe I asked him the question, and he said there was no one he knew better than he knew me, as I had known him a great many years.

18,619. And he knew you to be an active supporter of Sir Maurice Berkeley and Mr. Price ?—Yes.

18,620. And that, you think, was the only reason why he applied to you ?—That was the only reason, as far as I know.

18,621. Is that all the information you are able to afford us with regard to that election ?—It is.

A. H. Phillpotts.

ABRAHAM HODGSON PHILLPOTTS called and further examined.

18,622. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some correction of your evidence ?—I wish to ask your leave to modify an expression which fell from me when I gave my evidence last week ; a question was put to me with regard to Mr. Whithorn, and my answer was broad and general as to Mr. Whithorn's reputation. I beg your permission now to allow that answer to be confined to Mr. Whithorn's electioneering reputation, as I feel that in carrying it beyond that, my answer was one that went beyond the subject of your inquiry ; and perhaps I may have given Mr. Whithorn some just ground for feeling aggrieved.

18,623. In fact you do not wish to cast any reflection on Mr. Whithorn, except that he has been mixed up with electioneering transactions ?—I tell you

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A. H. Phillpotts. 22 Oct. 1859.

frankly that the situation I stood in then, and animated as we had all become, more or less, by this inquiry, I feel that I should have acted a better part if I had strictly confined my answers to Mr. Whithorn's electioneering reputation. With regard to that, my evidence remains as it stood; I do not qualify that in the smallest degree. In one part of my evidence I mentioned that I had a strong belief that there had been a very profuse expenditure of money on the part of Mr. Hope and his friends, and I wish it to be distinctly understood that the profuse expenditure to which I referred was antecedent to the election in 1852.

18,624. You did not intend to impute to Mr. Hope that there had been any breach of the agreement which was come to in 1852?—No; I am quite sure that Mr. Hope would never have been a party knowingly to a breach of that agreement. I mentioned also, that there was a strong belief on my mind that I was canvassed by Mr. Hope before the agreement was completed; on reflection I am quite satisfied that was not so, and that I was not canvassed by Mr. Hope until afterwards.

18,625. (*Mr. Welford.*) You were aware on the occasion of your suggesting the agreement which was come to in 1852, that corruption had prevailed in Gloucester to a considerable extent?—I was under a strong impression of that kind; I never heard it disputed among well informed men, on either side.

18,626. It was well understood?—Perfectly.

18,627. And you interested yourself as a person holding, as you considered a neutral position, and belonging to neither of the contending parties in the town, with a view to put a stop to bribery on the ground of public morality?—Certainly.

M. Coopey.

MARY COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,628. (*Mr Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Churcham.

18,629. What had you to do with the last election?—I received 6*l.* 10*s.* for bread and cheese and cider.

18,630. Are you a widow?—Yes; I have been a widow six-and-twenty years.

18,631. How many sons have you who are voters?—Three.

18,632. Are they all voters for Gloucester?—They are all voters.

18,633. Who paid you the 6*l.* 10*l.*?—William Coopey, my son.

18,634. What did he pay it to you for?—He paid me 6*l.* 10*s.* for bread and cheese and cider.

18,635. To whom was the bread and cheese and cider supplied?—It was supplied to the blues; to the party that came there and had the refreshment.

18,636. Who were the parties who had refreshment?—I cannot tell you who had it; my sons had it and all the rest of the family.

18,637. Was there any body else besides the family? Yes, William Rowles had some refreshment.

18,638. Do you keep a beer house?—No, I do not sell anything but cider; for more than 20 years I have had the licence, and I sell nothing but cider.

18,639. Who was there besides the Coopeys and this man Rowles; was John Ward there?—John Ward was there several times.

18,640. Did he canvass you for any body's vote?—Not me; he did not ask me. I had nothing at all to do with the votes.

18,641. Was Mr. Walter Clutterbuck there?—Yes, they were both together.

18,642. Did he give orders for the cider?—They used to have cider.

18,643. Did Mr. Clutterbuck give you any orders to supply cider?—No, I do not believe he gave me any orders; I do not recollect it.

18,644. Were Ward and Clutterbuck there together?—Once. I do not believe I saw Clutterbuck there above once or twice, but I will not be certain.

18,645. How many of the Coopeys met Ward there?—I cannot recollect.

18,646. Were your three sons there with Ward?—I know there were all the Coopeys, and there was William Rowles.

18,647. Do you remember how many of the Coopeys there were there?—Thomas Coopey, and William Coopey, and Joseph Coopey, and Samuel Coopey, and my three sons.

18,648. That is seven Coopeys, and Rowles made eight?—There were eight of them, and Rowles made nine.

18,649. Did you hear Mr. Ward ask them about their votes?—Yes; I cannot say what he said. I am not able to say exactly what passed.

18,650. You did not hear much of the conversation?—No, my hearing being so bad I did not.

18,651. Did you see any money paid to them?—I saw no money at all, no more than receiving my money for the bread and cheese and the cider.

18,652. Was the bread and cheese and cider consumed there on one day or on a good many days?—No, several times. They had a meeting there; they came there and had cider and bread and cheese. It was not all at one time, to a certainty; it was at several times before the election came off.

18,653. Who paid William Coopey the 6*l.* 10*s.* that he gave you for the cider and bread and cheese?—Mr. Ward, I believe.

18,654. Did you see the money paid?—No.

18,655. Did you see any money paid to any of the Coopeys?—I saw no money paid at all except it was the money that was paid to me.

18,656. Did you make any bargain with Mr. Ward for the votes of any of the Coopeys?—No; I made no bargain with any one more than that I was to keep an account, and that I would be paid for what they had.

18,657. Had Mr. Ward any talk with you about the votes of the Coopeys?—No, not to the best of my recollection; I do not recollect it in the least.

18,658. Had you anything to do with the election in 1857?—No, I can remember the election; being between seventy and eighty years of age, my recollection is not good, but I had nothing whatever to do with it; whatever they had then they paid for as they had it, and I do not know any more than that.

18,659. Did you make any bargain for any of the Coopey's votes at the election in 1857?—No, not in the least. I had never anything at all to do with the votes.

18,660. Did you receive any money at that election for the votes of anybody?—No, I never received any money at all, and them that had the cider did pay for it as they had it.

W. Coopey.

WILLIAM COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,661. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Bollow.

18,662. You are a freeman, are you?—Yes.

18,663. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

18,664. For whom?—For the blue party.

18,665. Who do you mean by the blue party? Did you ever hear the name mentioned?—Yes, a good many times.

18,666. It does not appear to have made much impression upon you; was it Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

18,667. What did you get for your vote?—£7.

18,668. Who paid you?—Who paid me?

18,669. Yes?—Why Cornelius Vaile's wife had the money.

18,670. At the last election in 1859?—Yes.

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W. Coopey.

22 Oct. 1859.

18,671. Did she give you the money ?—Yes, she gave me the money.

18,672. Had you been promised the money beforehand by Mr. Ward ?—Yes, by Mr. Ward.

18,673. Is that old woman (the last witness), Mary Coopey, your mother ?—No, she is not.

18,674. Were you one of those who used to go to the house and get cider and bread and cheese at Mary Coopey's ?—No.

18,675. Did you vote at the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,676. For whom did you vote ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,677. What did you get upon that occasion ?—£3.

18,678. Who gave it to you ?—Mrs. Vaile ; Sarah Vaile of Bollow.

18,679. Is she the wife of Cornelius Vaile ?—No, she is the wife of Samuel Vaile.

18,680. Sarah Vaile gave you that ?—Yes.

18,681. That was for your vote for Carden, was it ?—Yes.

18,682. Did she give you that in Gloucester at the Upper George in 1857 ?—No, she did not give it to me at the Upper George ; it was given to me out in the street.

18,683. Had Mr. Ward promised to give you that money beforehand ?—No, he did not promise me ; he said he should do the same with me as he did with the rest.

18,684. Had you any idea as to what the political principles of Sir Robert Carden were ?—No, I had not.

18,685. You only knew that he was a blue ?—I knew him only as a blue.

18,686. Do you know what the meaning of a blue is ?—No.

18,687. You do not know any difference between blue and yellow as regards political principles, do you ?—No.

18,688. Do you remember seeing James Ashmeade at the Upper George in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,689. Do you remember seeing James Ashmeade paid any money upon that occasion ?—No, I did not.

18,690. You did not see him paid anything ?—No.

18,691. Did James Ashmeade tell you that he had received anything for his vote ?—No, I do not believe he did.

18,692. Did he tell you whether he had or had not received any money for his vote in 1857 ?—No, he did not tell me anything about it.

18,693. Had you ever voted before the election in 1857 ?—Yes, I had.

18,694. At what election was that ?—The other before. I do not know how long ago it was, for I have not got any learning myself.

18,695. But you cannot tell for whom you did vote ?—No, I cannot tell who it was now.

18,696. Did you vote for the same colour ?—Yes, I voted for the same colour.

18,697. You always voted for the same colour ?—Yes.

18,698. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you ever before paid for your vote ?—No, not to my remembrance.

18,699. You would remember it, I suppose, if you had been paid ?—I do not recollect that I was, but it is so long ago I forget ; I have not a good memory.

18,700. How long have you been a voter ?—For fifteen years.

18,701. And how many times do you think you have voted ?—I do not know whether it is three or four times to a certainty.

18,702. Surely you must recollect whether you received any money before or not ?—It is so long ago that I forget.

18,703. You will not say that you did not ?—It is gone past my remembrance, it is so long ago.

18,704. Why do you prefer the blues to the yellows if you do not know the difference between them ?—I do not know ; it is our own natural colour I suppose, and we like to stick to it.

18,705. Why is it your natural colour ?—Because I am rather blue in my nature, I suppose.

18,706. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is it a matter of money ?—Oh no, not at all.

18,707. That does not at all influence your adherence to the blue colour ?—Not at all.

18,708. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you offered any money by the other side ?—Yes, Mr. Carden came down and offered me money.

18,709. Who is Mr. Carden ?—That is the yellow party, is it not ?

18,710. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that the gentleman you have mentioned, the candidate?—Yes, I suppose it is ; they told me it was.

18,711. What did he say when he came to you ?—I did not see him ; but he came to where I was labouring at and told my master to persuade me to come and vote for him.

18,712. Who was that ?—Mr. Wintle and Mr. Bennett came, and Mr. Abell and a good many of the yellow party.

18,713. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did they offer you any money ?—No ; they did not offer me any money.

18,714. Do you know Mr. Henley ?—No, I do not ; he was at our house as I heard tell.

18,715. Did he ever offer you any money ?—No ; he came to our house a good many times, but he did not offer me any money. Mr. Henley did not know me.

T. Coopey.

THOMAS COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,716. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live at Churcham ?—Yes.

18,717. What are you ?—A labourer.

18,718. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

18,719. How far is Churcham from Gloucester ?—I do not know ; four miles or four miles and a half, I should think. It is five miles to where I come from.

18,720. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Robert Garden.

18,721. Mr. who ?—Mr. Garden, or whatever his name is.

18,722. What did you get for your vote ?—£7.

18,723. Who gave you the money ?—Mr. John Ward.

18,724. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Mr. Robert Garden.

18,725. How much did you receive for your vote then ?—£3.

18,726. Who paid you ?—Mary Coopey, of Churcham, paid me the money.

18,727. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is that your sister ?—My sister-in-law.

18,728. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Not the old woman who was here just now ?—No ; a daughter of her'n.

18,729. That was for your vote for Carden in 1857 ?—Yes ; 3*l.*

18,730. And you received 7*l.* at the last election in 1859 ?—Yes.

18,731. Did you know anything about the politics of Sir Robert Carden, the gentleman for whom you voted ?—No, I did not know much about the man more than seeing him in the street.

18,732. How came you to vote for him if you did not know much about him more than seeing him in the street ?—Well, I do not know ; I thought I might as well vote for him as for anybody else that I did not know much of.

18,733. You do not know anything more at all about what his principles are, do you ?—No ; I know nothing about his principles ; he is a blue man.

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R. Coopey.

22 Oct. 1859.

18,734. You voted for him because he was blue?—Yes, and I shall again if he puts up.

18,735. Did you vote before the election of 1857?—No, I did not.

18,736. 1857 was your first election?—Yes.

18,737. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did anybody offer you any money on the other side?—Yes.

18,738. Who?—Mr. Samuel Herbert.

18,739. At what election was that?—The last election.

18,740. What did he offer you?—£3.

18,741. Was that to vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

18,742. And you liked 7*l.* on the other side better, did you?—No; I could have had 10*l.* on the other side if I had wanted money, but I wanted no man's money.

18,743. Who told you that you could have 10*l.*?—A man down in the street (I do not know his name) said that he would give me 10*l.* if I would vote for Monk and Price, and I told him that if he would give me 10*l.* more I would not.

18,744. Do you know who that man was?—No.

18,745. What business is he in?—I do not know.

18,746. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was his name Stevens? I do not know. I had very little conversation with him; he only told me in the street.

18,747. (*Mr. Welford.*) The only offer made to you by anybody you knew was made by Mr. Samuel Herbert?—Yes.

18,748. And he offered you 3*l.*?—Yes.

18,749. In 1857 you voted for Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—I did.

18,750. Had you any offer made to you then on the other side?—I cannot recollect whether any body offered me anything or not then, not the yellow party.

18,751. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is Mr. Samuel Herbert?—A lawyer or attorney, or what you call it.

R. Coopey.

RICHARD COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,752. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Churcham.

18,753. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

18,754. What are you?—A labourer.

18,755. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Carden.

18,756. What did you get for your vote?—£7.

18,757. Who paid it to you?—Mr. John Ward.

18,758. Were you offered any money to vote for Price and Monk?—No, I was not.

18,759. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—Yes, I did.

18,760. Who did you vote for then?—Mr. Carden.

18,761. How much did you get for your vote?—Three sovereigns.

18,762. Who paid you those three sovereigns?—Mary Anne Coopey.

18,763. Is she here?—No, she is not.

18,764. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did she tell you who she got it from?—No, she did not.

18,765. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In 1857 were you promised beforehand that you should receive three sovereigns for your vote for Carden?—No, I was not promised at all.

18,766. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you ever voted before these two last elections?—Yes, several times.

18,767. Did you receive any money before?—That is a question I shall not resolve. I have answered that gentleman (*Mr. Vaughan*); I have done; that says nothing; that gentleman has asked me two things, and I have told him. I says no more.

18,768. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any money for your vote at any election previous to 1857?—I received three sovereigns in 1857.

18,769. I am asking you as to any election previous to that?—That is a very good answer.

18,770. Did you vote at any previous election?—I did.

18,771. Did you receive any money at any previous election?—Perhaps I might.

18,772. When was that?—I forget.

18,773. Do you remember who it was that you voted for when you received any money?—I voted for Mr. Hope once or twice.

18,774. And did you receive any money for voting for him?—I did.

18,775. How much?—I cannot tell.

18,776. But you did receive something?—Yes, I did have something.

S. Coopey.

SAMUEL COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,777. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a labourer at Churcham?—Yes.

18,778. And a freeman of Gloucester?—Yes.

18,779. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,780. How much did you receive for your vote?—£7.

18,781. Who paid it to you?—Mr. John Ward.

18,782. Did you vote in 1857?—No, I did not.

18,783. Had you no vote at that time?—No, I had not.

18,784. Were you offered any money to vote for Price and Monk at the last election?—I was not.

18,785. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When did you take up your freedom?—I will show you (*producing a paper*).

18,786. Is that since the election of 1857?—Yes.

18,787. Did you pay for that yourself?—Yes, I did.

18,788. Did you receive any money for taking up your freedom from any one else?—Yes, I had it given me.

18,789. Who gave you any money for it?—John Browne.

18,790. Who is he?—He had something to do with the election; in fact, I know nothing of the man more than seeing him at the time.

18,791. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did he give you?—Thirteen shillings.

J. Lake.

JOHN LAKE sworn and examined.

18,792. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A freeman.

18,793. Where do you live?—At Ashelworth.

18,794. For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,795. How much did you receive for your vote?—Mr. Whithorn put down 10*l.* on the table, and my wife picked it up.

18,796. Was that in the committee-room in Westgate Street?—Yes.

18,797. You were by when she picked it up, were you?—Yes.

18,798. Had you been offered money on the other side?—Yes.

18,799. By whom?—Mr. Henley.

18,800. How much?—£10.

18,801. Did you vote at the election of 1857?—Yes.

18,802. For whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,803. How much did you receive then?—£1.

18,804. From whom?—From Mr. Whithorn.

18,805. Where did you receive it?—In the committee room.

18,806. In the Westgate Street?—Yes.

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SAMUEL GARDNER sworn and examined. *S. Gardner.* 22 Oct. 1859.

18,807. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Sheepscomb.

18,808. What are you ?—A sawyer.

18,809. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

18,810. Who did you vote for at the election in 1859 ?—For Price and Monk.

18,811. What did you receive for your vote ?—Fifty shillings.

18,812. From whom ?—Thomas Gardner.

18,813. What Thomas Gardner is that ?—A maltster of Painswick.

18,814. Is he a relation of yours ?—Yes.

18,815. What relation ?—Third cousin. I wish to say that my son is absent. I do not know where he is, and I could not send him the summons that was sent for him, but I believe there was 5*l.* paid to my daughter by Thomas Gardner to be divided between the two, and 50*s.* of that I had.

18,816. (*Mr. Welford.*) You know that your son had the 50*s.* ?—Yes, because I gave it him myself.

18,817. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And did he vote also for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

18,818. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,819. For whom ?—For Mr. Carden.

18,820. How much did you receive for your vote then ?—Thirty shillings.

18,821. From whom did you receive it ?—Mr. Samuel Lovegrove.

18,822. What Mr. Lovegrove is that ?—A timber dealer.

18,823. Does he live in Gloucester ?—No ; he lives at Churchdown.

18,824. Is that near Gloucester ?—About five miles from Gloucester, I think.

18,825. Did your son vote at the election in 1857 ?—No.

18,826. Had he any vote at that time ?—No.

18,827. At the election in 1859, you say you voted for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

18,828. Were you offered any money by the other side ?—I was not offered any money on either side.

18,829. You were not offered any money on the side of Sir Robert Carden in 1859 ?—No.

18,830. (*Mr Welford.*) Where did Mr. Lovegrove pay you this money ?—In the Fleece.

18,831. Was that after you had voted or before ?—After, I believe ; I believe it was after.

WILLIAM ROWLES sworn and examined. *W. Rowles.*

18,832. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Westbury.

18,833. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

18,834. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Carden.

18,835. How much did you receive for your vote ?—Seven.

18,836. Seven what ?—£7.

18,837. From whom did you get the money ?—Of John Ward.

18,838. Was any money offered to you on the other side ?—No.

18,839. Did you vote at the election of 1857 ?—Yes.

18,840. For whom ?—For Carden.

18,841. How much did you receive for your vote ?—£3.

18,842. Who paid you the money ?—John Ward.

18,843. Were you offered any money on the other side at that election ?—No.

18,844. Do you always vote the same way as the Coopeys vote ?—Yes.

18,845. Is the bargain made for you as well as for them ?—Yes.

18,846. Do you know which of the Coopeys it was that voted at the last election for the dead John Coopey ?—No, I do not ; I did not know that anybody did.

JAMES NICHOLLS sworn and examined. *J. Nicholls.*

18,847. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—At Highnam.

18,848. What are you ?—A tailor.

18,849. And a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

18,850. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

18,851. How much did you receive for your vote ?—I received 10*l.* in discharge of a bill standing due.

18,852. In discharge of a bill standing due to whom ?—Due to me from the Liberal party.

18,853. You mean to say there was an outstanding account ?—Yes.

18,854. Which you considered due to you by the liberal party ?—Yes.

18,855. Had it been outstanding for some years ?—Yes, from 1847.

18,856. Would you have voted for Price and Monk if that bill had not been discharged ?—I should have voted for Mr. Monk, not for Mr. Price.

18,857. You would not have voted for Mr. Price if that bill had not been discharged ?—No.

18,858. You received 10*l.* in satisfaction of that bill from Mr. Wilkes, the attorney, did you not ?—Yes.

18,859. It was a claim which you had in respect of refreshments supplied by you when you were a publican ?—Yes.

18,860. Had you been offered any money at the last election to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

18,861. Did you vote at the election of 1857 ?—Yes.

18,862. For whom did you vote then ?—For Mr. Berkeley and Mr. Carden.

18,863. For Admiral Berkeley and Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

18,864. Did you receive any money for your vote upon that occasion ?—No, nothing.

18,865. Had any money been offered you ?—No, none.

18,866. (*Mr. Welford.*) If you had not received this 10*l.* in 1859, should you have voted for Sir Robert Carden ?—No, I should not.

18,867. You would have voted a plumper for Mr. Monk ?—Yes, for Mr. Monk.

18,868. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) At what election was this account run up that was left unpaid ?—It was in 1847.

18,869. (*Mr. Welford.*) Mr. Price was not a candidate then, was he ?—Yes, but there was no contest.

18,870. Then did you consider this account due from Mr. Price ?—I always understood so.

18,871. Who gave you the order ?—Mr. Robert Hudson, who is dead.

18,872. He gave you the order ?—Yes.

18,873. Was it a bill for refreshments supplied to voters ?—Yes.

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J. Coopey.

22 Oct. 1859.

JOSEPH COOPEY sworn and examined.

18,874. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—At Churcham.

18,875. What are you ?—A pig dealer.

18,876. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

18,877. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Robert Carden.

18,878. What did you receive for your vote ?—£7.

18,879. Who paid you ?—John Ward.

18,880. Did he pay you that 7*l.* before or after the election ?—After.

18,881. Had he promised you before ?—No, he never promised me anything.

18,882. But he had canvassed you before ?—Yes, but he never promised me anything till after I had voted.

18,883. Did he tell you you should have the same as the rest had ?—Yes.

18,884. Did anybody on the other side offer you anything ?—No, not a farthing.

18,885. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

18,886. What did you receive for your vote then ?—£3.

18,887. Who paid it ?—John Ward.

18,888. Had you any offer then from the other side ?—No.

18,889. Had you voted before 1857 ?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Hope once.

18,890. Did you receive any money then ?—No, nothing at all.

C. Roberts.

CHARLES ROBERTS sworn and examined.

18,891. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

18,892. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—No one.

18,893. Were you canvassed by anybody for your vote ?—Yes, by Mr. Ward.

18,894. Did Mr. Ward give you any money ?—Yes.

18,895. How much ?—£5.

18,896. Was that to vote ?—Yes.

18,897. (*Mr. Welford.*) To vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

18,898. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) And you did not vote ?—No.

18,899. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,900. Did you get anything for your vote then ?—No.

18,901. Who did you vote for then ?—Mr. Carden.

18,902. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How was it that you came not to vote at the last election ?—Mr. Ward said it was no odds whether I voted or not; it was too late.

18,903. Did you get anything from the other side ?—Yes.

18,904. How much ?—10*l.*

18,905. Who did you get it from ?—Mr. Wilkes.

18,906. The attorney ?—No, it was from Mr. William Wilkes.

18,907. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you been a freeman of Gloucester for many years ?—Yes.

18,908. Had you ever voted before these two last occasions ?—Yes.

18,909. Did you ever receive any money for your vote before ?—No.

18,910. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you get the 4*l.* for from Mr. Wilkes ?—To vote for Mr. Monk.

18,911. (*Mr. Welford.*) Why did you not vote for him ?—I did not vote for e'er a one.

S. Roberts.

SAMUEL ROBERTS sworn and examined.

18,912. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—At Norton.

18,913. What are you ?—A labourer.

18,914. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

18,915. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Carden.

18,916. And what did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

18,917. From whom did you receive it ?—Mr. Ward.

18,918. Had you any offer made to you on the other side ?—Yes.

18,919. What were you offered ?—£20 for me and my two brothers.

18,920. Who offered you that ?—A man of the name of Charles Byatt.

18,921. Where does he live ?—I do not know.

18,922. What is he ?—He is a labouring man. He did not say who his employer was.

18,923. He was not to give you the money himself I suppose ?—No, he said that his master would give it to me. I do not know who his master is.

18,924. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where does the man himself live ?—I do not know.

18,925. I mean where does the man live who offered you the money ?—He lives in Gloucester somewhere.

18,926. (*Mr. Welford.*) You do not know where Charles Byatt lives ?—No.

18,927. Is he a labourer ?—Yes, a labourer.

18,928. What sort of a labourer ?—He goes about the town.

18,929. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Carden.

18,930. What did you receive for your vote then ?—£2.

18,931. Who paid you ?—Mr. Maysey the barber.

18,932. Did you ever vote before ?—Yes.

18,933. Had you received money before for your vote ?—15*s.* I had given me once before.

18,934. Who was that given you to vote for ?—I believe it was to vote for Mr. Hope.

W. Wilkes.

WILLIAM WILKES sworn and examined.

18,935. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What are you ?—A cordwainer.

18,936. Who did you vote for in 1859 ?—Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk.

18,937. What did you get for your vote ?—£2.

18,938. Who did you get it from ?—Mr. Wilkes the attorney; he had promised before he gave me the money; I did not require anything for my vote.

18,939. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you promised Carden and Monk too ?—Yes.

18,940. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you get any money from anybody else ?—No.

18,941. Did you not give Charles Roberts 4*l.* ?—Yes, that money I received from Mr. Wilkes.

18,942. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,943. Who did you vote for ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

18,944. Did you get anything for your vote then ?—No.

18,945. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you examined in London ?—Yes.

18,946. Was that in 1857 ?—Yes.

18,947. Did you give evidence on that occasion with respect to money having been offered to you ?—That was the business I was there upon; I was accused of receiving money.

18,948. Who was it that accused you of receiving

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W. Wilkes.

22 Oct. 1859.

money? Who said you had received money?—A man of the name of Pitt.

18,949. A carpenter?—Yes.

18,950. Did Pitt say you had received 5*l.*?—Yes, he did say so; it was wrong.

18,951. From whom did he say you had received it?—From Jabez Franklin.

18,952. Did you receive any money upon that occasion?—I did not.

18,953. At the election of 1857?—I did not.

18,954. Do you undertake to swear that?—Yes.

18,955. Do you know the passage of the yard behind the house at Hatton's?—Yes.

18,956. Were you in that yard any portion of the day of the polling in 1857?—Yes, I was; I was in that house for two or three hours.

18,957. I am speaking about the yard; were you in the yard?—Yes.

18,958. At what time were you in the yard?—I think it was about one o'clock, as near as I can tell.

18,959. How long did you remain in the yard?—Not half a minute.

18,960. Did you go into the yard by yourself, or were you in company with any other person?—Franklin followed me in.

18,961. He followed you into the yard?—Yes.

18,962. And you remained in the yard about half a minute?—Not half a minute.

18,963. But you were there about half a minute?—No, I was not there a quarter of a minute.

18,964. Did Franklin go back with you into the house from the yard?—Yes.

18,965. What did you go into the yard for?—To show him the water-closet, and this Pitt was in there and I turned back.

18,966. Pitt was in the water-closet in the yard?—Yes.

18,967. And you went into the yard because you were asked by Franklin to show him the water-closet?—Yes.

18,968. And when you found that Pitt was there you turned back and went into the house?—Yes.

18,969. Were you quite sober on that occasion?—I was.

18,970. How long did you stay in the house after you came back from the yard?—I cannot exactly say.

18,971. How long do you think?—I might stop there half an hour or an hour.

18,972. Not longer than that?—No, I think not.

18,973. You went into the yard about one o'clock, and remained in the house till about two; is that so?—Yes, I cannot say within a few minutes.

18,974. That was the house of Hatton, the eating-house keeper, was it not?—Yes.

18,975. Will you undertake to swear that you did not remain in the house after two o'clock that day?—I might have gone in but not to stop there.

18,976. Did you leave the house about two o'clock?—Yes.

18,977. Did you return to the house after that?—I might have gone there.

18,978. Did you, or not, as far as your memory goes?—I think I did not if I was to speak the truth; I am not exactly certain.

18,979. As far as you know you did not go back to the house?—I think I did not.

18,980. Was your wife at the house that day?—Yes, she was to meet me there.

18,981. Did she meet you there?—She did.

18,982. At what time?—At one o'clock she was to meet me there.

18,983. Did she meet you there at one o'clock?—Nearly.

18,984. Was it before or after one o'clock?—I cannot exactly say.

18,985. Was it after you came back to the house from the yard that she came in?—Yes.

18,986. And did she go away with you when you went out at two o'clock?—Yes.

18,987. Do you remember saying anything about dressing your pony up with ribbons?—I did not say so, but there was a man in company did say so.

18,988. But you did not say it yourself?—I did not.

18,989. That you are quite certain about?—Yes.

18,990. Are you quite sure that when you and Franklin came into the yard nothing was said by Franklin to you or by you to Franklin?—No, not concerning money affairs.

18,991. Was anything said except pointing out the water-closet?—No, there was not.

18,992. Do you remember Franklin saying to you "Here is no one up aloft"?—I never heard such a word.

18,993. There can be no mistake about that?—No, there can be no mistake whatever about it.

18,994. That you swear?—Yes.

18,995. And you positively swear that you received no money upon that occasion?—I did not.

18,996. Was your brother at Hatton's that day? You have a brother, have you not?—Yes.

18,997. Was he there?—He had been there, but he was not there at that time.

18,998. Was he there between one and two o'clock?—No, I think not.

18,999. And you did not see him in the house after you had been into the yard with Franklin?—No, not after that.

19,000. Did you go into the cellar at all that day?—No.

19,001. Were there many persons in the house?—People were passing backwards and forwards; sometimes there were several and sometimes only a few.

19,002. You saw Mrs. Hatton in the eating-house?—Yes.

19,003. You know her very well do you not?—Yes.

19,004. Did you see her daughter there?—Yes.

19,005. And her husband?—I do not know that I saw him at all.

19,006. However, you saw her and her daughter?—Yes.

19,007. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How long have you been a voter for Gloucester?—Twenty-five years.

19,008. Have you always belonged to the same party?—Yes.

19,009. Which party is that?—The Tory party—the Conservatives.

19,010. And have you always voted for the Conservative candidate?—Yes, I voted for Mr. John Phillpotts once.

19,011. Did you receive any money for your vote then?—No; there was a tyranny held over me then which caused me to do it.

19,012. Did you ever receive any money for your vote before 1857?—No.

19,013. (*Mr. Welford.*) You divided your vote last time, did you not?—Yes.

S. Skillern

SAMUEL SKILLERN sworn and examined.

19,014. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Apperley.

19,015. What are you?—A dealer.

19,016. And are you a freeman?—Yes.

19,017. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

19,018. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing, my wife received it.

19,019. How much did your wife receive?—£8.

19,020. Were you present when the money was paid to her?—No.

19,021. Was it given to her for your vote?—I suppose so.

19,022. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did she keep all the money?—I never saw the money.

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S. Skillean. 22 Oct. 1858.

19,023. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Carden, I think.

19,024. What did you receive for your vote then ?—A sovereign.

19,025. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Castree.

19,026. He paid you that himself, did he ?—Yes.

19,027. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that young Mr. Castree ?—Mr. Charles Castree.

E. Skillern.

ESTHER SKILLERN sworn and examined.

19,028. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you the wife of the last witness, Samuel Skillern ?—Yes.

19,029. Did you receive any money for his vote at the last election ?—Yes.

19,030. How much ?—£8.

19,031. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Henley.

19,032. That was to vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

19,033. Did you give it to your husband ?—No.

19,034. You kept it yourself ?—Yes.

19,035. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) But he knew all about it, did he not ?—Yes, he knew about it.

19,036. (*Mr. Welford.*) You told him what you were to receive, I suppose, before you received it ?—No ; I did not know what I was to receive till I did receive it.

19,037. (*Mr Vaughan.*) But you told him you had received 8*l.* for his vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

19,038. You had received money at former elections, had you not ?—No.

19,039. This was the first time you were paid, was it ?—Yes.

19,040. But it was not the first time your husband had received money for his vote ?—No.

O. Harris.

OWEN HARRIS sworn and examined.

19,041. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Hampden Place.

19,042. Are you a freeman ?—No.

19,043. A householder ?—Yes.

19,044. What is your business ?—A shopman.

19,045. Who are you shopman to ?—Mr. Cetta.

19,046. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

19,047. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6 ; it was under peculiar circumstances, which I will state to you if you will allow me.

19,048. Who paid you that 6*l.* ?—Mr. Moss.

19,049. Mr. Moss the builder ?—Yes.

19,050. What do you say about the peculiar circumstances under which it was paid ?—About three weeks before the election Mr. Maysey met me in the street and asked me how I was going to vote. I said, "If I vote at all, I shall vote one and one," and he took my word for so doing, and he did not ask me anything more about election matters. About a fortnight before the election Mr. Moss called at my house several times, and not being able to see me, he met me one day near my own house as I was going to dinner, and asked me concerning my vote. I told him I did not intend to vote either way, but that if I did I should not vote for Price and Monk. He asked my reasons. I then told him I had discharged a liability as a surety for a tory friend, and that I should lose the amount, perhaps, did I not vote with him ; that is, that I should not at the time have the amount due to pay. I had discharged that liability. I had known Moss for many years,—15 or 20 years, I suppose,—and he asked me the amount. I said, "It is "a great amount ; more than it is necessary to talk "about." I explained it in that way ; that it was impossible to settle matters with him. He said, "Oh ! "it is all nonsense," and he said he would see what he could do for me. I said, the amount is upwards of 10*l.* ? He said, "Well, if I was to give you that "money, would that do as well ; would it make you "free of any other party ?" I said, "I do not know "about that." Some two or three days afterwards I received a printed circular requesting me particularly to attend the committee meeting of the district for the east ward. I attended that meeting.

19,051. What committee was that, the blue or yellow committee ?—The yellow committee.

19,052. And you received the 6*l.* for your vote ?—I did.

19,053. Did you vote in 1857 ?—No ; but I believe Mr. Moss has not given correct evidence ; that is why I have given you that statement.

19,054. Has he not given a correct statement as to the amount he paid you ?—Yes ; but he promised me more, and did not keep his word. He promised me 10*l.*, but the night before the election he said he had got plenty without me, and gave me 5*l.* On the polling morning I told him I should not vote, and then he raised it to 6*l.* He showed me a book with several names in it, and said that that was the highest sum he was giving to any of them.

19,055. Did he show you a book of all those persons he was going to bribe ?—Yes, from 2*l.* up to 6*l.*, and he told me that that was as high as any he had in his book.

19,056. Who were the members of that committee that you speak of ?—A number of them consisted of the Reform Club, but many did not.

19,057. Can you mention any of their names ?—I think Mr. Moss can give you the names.

19,058. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that at Hutton's ?—No.

19,059. Where was it ?—Mr. Moss did not confine himself to any one committee alone.

19,060. Where was the committee ?—In Barton Street.

19,061. At whose house ?—Lovesey's. I was led throughout to believe that I should have 10*l.* till the night before the election.

19,062. And you only got 6*l.* ?—Yes.

19,063. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know the amounts that any of the people were to receive ?—No, I do not know the names.

19,064. But the amounts they were to receive varied from 2*l.* to 6*l.* ?—From 2*l.* to 6*l.*

J. Vick.

JOHN VICK sworn and examined.

19,065. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman of this city ?—I am.

19,066. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

19,067. For whom did you vote ?—For Mr. Price and Monk.

19,068. Did you receive anything for your vote ?—No.

19,069. Is there another John Vick ?—Yes ; he is in court.

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JOHN VICK sworn and examined. *J. Vick.* 22 Oct. 1859.

19,070. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Westgate Street.
19,071. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Monk.
19,072. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.
19,073. Who from?—Benjamin Townsend, the cabinet maker.
19,074. Did you vote in 1857?—No; I had never before voted in my life.
19,075. Were you offered anything on the other side?—No.

EDWARD COOPEY sworn and examined. *E. Coopey.*

19,076. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Longford.
19,077. Are you a freeman of Gloucester?—Yes.
19,078. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.
19,079. What did you receive for your vote?—£8.
19,080. Who paid you?—I do not know; it was not paid to me, it was paid to my daughter.
19,081. Did she tell you she had received it?—Yes.
19,082. Who did you vote for at the election before in 1857?—I was a blue then, let it be who it would.
19,083. You voted for the blue side then?—Yes.
19,084. What did you receive for your vote then?—£3.
19,085. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From whom did you receive it?—It was paid the same as the other was.
19,086. To your daughter?—Yes.
19,087. Did she tell you who had paid it to her?—No.
19,088. Did she tell you who had paid the 8*l.* to her?—One of Mr. Price's men I think; James Williams.
19,089. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who paid your daughter the 3*l.* at the election before the last?—That I do not know.
19,090. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your daughter told you that James Williams had paid her the 8*l.*—Yes.
19,091. What is your daughter's name?—Eliza Venn.
19,092. Where does she live?—At Longford.
19,093. Is she in Gloucester to-day?—I do not know.
19,094. Did she come into Gloucester with you?—No, she did not.
19,095. Is she in Gloucester to-day?—I cannot say.

ISAAC BARKER sworn and examined. *J. Barker.*

19,096. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman of Gloucester?—Yes.
19,097. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.
19,098. For whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden.
19,099. Did you receive any money?—Yes.
19,100. How much did you receive?—*£5.*
19,101. Who from?—Mr. Ward.
19,102. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.
19,103. What did you get then?—£2.
19,104. From whom did you get it?—Mr. Maysey I believe it was.
19,105. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes.

JOHN PERRIS sworn and examined. *J. Perris.*

19,106. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.
19,107. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.
19,108. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.
19,109. Where did he pay you?—Down in my forge.
19,110. What did you receive for your vote in 1857?—From 2*l.* to 3*l.*, but I will not be positive which.
19,111. Was that to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.
19,112. Who paid you?—The same gentleman.
19,113. Mr. Whithorn?—Mr. Whithorn.

THOMAS SMITH sworn and examined. *T. Smith.*

19,114. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A labourer.
19,115. Are you a freeman?—Yes.
19,116. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.
19,117. For whom?—For Sir Robert Carden.
19,118. How much did you receive for your vote?—*£5.*
19,119. From whom?—Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck.
19,120. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—Yes.
19,121. For whom?—Price and Berkeley.
19,122. What did you receive then for your vote?—Nothing.
19,123. Were you offered any money on either side at the last election?—No.

GILES TAYLOR sworn and examined. *G. Taylor.*

19,124. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A butcher.
19,125. Are you a freeman?—Yes.
19,126. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.
19,127. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.
19,128. From whom?—From my wife.
19,129. Who did she receive it from?—Mr. Maysey.
19,130. Did you see him pay it her?—No.
19,131. Did she tell you she had received it?—Yes.
19,132. Before you voted?—Yes.
19,133. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.
19,134. What did you receive then?—£2.
19,135. Who paid you then?—Mr. Clutterbuck.
19,136. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes, Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS sworn and examined. *W. Williams.*

19,137. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A cabinet maker.
19,138. Where do you live?—In Hare Lane.
19,139. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.
19,140. How much did you receive for your vote?—£3.
19,141. From whom did you get that?—I received it from Mr. Smart, the landlord of the Swan and Falcon.
19,142. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.
19,143. What did you get then?—Nothing at all.
19,144. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

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F. Wingate.

22 Oct. 1859.

FREDERICK WINGATE sworn and examined.

19,145. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—A shoemaker.

19,146. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,147. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Monk and Sir Robert Carden.

19,148. Did you receive any money for your vote ?—Yes.

19,149. How much ?—£10.

19,150. From whom ?—Mr. Whithorn.

19,151. That was for your vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

19,152. How much did you receive to vote for Mr. Monk ?—£6 from Mr. Harry Jacobs.

19,153. What did you receive at the election before in 1857 ?—Nothing.

19,154. What did you receive at the election before ?—I had not a vote.

19,155. Did you receive anything besides for being a messenger ?—Yes ; I think it was 1*l.* 6*s.*

19,156. As a messenger on which committee ?—On the yellow committee.

19,157. That is in addition to the 6*l.* from Harry Jacobs ?—Yes.

19,158. Who paid you that money ?—Mr. Thomas Monk.

19,159. Did you receive anything for being a messenger at the other committee room ?—No.

19,160. You received altogether 17*l.* 6*s.* ?—Yes.

19,161. Were you in London ?—No.

19,162. You were not examined ?—No.

H. Wingate.

HENRY WINGATE sworn and examined.

19,163. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

19,164. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

19,165. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

19,166. Did not Mr. Harry Jacobs give you any money ?—No.

19,167. Are you prepared to swear that he gave you no money ?—Yes I am, on my oath.

19,168. Did he not give you 6*l.*—No.

19,169. Did he give it to your wife ?—I have no wife. I am accused of having had 6*l.*, but I never had a fraction.

19,170. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you a messenger ?—I was, and worked for what I had.

19,171. What did you receive for being messenger ?—I had 3*s.* 6*d.* a day.

19,172. How much did you receive altogether in a lump ?—It was a guinea a week I had.

19,173. How much money did you receive altogether ?—I cannot say exactly how much it was now.

19,174. You can say ; recollect yourself. How much money did you receive in any way connected with the last election ?—What I had this last election was two sovereigns ; that is all I had as far as I can recollect.

19,175. From whom did you receive the two sovereigns ?—From the parties at the committee.

19,176. Who were they ; who paid you the money ?—Brewer Monk.

19,177. Was that money given to you in consequence of your being a messenger ?—Yes, only for being a messenger, nothing else.

19,178. Are you sure you received no other money besides those two sovereigns for your vote for Price and Monk ?—I received nothing more than those two sovereigns for being on the committee : I am on my oath. I never received any money for my vote.

19,179. Did you receive any money from the other side ?—I was offered it.

19,180. By whom ?—Mr. Maysey. I met him when I was coming up Westgate Street, and when he asked me for my vote, he said, "If you will keep "it open I will make it all right with you."

19,181. He did not offer you any sum of money ?—No, merely that. On the night before the polling there was a conservative party there, and a person that was working for the conservative party came to a place where I was and said that some one wanted to see me, and I came out, and there was a person named James Craddock, and Robert Blake, and I went along with them till I came to Alvin Street, and they said "Will you come to have some beer ?" So I went along with them and had a pint of beer up at the King's Arms in Tewkesbury Street, and there was a person of the name of George Latch says to me, "Come up to Obadiah Clutterbuck ;" I said, "No, I refrain from the place ; they do not belong "to my party ;" and I ran away, and they came after me, and wanted to take me to Clutterbuck's, but I refused to go.

19,182. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes, I did.

19,183. For whom did you vote ?—For Sir Maurice Berkeley and Price.

19,184. Did you receive any money then ?—I received nothing.

19,185. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is Frederick Wingate of Cross Keys Lane your brother ?—No, he is a first cousin.

19,186. Did he canvass you for your vote at all ?—No.

19,187. Did he give you any money ?—No, no money whatever.

19,188. Did anybody promise you anything ?—No ; Mr. Maysey asked me whether I had promised any party, but I had no promise of any sort then.

19,189. Do you know Thomas Knight of Oxford Street ?—No, I do not exactly know that I do.

H. B. Wingate.

HENRY BROOKS WINGATE sworn and examined.

19,190. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,191. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Carden and Price.

19,192. What did your receive for your vote ?—I had 6*l.*

19,193. From whom ?—Mr. Jacobs.

19,194. Mr. Harry Jacobs ?—Yes.

19,195. That was to vote for Mr. Price ?—Yes.

19,196. What did you receive to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—£10.

19,197. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From whom did you receive that 10*l.* ?—From Mr. Whithorn.

19,198. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Mr. Price and Berkeley.

19,199. What did you receive for your vote then ?—Nothing.

19,200. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you employed as messenger in 1859 ?—No.

19,201. £16 was all you got at the last election ?—Yes.

H. Wood.

HENRY WOOD sworn and examined.

19,202. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you live in the hospital ?—Yes.

19,203. Is that St. Margaret's Hospital ?—Yes.

19,204. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,205. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

19,206. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

19,207. Who paid you ?—My son.

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19,208. What is his christian name ?—Richard.

19,209. Who did you vote for the election before the last ?—Carden.

19,210. What did you receive then ?—£2 10*s.*

19,211. Who paid you ?—A man named Evans, I believe.

19,212. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Thomas Evans ?—John, I believe.

19,213. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive the money from your son or from Evans in 1857 ?—Evans.

19,214. Where does Evans live ?—He lives in Hare Lane.

19,215. What is he ?—A tailor.

19,216. John Horatio Evans ?—Yes.

RICHARD WOOD sworn and examined.

R. Wood.

19,217. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that your father who has just gone down ?—Yes.

19,218. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,219. What are you by trade ?—A whitesmith.

19,220. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

19,221. For whom did you vote ?—For Price and

19,222. How much did you receive ?—£5. I did not ask for it.

19,223. From whom did you receive it ?—From Hutton, the barber.

19,224. You received that for your vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

19,225. Did you give your father 5*l.* ?—Yes.

19,226. Did you receive that 5*l.* from Hutton to give to your father for his vote ?—Yes.

19,227. Did you vote at the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

19,228. For whom ?—For Carden.

19,229. How much did you receive then ?—Fifty shillings.

19,230. From whom did you receive it ?—Arthur Evans the whitesmith.

19,231. Where does he live ?—In Hare Lane.

19,232. That was for your vote for Carden ?—Yes.

19,233. Is that Arthur Evans the person who gave your father 50*s.* for his vote in 1857 ?—No, his brother.

19,234. Was it John Horatio Evans who gave the 50*s.* to your father in 1857 ?—Yes.

19,235. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Thomas Mann canvass you at the last election ?—He called at my house.

19,236. What did he say ?—He asked me if I could serve him for Price and Monk.

19,237. Did he offer you anything ?—No.

19,238. Did he say whether he could do anything for you ?—No.

19,239. Did he offer you any inducement to vote ?—No, but as there was some private business between him and me, he thought it right that I should serve him.

19,240. Did he give you anything ?—No.

WALTER WOOD sworn and examined.

W. Wood.

19,241. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,242. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Price and Monk.

19,243. What did you receive for your vote ?—£4.

19,244. Who paid you ?—William Probert.

19,245. William Probert, junior ?—Yes.

19,246. Who did you vote for at the election before in 1857 ?—Carden and Price.

19,247. What did you receive for your vote for Carden ?—Fifty bob.

19,248. Who paid you ?—Mr. Hanman.

19,249. (*Mr. Vaughan*). Was that Mr. John Biddle Hanman ?—He that keeps a public-house.

19,250. Frederick Hanman ?—Yes.

19,251. He keeps the King William, does he not ?—Yes.

19,252. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you receive for your vote for Price ?—Nothing.

19,253. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered any money on the other side at the last election ?—No.

THOMAS YATES sworn and examined.

T. Yates.

19,254. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

19,255. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

19,256. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

19,257. Were you offered anything by the other side?—I was solicited by Mr. Whithorn ; he called on me but I would not promise. What I received, I received as compensation for the time I was engaged as messenger for Messrs. Price and Monk ; as for bribery in any shape, I never had it and never would.

19,258. What did you receive for your time as messenger ?—£5 of Mr. Lea in Alvin Street ; his evidence has been taken I believe before.

19,259. You received that for being a messenger ?—Yes, that was the compensation he gave me.

19,260. How long were you employed as messenger ?—I think nearly five weeks.

19,261. What did you do for that ?—Took notes out when I was directed to different persons.

19,262. How many notes did you take out ?—I am sure I cannot tell.

19,263. Two or three ?—Two or three dozen or more than that.

19,264. Did you attend at the committee-room every day ?—I did.

19,265. What are you ?—A cabinet-maker.

19,266. What do you earn a day ?—Four shillings.

19,267. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That is when you are in work ?—Yes.

19,268. (*Mr. Welford.*) You are not always at work ?—No, but generally I am.

19,269. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Berkeley and Price.

19,270. Did you receive anything then ?—No.

19,271. Should you have voted at the last election if you had not been employed as a messenger ?—Certainly I should.

19,272. When were you paid the 5*l.* ?—Not till after the election.

19,273. Did Mr. Lea call on you with it ?—No ; I met him in the street, that is where he paid it me.

19,274. You did not go to the committee clerk to be paid ?—No.

19,275. Nor yet to Brewer Monk ?—Mr. Monk paid me a sovereign.

19,276. Besides the 5*l.* ?—Yes.

19,277. What was that for ?—I suppose that was as a messenger.

19,278. Then was not that 1*l.* given to you for your services as a messenger ?—I presume it was ; I do not know any otherwise.

19,279. Then why did you say Mr. Lea paid you 5*l.* for your services as messenger ?—Because he had my name put down as a messenger ; I did not ask him to have it put down, but he wished it to be put down and had it put down for me.

19,280. Did he tell you he had put it down ?—Yes.

19,281. How long before the election was that ?—I suppose a month or five weeks.

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19,282. When you knew that your name was put down did you go to the committee-room ?—I did.
19,283. Did you go there every day ?—Yes.
19,284. And did you stay there all day ?—Yes.
19,285. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Altogether you carried about a dozen notes ?—I cannot say how many I carried ; there may have been more than that for all I know, sometimes I had half a dozen at once, and sometimes more and sometimes less.
19,286. Were you employed altogether more than three weeks as a messenger ?—Yes, I believe so.
19,287. Will you swear it ?—No, I will not swear it because I am not positive.
19,288. Were you at work at that time ?—No.
19,289. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you do any work at your trade at that time ?—No, I did not.
19,290. Not all the time ?—No.
19,291. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not in employment at that time ?—No, I was not.
19,292. Work was slack at that time was it ?—Yes.

R. Acutt.

ROBERT AGUTT sworn and examined.

19,293. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.
19,294. What are you by trade ?—A tin-plate worker.
19,295. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.
19,296. For whom did you vote ?—For Sir Robert Carden.
19,297. How much did you receive for your vote ?—I had 5*l.*
19,298. From whom ?—From Mr. John Hanman.
19,299. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive it in money ?—Yes, in money.
19,300. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a tenant of Mr. Hanman's ? Do you occupy one of his houses ?—No.
19,301. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.
19,302. How much did you receive then ?—£2.
19,303. From whom ?—From Mr. Hanman.
19,304. From the same gentleman ?—Yes.
19,305. Is that the old gentleman or is it Mr. John Biddle Hanman, the grocer ?—Mr. John Biddle Hanman, the grocer.

J. Mann.

JEREMIAH MANN sworn and examined.

19,306. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.
19,307. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Carden.
19,308. What did you receive for your vote ?—£10.
19,309. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Whithorn.
19,310. For whom did you vote at the election before in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.
19,311. What did you receive for your vote then ?—Nothing.
19,312. Were you employed as a messenger ?—No.
19,313. Did you not receive any money at all ?—No.
19,314. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did Mr. Whithorn pay you the 10*l* ?—At my house.
19,315. Where is that ?—In St. Catherine-street.
19,316. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was that the polling day ?—No.
19,317. The evening before ?—Yes, about middle day.
19,318. The nomination day ?—Yes.
19,319. Did Mr. Whithorn call upon you ?—Yes.
19,320. Had he canvassed you before ?—Yes.
19,321. And had he promised you this money for your vote ?—No.
19,322. Did you promise him that you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.
19,323. Were you told that you should have the same as other people had ?—No.
19,324. Was any promise made to you ?—Not before I went.
19,325. Was it a surprise to you then to be offered 10*l* ?—Yes, rather.

T. T. Mann.

THOMAS TAYLOR MANN sworn and examined.

19,326. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.
19,327. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.
19,328. Did you receive 10*l* ?—No, 6*l.*
19,329. Who paid you ?—Mr. Maysey.
19,330. What did you receive the election before, in 1857 ?—Nothing.
19,331. Who did you vote for ?—I had no vote then.
19,332. Were you offered anything on the other side at the last election ?—No.

G. May.

GEORGE MAY, sworn and examined.

19,333. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In St. Aldate Square.
19,334. Are you a freeman or householder ?—A householder.
19,335. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.
19,336. What did you receive for your vote ?—£10.
19,337. From whom ?—George Bower.
19,338. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—I had no vote then.
19,339. Did you receive any offer on the other side at the last election ?—No.

M. May.

MICHAEL MAY sworn and examined.

19,340. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in Mitre Street ?—Yes.
19,341. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Carden.
19,342. Did you receive 5*l.* from Mr. Maysey for your vote ?—Yes ; a few days after the election.
19,343. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.
19,344. What did you get then ?—£2 10.
19,345. Was that to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.
19,346. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who paid you ?—Mr. Maysey.
19,347. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered any money to vote for Price and Berkeley ?—No.

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FRANCIS MEEK sworn and examined. *F. Meek.* 22 Oct. 1859.

19,348. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Albert Street.

19,349. In what parish is that?—In the parish of Barton St. Mary.

19,350. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.

19,351. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 4*l.* from Bill Parker.

19,352. What is Parker?—A carpenter and haulier.

19,353. For whom did you vote at the election in 1857?—For Carden and Price.

19,354. What did you get for voting for Carden?—10*s.*

19,355. Who paid you that?—Clutterbuck.

19,356. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Obadiah Clutterbuck.

19,357. What did you get for voting for Price?—Nothing.

19,358. Were you employed on the committee at either election?—No, I was not.

JOHN TIPPING sworn and examined. *J. Tipping.*

19,359. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you live in Barton Street?—I did formerly.

19,360. You had a vote there at the last election?—Yes.

19,361. Who did you vote for?—For Price and Monk.

19,362. How much did you get for your vote?—I had 1*l.* 10*s.* for my expenses.

19,363. Where did you reside; how far from Gloucester?—Seven miles.

19,364. How did you come into Gloucester?—By the train.

19,365. What did you pay for coming in by the train?—I paid 1*s.*, me and my wife.

19,366. A return ticket?—No, not a return-ticket. I came third-class.

19,367. And it cost you 1*s.* to go back again?—I think it was 2*s.* 8*d.*

19,368. That was for you and your wife?—Yes.

19,369. Your expenses altogether then were 2*s.* 8*d.*?—Yes.

19,370. And you got 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes; I had come in the day before on the nomination day.

19,371. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who did you vote for in 1857?—For Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Carden.

19,372. Did you get nothing for your vote then?—Nothing at all.

19,373. Nothing for your expenses?—No; I lived in the town then. I had nothing at all for my vote before.

19,374. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you wish us to believe you received 1*l.* 10*s.* for your expenses on the last occasion?—Yes.

19,375. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not spend 1*l.* 10*s.*?—No.

19,376. You came the day before?—Yes; I came in on the nomination day.

19,377. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You came in to enjoy yourself and to vote?—I did of course enjoy myself.

19,378. And you received 1*l.* 10*s.* in consideration of voting for Messrs. Price and Monk?—Yes.

JOSEPH WILLIAMS sworn and examined. *J. Williams.*

19,379. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Cambridge Street.

19,380. What are you?—A butcher.

19,381. Are you a freeman of Gloucester?—No.

19,382. A householder?—Yes.

19,383. You voted at the last election, did you not?—Yes.

19,384. For whom?—For Carden.

19,385. How much did you receive?—Nothing for my vote.

19,386. What did you receive?—I received somewhere about 11*l.* altogether.

19,387. Who from?—I had, I believe it was 10 guineas from Clutterbuck.

19,388. From Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

19,389. And from whom did you get the other 10*s.*?—I think it was rather over 11*l.*, somewhere about I think five half-crowns, I received from voters that I took up.

19,390. From whom did you receive the remainder of the money?—Of five other people; voters.

19,391. (*Mr. Welford.*) Half a crown from each?—Yes.

19,392. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) From five other people who were voters?—Yes.

19,393. What did you receive that money for?—I told them that I had not got enough to cover my expenses, and I had done them pretty well and treated them and kept them together the last fortnight, and so they offered me half a crown each.

19,394. For what did you get ten guineas from Obadiah Clutterbuck?—For my services.

19,395. What services?—He employed me to get a few together who had not promised their votes.

19,396. Who did you get together?—There was William Jones at the back of the Bell; James Brown of Barton Street, butcher; William Beard of Worcester Street, butcher; William Andrews, of Hare Lane, and John Townsend, butcher, of Westgate Street.

19,397. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were those the five men that you took up?—Yes, I had more than five, I had two more, but they did not come to time.

19,398. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did you get those men together?—Nearly three weeks before the election, a fortnight or more.

19,399. When you had got them together, how did you keep them together?—I went and saw them very often and treated them.

19,400. You paid them frequent visits and gave them sometimes a pint of beer?—Yes, or a quart. I was not particular.

19,401. You received from each of those men half a crown on the polling day?—Yes, or sometime after.

19,402. Was that because you had not enough money?—Not to cover my expenses and my time.

19,403. Did you receive ten guineas from Obadiah Clutterbuck for keeping those five men together?—Yes; I had eight voters at one time; one voter named Harris did not come to time. Clutterbuck gave me his money to go and find him, and I could not find him, and I committed a great error. I gave him the money back again.

19,404. What Harris was that?—A butcher, Edwin or Edward, at the corner of Albion Street.

19,405. Did Obadiah Clutterbuck give you money to give to each of those men?—Yes, he offered me the money.

19,406. Did he not give you any?—He gave me the money to pay Harris, and I gave it to him back again.

19,407. How much did he give you?—Ten guineas.

19,408. Why did he give you money to pay Harris, and not the other men?—Because Harris was not there at the time the others were.

19,409. Did Clutterbuck pay the others himself?—Yes.

19,410. Do you mean to say you took ten guineas from Obadiah Clutterbuck for the services you have

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just described, for keeping together these five or six men and drinking beer with them ?—Yes.

19,411. And paying them a visit now and then ?—Yes, daily ; and they were telling me tales of what they were offered on the other side.

19,412. Do you swear that that money was not given to you for your vote ?—I do.

19,413. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you mean to represent that you spent all the ten guineas in treating those men ?—No, I should not think I spent half of it in that way.

19,414. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not spend half the money in treating them ?—No, I should not think I did.

19,415. I suppose if Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck has represented that ten guineas was paid to you for your vote, that is very untrue ?—Yes ; I will not say he never saw the men, but he never spoke to them all the time.

19,416. You do not take the same view of it as Mr. Clutterbuck]; you do not think that those ten guineas were paid to you for your vote ?—No ; he knew very well which way I was going to vote ; I asked him how I was to get paid when he employed me, and he said, "I will see you all right."

19,417. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

19,418. For whom ?—For Carden.

19,419. How much did you receive then ?—£2.

19,420. Was that for your vote ?—Yes.

19,421. Who paid you that ?—Clutterbuck.

W. Band.

WILLIAM BAND sworn and examined.

19,422. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—No, a householder.

19,423. Who did you vote for at the last election ? Sir Robert Carden.

19,424. What did you receive for your vote ?—I received 2*l.* from Mr. Parker, but I cannot say that it was for my vote. If you will allow me, I will explain in what way I received it, and then I will leave you to judge whether it was given me for my vote. In the first place, Sir Robert Carden, accompanied by Mr. Joseph Lovegrove, Mr. Clutterbuck, and Mr. William Parker, waited upon me and solicited me for my vote. I promised Sir Robert to give him a plumper. I had no other intention till the morning of the polling. I went and recorded my vote, and then, when I was walking about the street, some time afterwards I met Parker, and asked him the state of affairs. He said, "Oh, the election is all over now ; "they have given it up, and I am off home. Have "you polled ?" I said, "I have." He said, "Who "for ?" I said, "For Sir Robert Carden." "Come "along with me," he said ; "here is something to "have a glass with," and he gave me 2*l.*

19,425. That was given you as a reward ?—I did not ask him for it.

19,426. He gave it to you for having voted for Carden ?—I suppose so.

19,427. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you understand that to be the case ?—I suppose that was it.

19,428. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Carden.

19,429. What did you receive then ?—I have not the slightest recollection that I received anything.

19,430. Can you swear you did not ?—I have no recollection of receiving anything, and, if I had received it, no doubt I should have remembered it ; but I got rather top heavy.

19,431. You got rather top-heavy on that occasion ?—Afterwards, not before.

19,432. Do you think it possible that, while you were top-heavy, you might have received something ?—Yes ; but I have not the slightest recollection of having received anything. I know I was minus some of my own cash the morning after the polling was over.

J. Bernard.

JULIAN BERNARD sworn and examined.

19,433. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You reside in London, do you not ?—I do.

19,434. Do you live in Piccadilly ?—I do.

19,435. Are you a friend of Sir Robert Carden's ?—I am.

19,436. And have you been so for some years ?—I have.

19,437. Are you also acquainted with a gentleman of the name of Cooke, a barrister ?—I do know Mr. Cooke of the Oxford Circuit.

19,438. You have known him for some few years, have you not ?—Yes, slightly.

19,439. Do you remember a conversation with Mr. Cooke before the election of 1857, in consequence of which you made a communication to Sir Robert Walter Carden ?—I do not.

19,440. Do you remember being requested to see Sir Robert Carden about becoming a candidate for this city ?—I was not requested to see Sir Robert Carden upon that subject.

19,441. You were not requested to see him ?—No, I was not requested to see him.

19,442. You were not the means at all of Sir Robert Carden becoming a candidate for this city ?—I was asked my opinion, would Sir Robert Carden come ? and I said I was quite uncertain whether he would or not ; that I did not know in fact.

19,443. Was that in the year 1856 ?—Perhaps it might be ; I am not certain.

19,444. By whom were you asked your opinion upon the subject ?—I do not think I was specially applied to. I was asked generally if I thought Sir Robert Walter Carden would be likely to stand for Gloucester.

19,445. Can you say who it was that asked you that question ?—I think Mr. Cooke called upon me at my chambers in the Albany, and said something about it.

19,446. You had known Mr. Cooke before that, had you not ?—I really do not recollect. I knew Mr. Cooke by reputation, and by seeing him and meeting him occasionally ; but I had no personal intimacy with Mr. Cooke, nor have I.

19,447. Had you yourself after Mr. Cooke had called upon you any communication with Sir Robert Carden on the subject of his becoming a candidate for Gloucester ?—I am so often and have been so often in communication with Sir Robert Carden that I could not call to mind any special conversation with him to that effect. Of course men who meet very often speak about political matters, but I had no special conversation with him upon the subject. I was not the special medium of communication with Sir Robert Carden.

19,448. You were not the special medium of Sir Sir Robert Carden becoming a candidate ?—No ; I was asked my opinion whether it was likely that Sir Robert Carden would stand for Gloucester, and I was not able to say whether he would or would not.

19,449. Did you request Mr. Cooke to see Sir Robert Carden on the subject ?—I did not ; I did not want to take any part in political matters and I took no trouble about it. I think it extremely probable that I spoke to Sir Robert on the subject.

19,450. Did you go into the subject with Mr. Cooke ?—I did not go into any particulars.

19,451. You did not ask him any question as to the constituency, or as to the probable expense ?—No, nothing of that kind. I do not think I saw Mr. Cooke for 15 minutes ; I had a desire to avoid political matters, being much absorbed in my own pursuits.

19,452. Were you afterwards consulted by Sir

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Robert Carden with regard to his coming down here? —I was not.

19,453. You were not consulted by him?—I was not.

19,454. But you did come yourself to Gloucester with Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—I did.

19,455. As his companion?—Yes. Sir Robert Carden is a great friend of mine, and he requested me to accompany him, and I did so.

19,456. Your desire to keep free from politics in consequence of your being so much absorbed in your own pursuits did not prevent you from accompanying him to Gloucester?—It did not prevent me from performing the office of a friend by any means, nor would it under any circumstances.

19,457. The first occasion on which you were here with him was in 1857, was it not?—Yes, in 1857.

19,458. About how long were you in Gloucester with Sir Robert upon that occasion when you came down?—I think I was the greatest part of the canvass here. I was not with him all the time; but I was for several days with him, I know, accompanying him in his canvass in Gloucester.

19,459. I suppose you and Sir Robert Carden had a good deal of conversation when you were here with respect to the election and with respect to his prospects of success?—He was gratified always, Sir Robert Carden was, with the general success of his canvass and with the manner in which the Gloucester people met him. He was very pleased; it was a matter of frequent conversation; in fact he seemed rather surprised at it.

19,460. He seemed surprised, did he?—He seemed gratified, not surprised, and he expressed great confidence in his chances of success.

19,461. Did he tell you what he considered would be the necessary expenditure of money to insure his return?—No, he did not.

19,462. He did not tell you that?—He did not.

19,463. Had you no conversation with him as to what the gentlemen from Gloucester who came to him as a deputation had told him upon that subject? —No, I had not; in fact, I am very certain that I had not at that time.

19,464. Did he tell you what he was prepared to spend?—He did not: you are asking me now, I presume, in reference to the particular visit I made to Gloucester at that time.

19,465. Yes; I am now confining myself to the election of 1857?—I quite understand you; no, he did not.

19,466. Did he give you to understand that in the event of any application being made for money, it would be desirable that the application should be made to you and not to him?—Most positively not; nothing of the kind; he made no sort of reference to it at all.

19,467. I understand you to say that during the time you were here in 1857, you had no conversation with Sir Robert Carden at all with regard to money matters?—No, not at all; that is a positive fact; not at all.

19,468. He said nothing to you about what he had been told was likely to be his expenditure; nothing about what he expected would be his expenditure nor what he was prepared to spend?—Not a word, positively. In point of fact, the financial part of the election I am quite sure was not referred to or discussed between Sir Robert Carden and myself at that period at all.

19,469. Do you remember towards the close of the canvass being with Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove in a room at the Bell, I believe, when Sir Robert Carden offered a cheque for 500*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove?—No, I have no such recollection; and from what I observed about Sir Robert Carden I do not think he had an opportunity during the election of being in that particular place.

19,470. Was Sir Robert Carden stopping at that time at the Bell?—Yes; and I stopped at the Bell also with Sir Robert Carden.

19,471. Do you remember any occasion upon which, whether at the Bell or elsewhere, you were present in a room with Mr. Lovegrove, Mr. Whithorn, and Sir Robert Carden when Sir Robert Carden offered a cheque of 500*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove?—I think when you asked me the question before you asked as to the polling day?

19,472. No; I said towards the close of the canvass?—Previous to the election day Sir Robert Carden gave some money to Mr. Lovegrove, I believe 300*l.*, but I have no recollection of being present at the time; it was referred to publicly, but I do not recollect the actual act of passing the cheque.

19,473. You do not recollect the circumstance of Sir Robert Carden handing over the cheque?—I do not; I did not observe it. I might have been in the room at the same time, but I do not recollect the circumstance.

19,474. Do I understand you to say that you have no recollection of a cheque for 500*l.* being offered to Mr. Lovegrove?—I cannot tax my memory with it; I do not recollect it.

19,475. With reference to that cheque of 500*l.*, I asked you whether or not Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Lovegrove were present; do you remember whether other gentlemen, Mr. Helps and Mr. Washbourne, were in the room when any transaction relative to money took place?—Gloucester gentlemen at that particular time to me were all comparative strangers; they were almost all strangers to me. Several persons were in the room with Sir Robert Carden almost every morning, but I have not any distinct recollection, nor do I think I was present when a cheque was handed to them.

19,476. Have you no recollection of being present when any conversation took place respecting a cheque for 500*l.* being handed by Sir Robert Carden to Mr. Lovegrove?—I have no recollection of the circumstance, though I might have been present at the time.

19,477. Do you remember upon one occasion being called out of the room by Mr. Lovegrove?—On the top of the stair or in the passage Mr. Lovegrove said he wanted to speak to me, and he accompanied me to my own room, and as far as I can recollect, he remarked that he had intended originally to have asked for a cheque for 500*l.* of Sir Robert Carden, but that he only did so for 300*l.*, or that Sir Robert Carden only gave him 300*l.*, and that he did not think fit to trouble him again, and he requested me to give a cheque, which I did.

19,478. Mr. Lovegrove told you he had intended to have asked for a cheque for 500*l.*?—He said he originally intended to have asked for or that he originally expected a cheque for 500*l.*, but he remarked that Sir Robert had only given him 300*l.*, and that he did not wish to trouble him then for any more.

19,479. You have no doubt that was the nature of the communication made to you by Mr. Lovegrove? —I have no doubt of it; that is my own impression; and I further think that on some hesitation being shown on my part, he said that he did not like to trouble Sir Robert so soon again after Sir Robert Carden had given him that particular amount.

19,480. Did Mr. Lovegrove state any special reason why he wanted to receive a cheque from you?—He did not, further than that it was for the election expenses. I inferred that it was for election expenses and legitimate expenses for this reason: that Mr. Lovegrove said he intended to have asked Sir Robert for 500*l.*

19,481. I am asking you as to what was stated by Mr. Lovegrove?—That I believe is what he stated, that he had intended to ask 500*l.* of Sir Robert Carden. Instead of that he said Sir Robert Carden took the initiative and gave him 300*l.* himself, and that he could not immediately afterwards ask him for an additional 200*l.*

19,482. What sum did he ask you for?—He asked me at the first, I think., for 200*l*, and made a remark immediately afterwards to the effect that I had better

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give him 100*l.*; so I gave the 100*l.* in the form of a cheque.

19,483. Did you give Mr. Lovegrove a cheque for 100*l.*?—I wrote out the cheque in my room. I came out at the top of the stairs; there were several gentleman there, perhaps there might be five or six of the Gloucester gentlemen, and I handed the cheque to Mr. Lovegrove at the top of the stairs in the presence of several of those gentlemen. He remarked to me, "No, not to me; give it to so and so;" and I gave it to Mr. Washbourne. Instead of giving it to the gentleman Mr. Lovegrove intended, I handed it to Mr. Washbourne; he said, "It is not for me, it is for Mr. "so and so," and then I handed it to somebody else; I think it was Mr. Whithorn.

19,484. I suppose you have seen Mr. Whithorn since?—Yes; in fact I can say I have no doubt that I gave the cheque to him.

19,485. You first of all handed the cheque to Mr. Lovegrove?—No; Mr. Lovegrove did not receive the cheque. "It is for so and so," he said, and I thought the gentleman he meant was Mr. Washbourne, and therefore I offered the cheque to him, but he said, "No, it is for Mr. so and so," and I think the gentleman who received it was Mr. Whithorn.

19,486. When you gave the cheque to Mr. Whithorn, had you any conversation with him on the subject of that cheque?—No.

19,487. Mr. Whithorn made no statement to you as to the purpose for which he required it?—I have no recollection of anything of the kind, and I am positive that he did not.

19,488. After that you were requested to give a further cheque, were you not?—I was.

19,489. How soon after you gave the first cheque was it that you were requested to give the second cheque?—I cannot recollect exactly when it was.

19,490. Was it within a day or two?—I am not certain, but it was after the election; I am not sure that it was after the election; I think I sent the cheque from London. I think when I got to London I sent a cheque for 100*l.*; I think so.

19,491. Both those cheques, I suppose, were on your London bankers?—Yes; I might have been requested to give the cheque before, but I have no distinct recollection upon the subject, such a time having elapsed, and the subject being now brought up as a novel one, I cannot charge my memory; but I know I gave two cheques, each for 100*l.*, making 200*l.*

19,492. You have referred, have you not, to your banker's pass book?—I have.

19,493. You have seen, I suppose, those two cheques entered there?—I have.

19,494. In whose favour were the two cheques drawn?—I am in doubt as to one; one is numbered 730, I think, and the other is made payable to R. R.

19,495. (*Mr. Welford.*) R. C.?—R. R., I think, are the letters; I passed many cheques of that amount.

19,496. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you not the means of knowing in whose favour the second cheque was drawn?—No; it was payable to a number. The initials R. R. are on the cheque. The only cheque I can trace at that particular period is marked with the initials R. R.

19,497. (*Mr. Welford.*) That is the same cheque numbered 730, and marked R. R.?—I think that must have been the cheque, payable to no name. I lost a pocket-book in South Devon, and I have just received a telegram to inform me that the pocket-book is found. I think the cheques are in that pocket-book. I find I have left my telegram at the hotel.

19,498. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is there an entry in your pass-book corresponding with the cheque?—Yes.

19,499. What is the entry there?—Simply the initials "R. R."

19,500. Was the first cheque payable to a number, and the second to "R. R."?—I think so; I know I passed two cheques of 100*l.* each.

19,501. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you looked at the counterfoil in your cheque-book?—I have not; I do not suppose I have got it.

19,502. If you said "pay cheque No. 730," would you enter upon the counterfoil what that 730 was?—Not in all cases.

19,503. Would you not?—I have not done so in all cases.

19,504. Have you searched for the counterfoil?—I have.

19,505. And you have not succeeded in finding it?—I have not.

19,506. 1857 is not a very long time ago?—It is not; but such is the fact, I have not found it.

19,507. You have not succeeded in finding it?—I have not.

19,508. Without reference to those cheque-books can you not state in whose favour that second cheque was drawn that you sent from London?—I think it was the "R. R." cheque that I sent from London.

19,509. To whom did you send it?—I sent it to Mr. Lovegrove—I mean Mr. Whithorn; either to Mr. Lovegrove or Mr. Whithorn, one or the other I am positive.

19,510. Your impression is that you sent it to Mr. Whithorn?—My impression is that I sent it to Mr. Whithorn, but whether through Mr. Lovegrove or not I cannot be positive.

19,511. Was that cheque sent to Mr. Whithorn very soon after your return to London from Gloucester?—It was; and, if I recollect rightly, the reason why I did not give him a cheque in Gloucester was that I had no printed cheque with me, and I objected to giving one on plain paper.

19,512. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was your first cheque given on plain paper?—No, it was not; I happened to have a blank cheque in my pocket-book. I had not a second, or I believe I would have given a cheque then.

19,513. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do I understand you to say that a request was made to you by Mr. Whithorn to send that 100*l.* from London?—I am not certain whether it was made to me by Mr. Whithorn (it is very probable it was) or by Mr. Lovegrove, I cannot say which.

19,514. When that request was made to you to send that second cheque down, did Mr. Whithorn state for what purpose he wanted the money?—I considered it as a part of the 200*l.* which was required to make up the 500*l.*, which was intended originally to have been asked of Sir Robert Carden.

19,515. But this second cheque for 100*l.* was given after the election, as I understand?—Yes, and it was represented to me that the gentleman had advanced the money, and I had said that I would send the money. I think I told him that I would.

19,516. The request having being made to you after the election to supply the second 100*l.*, did you not consider it singular that the application should be made to you and not to Sir Robert Carden?—No; because Mr. Lovegrove had asked me for 200*l.* originally, to make up the 500*l.*, and then he appeared to have changed his mind, and asked me only for 100*l.*

19,517. That was before the election?—Yes.

19,518. Did you not consider that the circumstances of the case were altered when you found that the second application was made to you after the termination of the election?—Permit me. I have stated this, which I believe to be the fact, that I was asked for the cheque previous to the election; but, insomuch as I had no printed cheque I objected to give a plain cheque, but promised to send a cheque when I returned to town; so I considered myself pledged to forward the cheque as promised.

19,519. Do you represent that at the time when you gave those cheques you had no knowledge at all that they were required for illegal purposes?—I most positively declare that I did not even suspect it.

19,520. When did you first have a conversation with Sir Robert Carden relative to those two cheques?—I think it must have been in August; I never spoke to him about the two cheques or any cheque at

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all in the matter. I think I must have said to him that he owed me 200*l.*; I did not go into the facts of the case; I did not mention to him that I had parted with any cheques.

19,521. "I think I said to Sir Robert that he "owed me 200*l.*" Is that what you say?—I think so.

19,522. Did you tell him for what?—Yes, I did; I told him I had advanced it to Mr. Lovegrove, that I was requested by his friends in Gloucester to give it in consequence of his not giving the 500*l.*, or something of that kind. I did not go into particulars; I could not swear that I did so, but I infer that I said that from the fact that I received the money. I received the 200*l.* from Sir Robert Carden either in August or September.

19,523. Did you tell Sir Robert Carden or did he ask you how it was that that money came to be advanced by you?—He did not ask me. I think I volunteered, however, this, that from the fact of Mr. Lovegrove thinking that Sir Robert Carden was to have given him 500*l.* at first, and only receiving 300*l.* I was requested to advance 200*l.*, which I had done.

19,524. Upon your telling him that you had advanced 200*l.* did he then take out his cheque book and give you a cheque for 200*l.*?—He did not.

19,525. But he did give a cheque for 200*l.*, did he not?—He did not; I think he gave it me in money,—in money or a cheque, I could not swear which,—but I do know that I received 200*l.* in one form or another, probably in the form of a cheque. I cannot tax my memory which it was.

19,526. Did you receive that money from Sir Robert Carden without any further interrogation from him as to the reason for your having given those two cheques?—He did not question me in the least. Sir Robert Carden felt certain that unless he honourably and legally owed me the 200*l.* I would not have asked him for it; but I gave him the explanation that I had given the money to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,527. And he was quite satisfied with that explanation, and paid you the money at once?—Whether he was satisfied with it or not he gave me the money.

19,528. But was he dissatisfied?—He did not particularly seem dissatisfied. I had to repeat the question. I certainly thought he did owe me 200*l.*, and I got the money. It was necessary for me to explain the facts to him which I did, and which I have repeated here, that I gave the 200*l.* to professional gentlemen in Gloucester, that is, to Mr. Lovegrove or Mr. Whithorn, and that I felt entitled to receive that 200*l.*, and he gave it to me.

19,529. Did he appear surprised that you should have been asked for the money, and not himself?—No; the explanation I gave him was quite sufficient for him.

19,530. And he was not at all angry or annoyed?—No, not in the least.

19,531. Had any money at that time passed from you to Mr. Cooke?—No, not a farthing.

19,532. You had no pecuniary transactions at all with him?—I never had any pecuniary transactions with Mr. Cooke directly or indirectly.

19,533. No cheques passed from you to him or from him to you?—No; I have no recollection of any cheques at all to Mr. Cooke; no money at all except the 200*l.* had been advanced by me in any manner.

19,534. Had you any conversation at all with Sir Robert Carden relative to the election of 1857, between the date of his return and the time when he became a candidate for Gloucester again in 1859?—Nothing further than a general conversation. We never referred to the items or particulars of the election, if that is what you mean.

19,535. You never referred to the items or particulars of the election?—No, not at all at any time.

19,536. Did you converse with him generally with regard to his expenditure in the election of 1857?—I did not; I wanted to avoid going into the matter at all, for I was very much engaged in my own pursuits. I did not want to be bothered with it.

19,537. Had you no conversation with Sir Robert Carden in any way with regard to the expenditure in the election of 1857?—No; I do not think Sir Robert Carden would consult with me on those matters or bring them before me, and I did not volunteer it; I should have considered it impertinent to inquire into the matter.

19,538. Did you ever ask him what the election had cost him?—I certainly did not; I would not do that; it would have been presumption on my part.

19,539. Did he ever volunteer any statement to you upon the subject?—He did not, and I did not know anything of it till I saw it published?

19,540. Did he ever express any surprise to you as to the election having been so costly to him?—He did not; you are speaking of the election of 1857?

19,541. Yes?—He did not; he might have expressed himself annoyed at the time of the petition at the cost of it, but he did not tell me what it cost, nor did I ask him; he seemed annoyed at being put to such unnecessary expense, and considered it a great hardship that he should have had to pay for the two petitions, but as to the items of the election, or the particulars of it, he did not refer to them.

19,542. Did he tell you what the petition had cost him?—I was under an impression (whether I got it from him or not I do not know) that it had cost him about 1,700*l.* I think I must have got that impression from Sir Robert Carden; I do not say that I got it from him, but I do not see where I could have obtained the information except from him; I think it very likely that he told me it was that.

19,543. You, no doubt, had conversations from time to time with Sir Robert Carden relative to the petition?—No, I had not.

19,544. Had you conversations with him relative to the cost of the petition?—No, I had not, unless it was a casual conversation. I do not think I ever saw him alone for instance upon the subject; perhaps a casual remark had been made, but to go into the matter, or to consult me about it, he certainly never did.

19,545. You did not go into items or details, but you are under an impression that he told you the cost was 1,700*l.*; that is what I gather from your answer?—I certainly did not go into the items, but I received an impression that it must have cost about 1,700*l.*, and that impression I must have received from Sir Robert Carden, though I have no distinct recollection of his telling me the fact; it is probable that he did tell me so, though I do not recollect it.

19,546. Do you remember after the election of 1857 being applied to to audit the election and petition accounts?—I think there was such a suggestion made to me.

19,547. By whom?—By Mr. Lovegrove; he asked me whether I should like to go over the particulars of the account.

19,548. When did Mr. Lovegrove ask you if you would like to go over the particulars of the account?—Some time in the summer or autumn of 1857, after the petitions were presented I think and over; I think so.

19,549. Do you know how he came to ask you if you would like to go over them?—I have no idea why, or what his motive was, and my answer was that I did not understand such things, and that I did not want to have anything to do with them.

19,550. Do you remember where it was that he offered to show you or asked you if you would like to see the particulars of the account?—I cannot recall to my mind where it was; it was in London, I think.

19,551. Whereabouts in London?—In London somewhere.

19,552. Was it at your own residence?—No.

19,553. Was it in the city; was it at Sir Robert Carden's?—I think it must have been at my chambers in the Albany, as far as my memory serves me, but I

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could not swear that it was at that particular time. Mr. Lovegrove came to town, I believe, with the intention of calling on Sir Robert Carden, and he suggested to me to look at the account, but I declined upon the ground that I did not understand such matters.

19,554. Did Mr. Lovegrove produce the account to you?—No; he did not show me the accounts; he asked me should I like to see them.

19,555. Did he ask you if you would like to see them as a friend of Sir Robert Carden's?—I do not think he used that word, but I suppose it was as a friend of Sir Robert Carden's that he came to me.

19,556. He did not state that he came to you as a friend of Sir Robert Carden's?—No, he did not.

19,557. Had you any conversation with Sir Robert Carden after that conversation with Mr. Lovegrove, with reference to it?—No, I had not; I do not recollect that I had any.

19,558. Did you understand that Mr. Lovegrove had made that proposition to you for the satisfaction of Sir Robert Carden's mind?—I understood it was for his own justification; that it might be seen that no items were over charged. That was the impression on my mind, but I was no judge of such matters, and I declined on that footing.

19,559. Did you make any counter proposition?—I never saw the thing at all.

19,560. Did you make any counter proposition to Mr. Lovegrove?—Certainly none, except giving him a blank refusal.

19,561. Did you ask him whether he had produced a statement of his account to Sir Robert Carden?—I did not; I cut the matter very short; I did not want to have anything to do with it; I could not spare the time.

19,562. I understand you to say that all that took place was Mr. Lovegrove making that proposition to you?—Yes; he asked me would I like to do so.

19,563. And nothing resulted from that proposition, and no communication upon the subject was made by you to Sir Robert Carden afterwards?—No, certainly not.

19,564. You say that nothing further took place between you and Sir Robert Carden with regard to that election of 1857, from that time down to the election of 1859. Do you remember when Sir Robert Carden came down to canvass Gloucester in 1859, in this present year?—I did not see him when he came, but I recollect the circumstance of his coming down.

19,565. You did not see him before he came down to Gloucester?—I did not, or upon the Gloucester matter.

19,566. You had no conversation with him relative to the cost of the election of 1857, immediately before he came to Gloucester in 1859?—I had not. I had other business with Sir Robert Carden, I recollect at the time; I had an appointment with him in the city upon special business, and he left me an envelope,—"I cannot see you, I am off to Gloucester,"—that was all that was in the letter, and I did not see him afterwards, nor did I see him in any manner till after the election, for in truth I wanted to avoid being brought down again to Gloucester; I was afraid I should be asked to come down, and I could not spare the time.

19,567. Then on that occasion you did not come to Gloucester as the friend of Sir Robert Carden to canvass with him?—Certainly not.

19,568. Do you remember, a short time before the election, receiving any communication from Mr. Lovegrove respecting the canvass that was then in progress;—No, I have no distinct recollection of it, in fact I do not remember seeing Mr. Lovegrove. I saw him once in town, and it is probable the subject of the election matters would be mentioned.

19,569. Mr. Lovegrove came to you in town?—I saw Mr. Lovegrove in town.

19,570. And had a conversation with him?—Yes.

19,571. Upon election matters?—Yes; I asked him how he was getting on at Gloucester; when I met Mr. Lovegrove that would be a natural question.

19,572. How long was that before the election?—I cannot call to mind the fact.

19,573. How long was it before the election?—I cannot say.

19,574. Was it after you had received the envelope which was left for you by Sir Robert Carden?—No, I do not think it was; it might have been many months before.

19,575. Do you mean it might have been many months before there was any knowledge that an election would take place?—It was a general talk that there would be an election several months before the election did take place.

19,576. Do I understand you to say that?—Yes, that is my impression.

19,577. In this present year?—Yes.

19,578. It being your impression that there was a general talk of an election being likely to take place, you say you might have seen Mr. Lovegrove many months before the election?—I do not say many months, I think it was previous to the election.

19,579. But how long previous to the election?—I cannot recall to my mind how long.

19,580. You said just now that you saw Mr. Lovegrove in London on election matters before the election?—I did not see him on election matters. What I said was that the subject probably of election matters was mentioned.

19,581. How long was it before the election?—I think it must have been months, for the conversation was general. It was something, I think, to this effect, whether Sir Robert Carden was likely to stand for Gloucester in the event of an election. I think it was something to that effect; it was very vague.

19,582. Was there a doubt expressed by Mr. Lovegrove as to whether Sir Robert Carden would stand?—That which I have stated was the question I was asked, I think, to the best of my memory.

19,583. Was there a doubt expressed by Mr. Lovegrove as to whether he would stand or not?—That question would imply a doubt I should imagine.

19,584. Then you think there was a doubt in Mr. Lovegrove's mind whether Sir Robert Carden would stand or not?—I could not tell what was in the gentleman's mind, but that very question would imply a doubt I should think.

19,585. Do you say that this occurred several months before the election?—It was a considerable time before the election.

19,586. Did you see Mr. Lovegrove after that interview to which you can give no date and before the election?—Yes, I did. I saw him in Gloucester.

19,587. When was that?—I think it was about a week before the election.

19,588. How came you to see him in Gloucester?—I think I telegraphed to see him; I was passing through Gloucester, and was anxious from various reports to hear whether Sir Robert Carden was likely to be returned for Gloucester. I rather think I telegraphed to him to meet me on the platform of the station.

19,589. Were you going to stop at Gloucester at that time?—Not longer than would enable me to have a few minutes' conversation with Mr. Lovegrove.

19,590. Were you going on further?—Yes; I was going by the quarter past three train to Ross.

19,591. Did you telegraph to Mr. Lovegrove to that effect?—I caused a telegram to be sent to Mr. Lovegrove; I think I was too much pressed for time to do it myself.

19,592. Did you telegraph to Mr. Lovegrove that you were going to Ross?—I did not tell Mr. Lovegrove that I was going on to Ross; I asked him to meet me on the platform or at the Wellington. I cannot recall the words.

19,593. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where did you send the telegram from?—From London, I think. I am pretty certain it must have been from London.

19,594. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How came you to tele-

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graph there ?—I was anxious to have a report, and hear what the prospects were of Sir Robert Carden's return.

19,595. I thought you had stated in a previous part of your examination that you were very anxious to keep yourself free from politics ?—Yes, I was anxious to keep away from Gloucester ; I could not spare the time.

19,596. I understood you to say you were anxious not to have anything to do with politics ?—I made that remark with reference to my interview with Mr. Cooke ; but, having a friend coming forward for Gloucester, and anxious to be returned, I was anxious for his success.

19,597. But at the time you telegraphed to Mr. Lovegrove to the effect you have stated, was not Sir Robert Carden at Gloucester ;—I think he was.

19,598. Sir Robert Carden being in Gloucester, what occasion was there for you to telegraph to Mr. Lovegrove, to ask him to meet you at the station, if your only object was to ask him how Sir Robert Carden was going on ?—I wanted to hear from Mr. Lovegrove what his chances of success were.

19,599. Could you not have done that by letter ; could you not have written to Mr. Lovegrove, and said, "I wish to know what are Sir Robert Carden's chances of success"?—As I was coming down I thought that a personal interview with Mr. Lovegrove would be more satisfactory.

19,600. In what respect would it be more satisfactory ?—Personal interviews, on almost any matter of business are considered more satisfactory than letters. I wanted to hear what were Sir Robert Carden's prospects with reference to the election.

19,601. Did you telegraph to Mr. Lovegrove intending, when you met him at the railway station, to enter into an arrangement with him for the supply of money for the purpose of Sir Robert Carden's election ?—It was from simple curiosity, for many friends of Sir Robert Carden's in town were very anxious, and various reports came to London, somehow, that he would not be successful, and others said that he would, and I wanted to ascertain what the real state of the case was.

19,602. It was simply for the gratification of your own curiosity ?—Yes, and that natural anxiety which one man feels for another where they are on very friendly terms ; nothing else.

19,603. Why would not your curiosity have been satisfied as well by a letter as by a personal interview ?—I came to the conclusion that by letter Mr. Lovegrove would say at once "We are sure to win." I wanted to question him.

19,604. Did you think it likely that a different answer would be given in a personal interview from that which would be returned by letter ?—I did not give any consideration to the matter at all, I did not think about it.

19,605. You say that it was simply a desire to gratify your curiosity that induced you to seek this interview with Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes.

19,606. Sir Robert Carden himself being at Gloucester at the time ?—Yes.

19,607. Could you not have written to Sir Robert Carden and inquired from him what his chances of success were ?—I knew he was very busy with election matters.

19,608. Could you not have written to him and inquired from him what his chances of success were ?—I might have written to half-a-dozen people, but I thought that the most satisfactory mode of obtaining the information I wanted was to do what I did.

19,609. Did you telegraph to Mr. Lovegrove in your own name ?—I did not.

19,610. In what name was the telegram sent ?—I do not recollect that.

19,611. But you must recollect ?—I do not indeed, for I requested another person to do it for me.

19,612. But, Mr. Bernard, you must recollect in what name was that telegram sent ?—I really cannot say ; I tell you the truth to the best of my memory.

19,613. Who was it you employed to send the telegram ?—I cannot say ; in fact unless I was assured that I did send a telegram, I have no recollection of sending it to him.

19,614. You yourself have stated that you sent a telegram from London ?—Yes, I think it was from London ; I cannot be certain. I often go up and down the Great Western line, and it might have been from Swindon, but I am not certain.

19,615. You having stated that you had telegraphed to Mr. Lovegrove, I want to know, if you did not yourself send the telegram, who you employed to send it ?—I should have employed my servant probably.

19,616. From your chambers in the Albany ?—Yes, I should have employed him.

19,617. What is your servant's name ?—Somerville.

19,618. What is his christian name ?—William.

19,619. Have you the same servant living with you now that you had at that time ?—Yes, he has lived with me for the last eight years.

19,620. How came you to have a telegram sent to Mr. Lovegrove in a feigned name ?—I cannot account for it.

19,621. We are now inquiring into a transaction occurring in the early part of this year. You surely must know why it was that you did not employ your own name, but resorted to a feigned name ?—The probability is that I wanted to avoid seeing any of Mr. Lovegrove's friends in Gloucester.

19,622. Is that the answer that you give to my question, that you were anxious to avoid seeing any of Mr. Lovegrove's friends in Gloucester ?—I can assign no other reason for it, and I think it is the probable one, as far as I recollect ; I thought it probable that if I had told Mr. Lovegrove that I was coming down to Gloucester, he would have several gentlemen to meet me, and I did not want to see them.

19,623. How did you suppose that by sending a telegram in a false name you would avoid meeting the friends of Mr. Lovegrove ?—I thought Mr. Lovegrove would come to the platform, and my object was to save time.

19,624. From what circumstance would you arrive at the conclusion that Mr. Lovegrove having received a telegram from you in a false name, would come to the station ?—I am not aware that it was a false name.

19,625. I put you the question just now and you said it was sent in a feigned name ?—I am told it was, but I do not know it of my own knowledge.

19,626. Who told you ?—Mr. Lovegrove has told me that such a telegram was sent.

19,627. In a false name ?—Not in my name.

19,628. In a feigned name by yourself ?—I have no recollection of sending such a telegram.

19,629. How many telegrams have you sent to Mr. Lovegrove during the present year ?—Upon my word I cannot tell ; perhaps two or three.

19,630. How many did you send to Mr. Lovegrove in the week during the election ?—I have no recollection of sending him any previous to the election except this one ; I might have sent a telegram to him.

19,631. Having sent only one in the week previous to the election, if that telegram was sent in a false name, what object had you in so sending it ?—I thought that if my name transpired, Mr. Lovegrove would bring several other gentlemen of Gloucester, and I did not want to see them, as perhaps they might want me to take part in the election.

19,632. If the telegram was sent by you in a name that you did not bear, how could Mr. Lovegrove know who it was that requested him to meet him at the Railway station?—I took it for granted, as any one who took the trouble and went to the expense of telegraphing to another, must have an object, that Mr. Lovegrove would meet me ; but if he did not, my business was not important, and I did not care.

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19,633. So far as you were concerned when you sent a telegram in a false name, Mr. Lovegrove might have concluded that the person sending that telegram was the most perfect stranger in the world to him ?—He might ; I took the chance of that.

19,634. What was it that induced him to believe, your telegram being sent to him in a feigned name, that you were the sender of it ?—I have no idea.

19,635. Now, what really was the object you had in so sending that telegram in a feigned name ?—I told you my object was to ascertain what were the prospects of Sir Robert Carden.

19,636. But why not send it in your own name?—I did not want to meet the Gloucester gentlemen. I felt that if my name transpired, several gentlemen in Gloucester might want me to take part in the election, and I wanted to avoid that.

19,637. Was it not for the purpose of making a secret arrangement with Mr. Lovegrove with reference to the election ?—No.

19,638. Do you mean to swear that ?—Most positively ; I am most positive of it.

19,639. Do you swear the telegram that you sent in that feigned name was the first communication you made to Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject of that Gloucester election ?—I think it was.

19,640. Had you received no communication at all from Mr. Lovegrove with reference to that election before you sent that telegram ?—I think not.

19,641. You had received no communication of any sort ?—No.

19,642. Am I to understand that it was you who took the initiative in opening this communication with Mr. Lovegrove by the telegram which you sent ?—It was : yes ; I have no recollection of Mr. Lovegrove requesting me to meet him.

19,643. And do you adhere to the statement you have made that your only object in sending that telegram requesting Mr. Lovegrove to meet you at the station was to ascertain what were the prospects of Sir Robert Carden's success ?—Really that was it.

19,644. That was your only object ?—That was my real object. It was this : I heard certain reports, and they were represented so strongly to me that I thought if they were true the best thing Mr. Lovegrove could do would be to advise Sir Robert Carden to retire, and I was anxious know whether there was any truth in the rumour.

19,645. Whether there was any truth in what rumour ?—I heard rumours in town that Sir Robert Carden would not gain the election ; that the election would be unsuccessful.

19,646. From whom did you hear those rumours ?—From several persons.

19,647. Did you think that the persons from whom you heard those rumours were likely to know something about the truth of them ?—It was a matter of opinion.

19,648. Did you think that the persons from whom you heard those rumours were likely, from their position, to know what the truth was with reference to them ?—I thought there might be a foundation for them.

19,649. And it was in order to satisfy yourself whether there was any foundation for them or not that you telegraphed to Mr. Lovegrove ?—I wanted to see Mr. Lovegrove.

19,650. You did not trust to a letter, but sent a telegram in a feigned name ?—There was no time for a letter.

19,651. Was it so urgent ?—No, my time was urgent.

19,652. But were you anxious to get an answer from Mr. Lovegrove because the matter was urgent ?—No, not at all.

19,653. Then why did you not send a letter ?—Because I had no time to attend to it.

19,654. Had you no time to receive a letter ?—I was going on business to the West of England, and it was not likely I should have Mr. Lovegrove's answer.

19,655. If you had sent a telegram to Mr. Lovegrove why should you not receive a telegram back from him ?—I was passing through here and this appeared to me to be the most natural mode.

19,656. Was your business urgent in the west of England ?—Yes.

19,657. That was the reason why you could not wait to receive an answer by letter ; is that so ?—I did not reason upon it.

19,658. Either you did reason or you did not ; did you not reason at all upon the subject ?—The reason why I sent the telegram was that I was passing through here and I thought it would be a favourable opportunity in a short space of time to see Mr. Lovegrove.

19,659. How long before the election was it that the telegram was sent ?—I suppose the same week that I came down.

19,660. When did you come down to Gloucester ?—I think it was on a Saturday.

19,661. What time did you reach Gloucester ?—It was abont one o'clock, I should say, when the train arrived from London.

19,662. You were going on by the train at three o'clock ?—About three. About three I expected to have gone on by the train.

19,663. Did Mr. Lovegrove meet you on the platform ?—He did.

19,664. Did you satisfy your mind as to Sir Robert Carden's chances of success when you had this conversation with Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes.

19,665. Did you then go on by the train at three o'clock ?—No.

19,666. Why not?—Because Mr. Lovegrove wanted that I should see Mr. Whithorn. From the conversation that I had with Mr. Lovegrove, I did not think the prospects of the election so very good, and I took it that he went for Mr. Whithorn as being more fully informed of the prospects, and the promises, and so forth.

19,667. Do you undertake to say that, from the conversation which you had with Mr. Lovegrove, you did not understand that Sir Robert Carden's chances of success were good ?—Not exactly so. I asked Mr. Lovegrove was Sir Robert Carden's election certain, and he said that Mr. Whithorn knew more about it than himself ; that he thought undoubtedly he had the best chance, and a good chance.

19,668. I thought you had just now stated that your object in sending the telegram to Mr. Lovegrove in a false name was that you might not see any of the Gloucester gentlemen except Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes, but Mr. Lovegrove suggested that I should see Mr. Whithorn.

19,669. How came you to yield to his suggestion if your object was not to see any of the Gloucester gentlemen ?—Mr. Lovegrove persuaded me to do so ; he persuaded me to wait until I saw Mr. Whithorn.

19,670. But did you remain in Gloucester over that day ?—I returned by the half-past 12 o'clock train, I think at night.

19,671. You went to Ross, did you ?—I did not go to Ross.

19,672. You went back to London ?—Yes ; from certain communications which I had from Mr. Lovegrove, I went back to London.

19,673. You arrived at Gloucester at one in the day ?—Yes.

19,674. You were to have gone on to Ross on urgent business ?—Yes ; I missed the train at three o'clock.

19,675. But you were to have gone on to Ross on urgent business, and did not go there ?—No.

19,676. Having this urgent business at Ross, you went back to London ?—Yes.

19,677. You did go to the west ?—I did not go there, it being Saturday night.

19,678. By what train did you go back to London?—I think by the train that leaves here early in the morning.

19,679. You arrived in London the next day ?—Yes.

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19,680. When did you come back again?—I do not think I came back by that particular route for some time; not till after the election.

19,681. Did you not come back to Gloucester again?—I passed very often through Gloucester.

19,682. Did you arrive in Gloucester again after the Saturday night when you went to London before the election?—No, I did not return to Gloucester.

19,683. Do you mean to represent that you remained in Gloucester from one o'clock on the Saturday till half-past twelve the same night; is that so?—That is so to the best of my recollection.

19,684. When was it that you saw Mr. Whithorn?—On the Saturday afternoon with Mr. Lovegrove.

19,685. What time was that?—About four o'clock. Mr. Lovegrove said he would go for Mr. Whithorn; but he stayed so long that I missed my train, and it being Saturday night and in consequence of what had passed between myself and Mr. Lovegrove, I returned to London again.

19,686. You merely came to Gloucester, as I understand you to say, to satisfy your curiosity?—That was my object.

19,687. As to Sir Robert Carden's chances of success?—Yes.

19,688. And therefore Mr. Lovegrove was to meet you at the station?—Yes.

19,689. Mr. Lovegrove made a statement to you?—Yes, which induced me to defer my visit.

19,690. Why then did you not proceed on your journey; was not your curiosity satisfied?—It was.

19,691. Then why did you not go on your journey at three o'clock?—I wanted to return to town to make provision to send some money to Mr. Lovegrove which he requested me to forward to him, and which I felt it my duty to forward after certain representations were made to me as Sir Robert Carden's friend.

19,692. You knew that Sir Robert Carden was in Gloucester at the time, did you not?—I believed he was.

19,693. What was the communication that was made to you by Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn?—Mr. Lovegrove remarked that unless some money was provided the election would be lost.

19,694. Unless there was some money provided for bribery?—No, he did not say that.

19,695. Do you mean to swear he did not tell you that unless some money was provided for bribery the election would be lost?—I most positively swear he did not make use of the word.

19,696. Not a word was said about it?—No.

19,697. For what purpose did you think the money was wanted?—He remarked, and I knew it myself, that it was a very extended canvass, extending over a long time. He said it would be a very expensive election, and he dwelt upon that, and also upon the very great expense incurred by the other parties, and the amount of money that was being spent.

19,698. Did he say in what way the expense was being incurred by the other party?—In hiring a great number of people and so forth; general expense; he did not go into particulars with me at all.

19,699. What was the sum of money that he represented he should want?—He requested, or rather inferred, that if I sent him 500*l.* it would be desirable. I left with this impression, that I was to forward 500*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,700. What did Mr. Lovegrove tell you upon the subject?—He told me that money would be wanted for the election purposes, that some one he thought ought to furnish it, and that he knew no one to whom apply for it himself.

19,701. What money did he say would be wanted?—He said that probably 1,000*l.* would be required, and suggested that I should send 500*l.*

19,702. Did he not request you to send the whole 1,000*l.*?—No, he did not; I cannot say that he did.

19,703. Did he tell you for what purpose the 1,000*l.* would be required?—He said for the election.

19,704. Was that all?—That was all.

19,705. Did he tell you it would be required at once?—He did not say at what time; he did not say immediately. I think he suggested that it ought to be sent without delay; I think so.

19,706. You think he said it ought to be sent without delay?—Yes, I think so.

19,707. Did you not ask him how it was that he wanted so large a sum as 500*l.*?—I did not.

19,708. Did it not occur to you to ask that question?—No; I am not certain that I did ask him the question, and I could not swear I did not.

19,709. Did you ask him why he wanted so large a sum as 1,000*l.*?—I might have done so, but I have no recollection of asking him the question.

19,710. Did you not think it an extraordinary thing that he should require 1,000*l.* to be sent down without delay, if that money was to be expended legally?—I did not infer that 1,000*l.* was to be spent, he said that the election might cost 1,000*l.*

19,711. I understood you to say just now it was suggested that 1,000*l.* should be provided?—He did not speak to me about such a provision; he said it would cost 1,000*l.*

19,712. You said just now that Mr. Lovegrove told you it would be necessary to have 1,000*l.*?—Mr. Lovegrove did not request me to send 1,000*l.*, but said that the election might cost 1,000*l.*

19,713. Did he not tell you that 1,000*l.* would be wanted for the purpose of insuring the election, or for the purpose of gaining the election?—He might have said it would cost 1,000*l.*, but he did not infer to me that he wanted 1,000*l.*

19,714. You did not understand that he wanted 1,000*l.*?—No, insomuch as he named the sum he expected me to send.

19,715. Is the statement that you wish us to receive from you as the real impression on your mind at that time, this; that when he mentioned to you that he wanted 500*l.* to be sent down and that the election might cost 1,000*l.*, you believed that that money was wanted for strictly legal purposes?—For election purposes.

19,716. For strictly legal purposes?—I did not know what the legal purposes of an election were; common sense told me that an election which extended over so long a time must be a very expensive one, so many men being employed.

19,717. Did you understand from him that it was wanted for bribery?—I did not indeed.

19,718. Had you no belief or impression on your mind, that it was wanted for bribery?—If by bribery you mean the purchase of voters, or giving to voters money for their votes, I certainly did not think it was for that purpose; I thought it was for extraordinary exertions being made.

19,719. Did you not consider that if that was the case, the proper person to apply to would have been Sir Robert Carden?—No, I did not.

19,720. Did it not occur to you that Sir Robert Carden was the proper person to apply to?—No.

19,721. You went to London that night?—Yes.

19,722. And you went there in consequence of the communication made to you by Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes.

19,723. Was it your own arrangement sending down the money?—I was so pressed and appealed to as Sir Robert Carden's friend that I could not do otherwise than give the thing serious consideration.

19,724. Did you go to London in consequence of the communication made to you by Mr. Lovegrove?—I had lost the day, and I could not attend to my business in Hereford, and so I returned to London and spent the day.

19,725. Did you go to London in consequence of the communication made to you by Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes, and having lost the train—both.

19,726. Was one of the objects of your returning to London to procure the money to send down to Gloucester?—No; I might have got the money without going to London.

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J. Bernard.
22 Oct. 1859.

19,727. Then that was not one of the reasons that took you to London?—No; I spent the day. I ought to have gone on further on private business; in fact I spent the day.

19,728. Did you after you got to London take measures to send money down to Gloucester?—I sent money down. I sent 500*l.* down.

19,729. How did you send it?—I sent it in two half notes.

19,730. On what day did you send the first half note?—I sent the two half notes before the Thursday. I cannot say on what day I sent them.

19,731. Did you send them on different days?—I cannot be certain of that.

19,732. Were they posted at the same time?—No, not by the same post; the one I think on Monday night and the other on Tuesday; I think that was it.

19,733. You think one was posted on the Monday and the other on the Tuesday?—I think so.

19,734. To whom was the letter addressed which contained the first half note?—I addressed one to Mr. Lovegrove and included in it the half of a 500*l.* note in an envelope and addressed it to Mr. Whithorn.

19,735. To whom did you address the first half?—That I cannot say; I sent the other, I believe, to the committee.

19,736. Do you mean to swear that you cannot tell to whom you addressed the letter which contained the first half of the 500*l.* note?—I forget whether it was to Mr. Whithorn or to Mr. Lovegrove that I sent the first. I know when I sent it and to whom, but whether I sent Mr. Lovegrove's first or Mr. Whithorn's first I cannot say.

19,737. Did you address the letters containing the two halves to the same individual or to different individuals?—To different inividuals. I sent one to Mr. Whithorn and the other to Mr. Lovegrove. My first impression was that I sent both to Mr. Lovegrove's office, but I recollect very well in my own mind that I did intend sending one to Mr. Lovegrove and one to Mr. Whithorn, and I must have adopted the latter course from the fact of Mr. Lovegrove not having received such notes at his office; had I appeared first here, my impression would have been that I had sent both to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,738. That was your impression?—Yes, but I can swear most positively that I sent both half notes from London and by post.

19,739. Did you write a note with either of them?—Nothing.

19,740. Nothing at all?—Nothing.

19,741. Was it simply the half note put into an envelope?—A note split in two.

19,742. The one half note put into one envelope and the other half into another, is that so?—That is so.

19,743. And your impression was that both those envelopes were sent to Mr. Lovegrove's?—That was my impression, but I cannot swear it from the fact that such envelopes have not been received at Mr. Lovegrove's office.

19,744. Is that the only reason which induces you now to think the letters were not so addressed?—Yes, and the fact of my originally deciding in my own mind to send one to Mr. Whithorn and the other to Mr. Lovegrove. I recollect I was in a great hurry when I was attending to the matter.

19,745. Independent of any evidence which has been given in this Court or of any statement that has been made to you, was it the impression on your mind that both envelopes were sent to Mr. Lovegrove?—The impression on my mind at this moment is that one of them had been sent to Mr. Whithorn.

19,746. Which was that, the first or the second?—I think the second.

19,747. Not the first?—Not the first; I think the second.

19,748. You think the first was sent to Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; my impression is that the first was sent to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,749. Was there any name put upon those notes?—Did you put your name?—I did not.

19,750. You wrote nothing in the letter; it was simply an envelope containing the half of a 500*l.* note?—That is all.

19,751. Is that the mode you usually adopt when you are sending the halves of 500*l.* notes about the country?—Not as a general rule.

19,752. Why did you depart from the general rule in this case?—I grudged the trouble of coming to Gloucester about it myself.

19,753. Why should you have departed from the general rule by sending the halves of a 500*l.* note in envelopes without any writing at all or anything to shew from whom they came?—I do not know that I had any special reason for it. I look on the post office as a very safe mode of conveying money.

19,754. Were they registered letters?—They were not; but from the note being split in two I thought it could not be used by any one, and that it would be quite safe.

19,755. How came you not to write anything in the envelope?—I had nothing to say.

19,756. All you had to do was to send the money?—All I had to do and did was to send the money; I said nothing.

19,757. Do you mean to swear that the mode in which you sent those halves of the 500*l.* was not a mode adopted by you for the purpose of secrecy?—It was a mode which was suggested to me, and I performed what was suggested.

19,758. Who suggested it?—Mr. Lovegrove.

19,759. Did you adopt that mode which was suggested to you by Mr. Lovegrove for the purpose of secrecy?—I did not give the thing consideration.

19,760. Not at all?—I really did not. I felt annoyed at my being asked, and left Mr. Lovegrove with a positive assurance that I would not do it; but when I reflected I felt that I should be very much blamed if Sir Robert Carden lost his election in consequence of my not doing it, I being a personal friend of his, and I sent the money.

19,761. Do you really mean to represent that you had no object whatever in sending the money in that way except to transmit it, as you thought, for the perfectly honest and legitimate expenses of Sir Robert Carden?—I thought it a safe mode of conveyance and I sent it, and if I were sending money again on business I should send it in a similar manner probably.

19,762. I ask you whether or not when you acted on the suggestion of Mr. Lovegrove, by sending the money in the way you did, you did not do so for the purpose of arming him secretly with funds for the purpose of carrying on the election?—Yes, I believe that the money was such as Mr. Lovegrove did not want every one to know, certainly.

19,763. Was it not sent in that way for the purpose of secrecy?—If I had had the money in my pocket I would have given it to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,764. It is very possible to give a very simple and it is very possible to give a very artificial answer to a question. My question is did you not send that money down for the purpose of arming Mr. Lovegrove with funds to carry on the election, and did you not send that money in the way you did in order that people should not be made aware that you had sent it?—It is very probable.

19,765. Is it so or not? Did you do it for the purpose of secrecy?—For convenience chiefly.

19,766. And not for secrecy at all?—Why if it was suggested to me to pay it into the Gloucester bank or to send a cheque for it, I should certainly object on the ground that I did not want to send a cheque, and on the ground that I did not want people to know.

19,767. Was it for the purpose of secrecy that you sent the money in the way you did?—That was one reason.

19,768. Was it not the main and only reason?—It was not; it was the most convenient mode of doing it.

19,769. The most convenient with reference to

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secrecy ?—It was an absolutely convenient mode of doing it ; he wanted the money ; had he not told me he wanted it soon I would have sent a cheque.

19,770. Would you have sent a cheque if Mr. Lovegrove had not suggested to you to send the money down in half notes ?—I do not understand your question.

19,771. Would you have sent a cheque if Mr. Lovegrove had not suggested to you the mode in which you should send it, that is, in half notes ?—I believe I should, were it not for the fact that he wanted the money immediately, and a cheque would take time. I sent it in the way I did because that was the quickest mode of sending the money.

19,772. Do you mean to swear that ?—I do, most positively.

19,773. And you say you sent the money on the Tuesday ?—I did not say I sent it on Tuesday ; between the Monday and the Thursday.

19,774. Can you not say on what day you sent it?—No, I cannot.

19,775. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You said just now that you sent one half on the Monday, and the other on the Tuesday ?—I think so.

19,776. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you consider that sending the two half notes by post was a quicker way of sending the money than sending it by a cheque. Would not the money have been realized as easily if you had sent a cheque as by your sending two halves of a bank note, one half coming on the Monday and the other on the Tuesday ?—It is probable I might under the circumstances object to sending a cheque.

19,777. Why might you under the circumstances have objected to sending a cheque ?—I named that time was the object.

19,778. Is that the only reason why you would have objected to send a cheque ?—It was suggested that I should send it in half notes.

19,779. Was that the only reason why you would have objected to send a cheque ?—If I gave it consideration, perhaps I should send the money instead of a cheque.

19,780. I ask you why you would have objected to send a cheque ?—I did not reason upon the matter.

19,781. You stated just now that you would have objected to send a cheque. Why would you have objected to send a cheque ?—I said I should send the notes in preference.

19,782. You said you would object to send a cheque; why would you have objected ?—I have no particular objection.

19,783. Why would you have objected ?—(*No answer.*)

19,784. What is your answer ?—Why should I have objected ?

19,785. That is my question ?—I do not know that I can assign any particular reason ; I happened to have the money, and sent it instead of a cheque.

19,786. You would have objected to send a cheque, but you can give no answer why you would have objected ?—The amount of money being wanted for election purposes, I did not want a cheque to be sent to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,787. Why not ?—I thought that such a cheque coming through my bankers might be found fault with.

19,788. Why might it be found fault with ?—I knew that Sir Robert Carden would be annoyed at me if I had sent this money, and he would have seen it through the cheque.

19,789. Why should he have been annoyed ?—At my giving money to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,790. Why should he be annoyed with you for giving money to Mr. Lovegrove, if it was wanted for nothing but lawful purposes ?—I said election purposes.

19,791. You said for legitimate purposes ?—If I said that, that is not what I meant. I meant for election purposes.

19,792. Then you say you thought that Sir Robert Carden would be annoyed at your giving a cheque for money for election purposes ?—Yes ; I think he did not want me to interfere in the matter, and it was not my intention that he should know it : I wanted to conceal the fact.

19,793. Had you had any conversation with Sir Robert Carden previously ?—No, I had not, I formed my own impression.

19,794. You say you had no conversation with Sir Robert Carden to the effect that he did not wish you to interfere ?—No.

19,795. From what then did you form your impression that such was his wish ?—From my general knowledge of Sir Robert Carden.

19,796. What general knowledge ?—He did not request me to come to Gloucester, and I inferred that he would rather I should not interfere in the matter at all. That was my impression.

19,797. I thought you said just now that it was not your wish yourself to come to Gloucester ?—It was not.

19,798. You were very much engaged ?—Very much.

19,799. That being so, how do you reconcile your answer, you say that Sir Robert Carden did not wish you to interfere, and that you did not wish to come to Gloucester ?—If he had wished me to come he would probably have invited me to Gloucester.

19,800. Do you mean to swear that you had no conversation with Sir Robert Carden prior to your coming down to Gloucester ?—Certainly I had not, on election matters.

19,801. You say that one of the letters containing the half note was addressed to Mr. Lovegrove and the other to Mr. Whithorn ; how was the letter addresed to Mr. Whithorn ?—It must have been addressed to Mr. Whithorn at the committee.

19,802. Was it so addressed ?—I cannot swear.

19,803. You say it must have been addressed to him there ?—There was no other means of sending it. Mr. Lovegrove say it did not come to his office.

19,804. I am not now asking you with reference to Mr. Lovegrove's evidence, but with reference to your own impression and your own knowledge ?—I have told you the facts as well as my memory serves me. I sent one half note to Mr. Lovegrove and my impression was that I had sent him two, but it is clear to my mind now that I must have sent the other to the committee addressed to Mr. Whithorn.

19,805. That is your impression now ?—That is my impression now.

19,806. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know Mr. Whithorn's address in Gloucester ?—Not his private addres, but I knew the committee.

19,807. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that 500*l.* that you sent down taken from your own private fund ?—Yes, certainly.

19,808. From your own banker was it ?—Yes.

19,809. What bank is that ?—The City bank.

19,810. Are you quite certain that when you obtained that 500*l.* there had been no representation made to you as to the purpose for which it was wanted ?—Most positive.

19,811. It was part of your own balance, was it ?—Yes, most certainly, I can satisfy you of that.

19,812. How long after that was it before you received repayment of this money from Sir Robert Carden ?—It was the beginning of May, early in May.

19,813. This money was sent down the latter part of April ?—It was sent a few days before the election.

19,814. You received it back from Sir Robert Carden about the early part of May ?—Yes, the early part of May.

19,815. Did you apply to him for its repayment ?—I did not.

19,816. How came he to know anything about it ?—I called at Sir Robert's and he said that he was glad he had lost the election under the circumstances.

19,817. Did he say he was glad he had lost it ?—Yes, because the other parties had bribed. "One "good thing," he said, "is, it will not cost much," or something to that effect. And speaking about the

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expense, I made some remark which caused him to press me very hard, and I told him I had advanced 500*l.*

19,818. What remark had you made which caused him to press you very hard ?—I remarked that I feared it would cost more than he thought, or some observation to that effect.

19,819. And that led to a question from him, I suppose ?—Yes ; he asked me what I meant, and so forth.

19,820. Did you tell him to whom you had advanced the money ?—I do not think I did.

19,821. Did he not ask you ?—No ; he was a good deal annoyed.

19,822. Did he not ask to whom you had advanced the money ?—I said to Gloucester parties.

19,823. For the Gloucester election ?—To Gloucester parties, meaning by that Mr. Lovegrove.

19,824. Was that all you said ?—Yes ; I said "Gloucester ;" I used the name "Gloucester." Probably that would be sufficient ; he would infer the source to which it came. Speaking on election matters with Sir Robert Carden, I used generally the term "election," or rather "Gloucester."

19,825. You were talking to him about the election, and he said he was very glad he had lost ?—I expressed my regret at his having lost the election, and he said, "Not at all ; I am very glad I have lost it, "because the other side bribed at such a rate."

19,826. And then you let him into the secret of your having advanced 500*l.* ?—He said, "One good "job is, that not much money was spent ;" and I said I feared more had been spent than he thought. That caused him to press me, until I told him that I had advanced 500*l.* in connexion with Gloucester.

19,827. Did that seem at all to enlighten his mind as to the probability of his election having been rather attended with acts of bribery ?—I could not say what his private impressions were.

19,828. But did he in any way express his regret that such circumstances should have occurred ?—He asked me how I could have done so.

19,829. What did you say ?—"Well," I said, "I "thought I was doing right, and I did so."

19,830. Upon that, what did he say ?—I cannot recollect the particular words.

19,831. What was the impression made upon your mind by what he said ?—I have repeated what he said. He asked me how I could have done so without his knowledge.

19,832. Was that the entire conversation ?—He said if that money was spent he could not make out how it was spent. He expressed himself in that way.

19,833. Did it flash across his mind, or did he express himself to the effect that it might have been spent in bribery ?—Certainly not to me.

19,834. When you went away did he pay you the money ?—He did not.

19,835. Not at that time ?—No.

19,836. When you went away did you leave him under the impression that his election had been perfectly pure ?—I did not go into any particulars. I was very much annoyed about the whole affair. I wanted to avoid the whole subject.

19,837. Was he annoyed, or you ?—I think we both had our share.

19,838. What was he annoyed with you for ?—He was annoyed with me for what I had done, and I felt his censure very much.

19,839. Did you at all seek to relieve his mind, and tell him that the money had been honestly spent, and that it had been sent down by you for purely election purposes of a legitimate character ?—I did not ; it was for election purposes I remarked throughout.

19,840. You told him you had let the Gloucester parties have the money ?—That I had sent it in connexion with the Gloucester election ; that I had parted with 500*l.*

19,841. But you did not lead him to believe that the money had been improperly spent, did you ?—I did not.

19,842. Why then should he have been annoyed with you for having advanced the 500*l.* ?—Being so much out of pocket.

19,843. That was his only reason ?—I suppose so ; so much money having been spent.

19,844. Do you mean to represent that there was no intimation conveyed by you to Sir Robert Carden or by Sir Robert Carden to yourself that that money had been spent for purposes of bribery ?—No ; we did not converse upon the subject I should say three minutes.

19,845. Was no intimation conveyed by you to him, or by him to you, that that money, if spent, must have been spent for the purpose of bribery ?—No, not by me.

19,846. That you swear ?—I swear that.

19,847. Was it by him ?—It was not. I do not mean to swear that I had not at that time my own suspicions ; but I did not impart them to Sir Robert Carden, nor had he remarked it to me. I did not know at that particular time that the money was spent, and I could not know it.

19,848. Did Sir Robert Carden convey to you the impression upon his mind that that money must have been spent for the purpose of bribery ?—No, he did not.

19,849. That you swear ?—I do, positively.

19,850. Have you had any further communication with Sir Robert Carden since that interview in which the subject of the expenditure at the last election came upon the *tapis* ?—Yes, he has remarked it to me ; he has made some remarks connected with the expenditure of the Gloucester election since then.

19,851. Before this Commission began its sittings had he a conversation with you with regard to the expenditure at the election ?—Yes, he had.

19,852. Did he give you to understand that at his election a large amount of bribery had prevailed ?—No ; he spoke of the expenses of the election.

19,853. Did he not speak at all about bribery or corruption in Gloucester ?—No.

19,854. Nothing at all ?—No, nothing special that I can call to my mind except in a general manner. He expressed himself surprised how so much money could have been spent ; he remarked that he could not make it out.

19,855. Did he say that it could not have been spent in a legitimate way ?—I do not think he said so ; no, he did not say so. He remarked that he could not see how so much money could have been spent ; he said "Surely the parties could not have "spent so much money as that."

19,856. Did he say that he could not see how the money could be spent unless it had been spent in bribery ?—He did not add that.

19,857. Did you understand that to be his meaning ?—No ; I give you the result of these conversations to the best of my belief and memory.

19,858. So far as your communication with Sir Robert Carden has gone, both with reference to the election of 1857 and the election of 1859, I understand you to say that Sir Robert Carden has conveyed no impression to your mind that anything but purity has existed on his part at those elections ?—Sir Robert Carden has not attempted to give me any impression, nor does he introduce such subjects or talk of such matters. I was not aware how much the Gloucester election in 1857 had cost him until I saw it in print.

19,859. When was that sum of 500*l.* which you had advanced repaid to you ?—The first week in May.

19,860. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many days after your first communication to Sir Robert Carden that you had paid it ?—Probably two or three days.

19,861. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any cheque or did any money pass through your hands with reference to that last election besides the 500*l.* ?—Not directly or

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indirectly ; no other sum of any description whatever, not a farthing.

19,862. You had no transaction with any other person ?—No, not with any other person at all ; that I most positively swear ; no amount except the 500*l.* ; that was the whole amount I spent directly or indirectly connected with Gloucester, nor have I knowledge of any other sum at all.

19,863. With regard to the telegram which was sent to Mr. Lovegrove we shall require to know who it was that sent that telegram, and in what name it was sent, and therefore you will make inquiry upon that subject, and let us know if you please ?—I will do so; I have no recollection of such a telegram myself at all.

19,864. (*Mr. Welford.*) With reference to the election of 1857, had you no suspicion that the two cheques which you gave of 100*l.* each to Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Whithorn were to be applied in an irregular manner ?—I considered that I was advancing that for Sir Robert Carden, and I looked to Mr. Lovegrove to return it. I thought that the 200*l.* was a part of the 500*l.* that Mr. Lovegrove said he expected Sir Robert Carden to give him, otherwise I would not have given Mr. Lovegrove a cheque in the open manner I did in the presence of half a dozen others.

19,865. You consider that your giving the cheque in that open manner is an indication of your belief that the money was to be fairly and properly applied ? —Yes ; I looked upon it as part of the money which was to be advanced by Sir Robert Carden.

19,866. You understood that from an accidental omission of Mr. Lovegrove's he had not got so much by 200*l.* from Sir Robert Carden as he required for the legitimate expenses of the election ?—The impression on my mind was that Sir Robert Carden took the initiative in giving money to Mr. Lovegrove, and that, the sum he had given being 300*l.*, Mr. Lovegrove did not want to trouble him again ; that was my impression.

19,867. Would it not have been the natural thing for Mr. Lovegrove to say, "The money you have "given me is not enough, I want 200*l.* more" ? —I cannot tell what Mr. Lovegrove's thought was ; what he said to me was this : that he did not want to trouble Sir Robert Carden so soon after he had received the cheque he had got, and he requested me to advance the money, which I did without hesitation.

19,868. Recalling your recollection to that period, do you not remember that Sir Robert Carden offered Mr. Lovegrove a cheque for 500*l.* on the occasion of one of these morning meetings ?—I have no recollection of it ; I must have been out of the room at the time probably.

19,869. You do not recollect Sir Robert Carden actually writing out a cheque for 500*l.* ?—I have no recollection of the circumstance.

19,870. Then whether Sir Robert Carden on that occasion paid Mr. Lovegrove any money or not you only know from the information afforded you by Mr. Lovegrove ; do you say that ?—That is all the information I have ; I have not seen Sir Robert Carden write a cheque or hand over a cheque for 300*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove, nor could I swear that he gave him that 300*l.*

19,871. The only information that you have upon the subject is what you heard from Mr. Lovegrove when he asked you for 200*l.* more ?—That is my impression ; I repeat these things to the best of my memory, and I think that is correct.

19,872. How soon do you say you asked Sir Robert Carden to return you that 200*l.* ?—I received the money in August or September.

19,873. Having advanced it some months before ? —In March I think.

19,874. Did you mention to Sir Robert Carden before you received it that you had paid this 200*l.* for him ?—Yes ; I said to him that he owed me 200*l.*

19,875. When did you first tell him that ?—It must have been in August or September.

19,876. During the interval between March and August you said nothing to Sir Robert Carden upon the subject ?—No, for I expected to have received it from Mr. Lovegrove.

19,877. You expected to have received it from Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes.

19,878. Did you apply to Mr. Lovegrove for it ?— I did not.

19,879. Had you any communication with anybody in Gloucester upon the subject ?—I had not.

19,880. Between the election in March 1857, and August, when you say you received the 200*l.*, did you make any application to anybody for payment of that money ?—No, I did not.

19,881. Was it not after the petition on that occasion had been determined that you first mentioned the subject to Sir Robert Carden ?—It is very probable that the petition was before that period.

19,882. Was not the reason of your delay in mentioning it that you felt that after the petition it was more safe to ask Sir Robert Carden for the money than it would be before ?—Positively it was not.

19,883. You swear that ?—I swear most positively that it was not, otherwise I should not have told Sir Robert Carden about the 500*l.* which I advanced. I advanced the 200*l.* in good faith ; I thought it was for his legitimate purposes most positively. My impression was that when Mr. Lovegrove concluded all his accounts with Sir Robert Carden the money would be handed over to me.

19,884. Did Sir Robert Carden make any observation upon being informed that he owed you 200*l.* for the election, or did he pay it to you without making any remark ?—Yes.

19,885. Did he complain of your interference in advancing money without his direction ?—No ; he said, "To you ?" "Yes," I said.

19,886. And then he gave you a cheque ?—Yes, he gave me the money. I think it was notes he gave me if I recollect right.

19,887. I will now call your attention to the last election. Did you receive any letter from Sir Robert Carden while he was in Gloucester ?—I did not.

19,888. Did you receive any letter from anybody by his direction with reference to the Gloucester election while he was down here canvassing ?—I did not.

19,889. Did you receive any communication from Mr. Lovegrove by letter or by telegram with respect to the Gloucester election before your visit to Gloucester ?—I might have done so. I have no positive recollection of it, but I think not. I think I may say positively I did not.

19,890. Then it was not from any communication made from Gloucester that you formed the opinion that Sir Robert Carden's prospects of success were not so good as you might have wished?—No, it was from no communication from him ; it was some London friends.

19,891. From whom did you hear the rumours you have referred to ?—One reads the papers every morning.

19,892. Was it from anything that you saw in the newspapers then ?—Newspapers generally ; there was no special source.

19,893. Was it because you understood that Sir Robert Carden's opponents were spending large sums of money that you thought his success was doubtful ?— Yes, it was from that ; that was one of the reasons that made me send to Mr. Lovegrove, for my private intention was this, if it was so, and if there was no chance of gaining the election, to advise Sir Robert to withdraw.

19,894. Then having understood that it was because his opponents were spending large sums of money, for what purpose did you suppose they were so spending money ?—It was mere hearsay ; it came to me in that way.

19,895. Did you suppose that his opponents were

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spending money legitimately or otherwise?—There are various ways of spending money at elections.

19,896. You say you heard rumours which led you to doubt whether Sir Robert Carden would be successful?—Yes.

19,897. I ask whether those rumours referred to the expenditure of money on the part of his opponents?—Yes, they did.

19,898. Did you understand that expenditure to be an improper expenditure, or in what way did you suppose the expenditure of money by his opponents would influence the election?—I am not familiar with elections, and I do not know what are legal expenses.

19,899. You had been with Sir Robert Carden for some time during the Gloucester election?—Yes.

19,900. How did you suppose that the expenditure of money would influence the election one way or the other?—I thought people wanted to be paid their expenses for going out canvassing and so on.

19,901. Did you think that it was merely on the agents that a considerable sum of money was being expended, or did it not occur to you that the voters might also participate in the money?—Well, I forget what I thought, I thought of so many things.

19,902. But your opinions must have influenced your acts?—Yes they did.

19,903. I want to know what your opinions were by which your acts were influenced?—It was represented that the contest being so long was likely to be expensive, and it was remarked that Sir Robert Carden, if the election was lost, might object to pay these expenses: I was told that the election would cost 1,000*l.*

19,904. That you were told in London?—No, here.

19,905. We will go step by step. I was referring to the rumours which induced you to endeavour to satisfy your curiosity as to the prospects of Sir Robert Carden's success: had those rumours reference to the expenditure of money by his opponents?—Yes.

19,906. Did you not know that Sir Robert Carden was himself at Gloucester, and might himself expend his own money for any legitimate purpose?—Quite so.

19,907. Then when you came down to Gloucester to satisfy your curiosity, and when you were told that 1,000*l.* was required, why did you not immediately go to Sir Robert Carden?—I did not.

19,908. Can you tell me why you did not?—I thought that Mr. Lovegrove, his agent, if he thought it the proper way of proceeding, would go himself and not suggest that a friend should go; that was one reason.

19,909. Did you not believe that the money which you were to supply was to be applied to purposes that Sir Robert Carden should not know of?—I thought it might be, but I did not believe nor did I infer that it was for the purpose of purchasing votes.

19,910. Did you not believe that it was required for purposes that should not be communicated to the candidate?—The expenses of an election are generally known and recognised to be from ten to twelve hundred pounds, and I was told that that was about the amount. I did not reason or think about it.

19,911. What was your impression when you were asked for 1,000*l.*?—I was not asked for 1,000*l.*; I was only asked for 500*l.*

19,912. Was it not your impression that that money was to be applied to purposes which should be concealed from the candidate?—It is very probable that I did think so, but I have no recollection of thinking so.

19,913. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you not think so now?—I do now most thoroughly.

19,914. (*Mr. Welford.*) Why did you think that Sir Robert Carden might object to pay the expenses: you said just now you thought he might object to pay them?—I did not say that.

19,915. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Yes. You said it was represented to you that Sir Robert Carden might object to pay these expenses.

19,916. (*Mr. Welford.*) Why did you think so?—Pardon me, it was not myself; it was suggested to me that he might object.

19,917. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was represented to you?—It was represented to me that he might object.

19,918. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who represented that to you?—In the event of the election being lost; I think Mr. Lovegrove suggested it, and that he should be in an awkward position.

19,919. Was that suggestion made to you before you came to Gloucester?—No; when I met Mr. Lovegrove in Gloucester.

19,920. Did you consider that Sir Robert Carden would be more likely to pay you the money than he would be to pay it to Mr. Lovegrove?—I did not consider; I did not much care whether he paid me or not.

19,921. You say Mr. Lovegrove represented that Sir Robert Carden might object to pay the money?—That the expenses of this election would probably be more than the expenses of the election in 1857, and that the election might possibly be lost, and if so that he should be placed in a very awkward position. I declined to send the money at first; I said I wanted to have nothing to do with it, but I thought they were very proper remarks of Mr. Lovegrove, and having considered the thing, I sent the money on those grounds.

19,922. Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you that unless 1,000*l.* was provided the election would be lost?—No; he did not put it positively in that way.

19,923. Did he not say that the election would not be secured unless such a fund were provided in case of need?—No; that was not the way he put it; to the best of my recollection he expressed it as I say. He said that this election would probably cost more than the election of 1857, having taken so very long; he said that if Sir Robert Carden's election was lost, he, it was possible, might object to pay his (Mr. Lovegrove's) expenses.

19,924. Then the inference you drew from that conversation was, that if this fund was not provided the election would be likely to be lost?—Mr. Lovegrove did not absolutely say the election would be lost, but he suggested that it would be desirable to send it in order to secure him, because he did not like the responsibility; that was the manner in which it appeared to me.

19,925. To secure him, and not to secure the election?—He did not say anything about securing the election. Being the responsible agent, and having procured such large expenses, he began to feel nervous that Sir Robert Carden might object, in the event of the election being lost, to recognise those expenditures.

19,926. And therefore he asked you to furnish 500*l.*?—Yes.

19,927. And you mean to say that he did not represent to you that the election could not be secured unless Sir Robert Carden's supporters had the command of such a sum of money?—I have no recollection of it.

19,928. Did you see Mr. Lovegrove more than once when you were here on the Saturday?—He went for Mr. Whithorn and stayed away several hours, and then they both returned,—Mr. Whithorn returned and gave what I considered a very flourishing account of the prospects of the election.

19,929. What did he tell you?—That the election was sure to be gained. Mr. Lovegrove, I think, did not wait ten minutes, and I do not think that any money was mentioned in his presence.

19,930. Mr. Whithorn's communication to you with respect to the flourishing prospects of Sir Robert Carden was made, was it not, upon the assumption that this fund would be provided?—No; no mention was made of money or funds in the presence of Mr. Whithorn while I was there. I have no recollection

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of any reference being made to it; I do not think that Mr. Whithorn was in the room where I was more than ten or fifteen minutes.

19,931. Was anything said by Mr. Lovegrove about the expenditure of the opponents of Sir Robert Carden?—He dwelt more particularly upon the time of the canvass, and the expense generally.

19,932. Do you mean to say that Mr. Lovegrove put his requirement for money more upon the time?—He remarked upon the great number of men that the other side employed as runners or something or other in the election, and that that was a very great expense; but he in no manner inferred to me that this money was intended for bribing voters. That I declare.

19,933. And what passed did not convey to your mind the idea that this money was to be applied for purposes that were illegal?—My impression was that the money was to reimburse people for their trouble and expenses in conducting the election, but certainly not to purchase votes; that was my impression.

19,934. Did you not think it was to be applied for purposes which Sir Robert Carden should not be informed of?—That is the probability from the fact of Mr. Lovegrove applying to me in the particular manner he did.

19,935. Now, with reference to the two half notes, did you send both letters by post?—I did.

19,936. Did you post them yourself?—I did with my own hand.

19,937. Did you direct the letters yourself?—I did.

19,938. Did you send each half note in two envelopes or in one envelope?—They were both put in double envelopes.

19,939. One was directed to Mr. Lovegrove, enclosing one directed to Mr. Whithorn; how was the other directed?—There were only two.

19,940. I am speaking of the half notes?—One note was sent to Mr. Lovegrove for certain, a double enclosure.

19,941. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The inside one you said was directed to Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

19,942. (*Mr. Welford.*) And the outside?—The outside to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,943. Upon which was the postage stamp put?—Upon that.

19,944. On the one addressed to Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes.

19,945. Now then, as to the other. What was the direction upon the envelope that had the postage upon it?—I am not so positive as to that; I cannot say exactly, but I must have sent it to Mr. Whithorn at the committee. My impression was that it was sent to Mr. Lovegrove's; but it appears to me now that I must have sent it to Mr. Whithorn, and an additional reason for thinking so is this: I was anxious that each of those gentlemen should receive the half note, because it would appear evident that they could not employ it without communication one with the other, and I think I acted upon that suggestion, and sent the other half to Mr. Whithorn.

19,946. Then you either directed one to Mr. Lovegrove and one to Mr. Whithorn or else both to Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; that I can positively swear.

19,947. And you sent one to the committee-room you think?—If Mr. Whithorn's was sent it must have been to the committee-room probably.

19,948. You did not send your own servant or clerk with it?—No; I posted them with my own hand.

19,949. You did not send any one down to Gloucester with the money?—Most certainly not.

19,950. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you read the evidence given by Mr. Whithorn in this court?—Yes; I have glanced it over in the "Times."

19,951. Are you aware of the manner in which he stated he received this note?—My impression is that it was found in the committee-room, directed to him, and it could not be accounted for how it got there.

19,952. (*Mr. Welford.*) There was no postage stamp upon that?—No; now there was an outside cover to all those letters; there were two envelopes; the notes were enclosed in a smaller envelope, which was again put into a larger one and then addressed.

19,953. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say that some statements which Mr. Lovegrove made to you induced you to change your opinion as to the parties to whom you had sent the half note?—Not statements; I saw the evidence; I thought it possible I might be mistaken.

19,954. Did the evidence which Mr. Whithorn gave and which you read induce you to change your opinion?—I have no distinct recollection of Mr. Whithorn's evidence; in fact, I am not certain whether I read it or not.

19,955. You have just told me the exact circumstances under which he stated that he had found the note?—Part of it.

19,956. Do you not see from that that it is impossible the letter could have been addressed to Mr. Whithorn?—It does not follow.

19,957. Do you think it probable that some one else would have taken his letter and opened it and dropped the inside envelope on the floor?—I do not think it probable; I think it was found on the desk; and one witness has said that it had been there for a couple of hours for Mr. Whithorn; this first envelope without the stamp; at least, I infer that; but the letter must have been opened by some one in Gloucester; that I am positive of, because they were both sent by post. I swear most positively that with my own hand I posted both those letters.

19,958. (*Mr. Welford.*) And they were either both directed to Mr. Lovegrove or one was directed to Mr. Lovegrove and one to Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

19,959. And they were so sent by post?—Yes.

19,960. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Surely you can recollect to whom you directed those letters?—If I had been asked first of all I should have said that I sent both letters to Mr. Lovegrove.

19,961. Surely you must recollect to whom you directed the letters?—I cannot swear as to the two; whether I addressed the two to Mr. Lovegrove or whether I addressed one to Mr. Whithorn.

19,962. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is your belief upon the subject?—(*No answer.*)

19,963. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Supposing you had neither read nor heard any of the evidence which has been given here, what should you have been prepared to tell the Commissioners was your belief upon the subject?—My belief was that I sent both the letters to Mr. Lovegrove; that is my present impression, but I may be mistaken, and I am not at all prepared to swear that I did not send one to Mr. Whithorn, but that was my impression.

19,964. Is there anybody else in Gloucester you knew at that time to whom you might possibly have sent it?—There is not.

19,965. Then it must have been sent either to Mr. Whithorn or Mr. Lovegrove?—That I positively swear, for I have a very distinct recollection of posting those two particular letters.

19,966. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you recollect whether you posted them both on the same day or on different days?—Different days.

19,967. You are quite sure of that?—Quite sure of it.

19,968. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) In your banker's passbook have you an entry of the cheque for 500*l.* which you drew?—Yes, I have an entry of drawing a certain amount of money.

19,969. (*Mr. Welford.*) Which included the 500*l.*?—Which included the 500*l.*

19,970. You did not draw the 500*l.* in one cheque?—I drew a larger cheque in which the 500*l.* was included. I drew the money personally.

19,971. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not see Sir Robert Carden when you came to Gloucester?—I did not.

19,972. Why not?—You ask me for so many reasons for what I did, that I must take time to consider.

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J. Bernard.
22 Oct. 1859.

One reason was, that I thought I might be requested to remain in Gloucester, and I did not want to be bothered with election matters.

19,973. Is that a reason which you had at that time, or is that a reason which you have just now discovered ?—That was my reason. I had no intention of seeing Sir Robert Carden.

19,974. Is that the only reason ?—There might have been a thousand reasons ; I really did not want to see Sir Robert Carden.

19,975. I want to know what your reason was ; was that the only reason you had ?—In fact, I could not spare the time, nor did I know whether Sir Robert Carden was in Gloucester at the time.

19,976. You have stated several times that you knew he was here ?—Not at that particular time ; I was not certain that he was here on the Saturday.

19,977. You have been asked the question several times ?—Then I must have misunderstood it, for I do not know now whether Sir Robert Carden was here or not.

19,978. Do you mean now to swear that you did not know that Sir Robert Carden was in Gloucester on that day ?—I swear I did not know whether he was in Gloucester on that Saturday or not.

19,979. Do you now mean to swear positively that you did not know at that time that Sir Robert Carden was in Gloucester ?—I could have no object in concealing it if I had known it.

19,980. You have stated several times in the course of your evidence that you knew he was here, it certainly takes one by surprise to hear you now state that you did not know he was here ?—I have no recollection of having said that I did not know he was here. I knew he was here the most of his time, but I did not know that he was here on that particular day.

19,981. We shall expect to hear from you about the telegram which was sent to Mr. Lovegrove ?—I do not recognize personally having sent the telegram.

19,982. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is there any other person through whom you could have sent a telegram except Somerville your servant ?—I do not think there is. I sent the money straight forward.

19,983. I am speaking now of the telegram which preceded the sending of the money ?—There is not.

19,984. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Be good enough to make inquiry about that telegram, and let us hear from you on Tuesday ?—I will do so.

E. Washbourne.

EDWARD WASHBOURNE called and further examined.

19,985. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make a statement with reference to the giving or the offer of a cheque for 300*l.* by Sir Robert Carden to Mr. Lovegrove ?—I was present at the Bell in 1857, when the cheque was given to Mr. Lovegrove, for 500*l.*, and I believe it was at my suggestion that that cheque was destroyed and a new cheque written. I am not certain of that, but I know I approved of it.

19,986. You know that a cheque was offered by Sir Robert Carden for 500*l.* ?—It was given.

19,987. And handed back by Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes.

19,988. And Mr. Lovegrove got another cheque for 300*l.* ?—Yes, I was present.

19,989. I understand you have come here to make that statement for the satisfaction of Mr. Lovegrove ?—Merely in confirmation of Mr. Lovegrove's evidence.

19,990. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Mr. Bernard present then ?—During some portion of the time I know he was present.

19,991. Do you remember whether anything more occurred on that occasion ?—Yes ; I recollect Mr. Whithorn made a communication to Mr. Lovegrove that he had expended money and that he required to be reimbursed.

19,992. And then did you see any communication between Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Bernard ?—Yes, there was.

19,993. Did they go out of the room ?—It was outside the room that the communication took place, because I know a cheque was placed in my hands.

19,994. The cheque that Mr. Bernard has spoken of ?—He placed a cheque for 100*l.* in my hands by mistake, and immediately I looked at the cheque I saw it did not concern me, and I handed it back to Mr. Bernard.

19,995. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know that Mr. Tew Smith was one of a committee for arranging the election in 1857 ?—No, I do not, because I repudiated Mr. Tew Smith's management of the election of 1857. I beg your pardon, I do not ; I only know that Mr. Smith accompanied the deputation to London.

19,996. Do you know whether or not Mr. Tew Smith was a member of the committee at which an arrangement was come to as to the amount that should be given as the price of votes ?—No, certainly not.

19,997. You know nothing at all of that ?—No, certainly not.

19,998. You do not know whether any committee sat at which an arrangement was made as to what price should be fixed or agreed on as the price to be given for votes ?—Certainly not. I should have been no party to any such transaction as that.

19,999. Do you know whether or not Mr. Smith was a party to or cognizant of any act of bribery in 1857 ?—No, I do not. I know that I myself would have been no party to such acts.

20,000. Are you aware yourself what part Mr. Tew Smith took at that election ?—No, I am not. I am not aware that he took any such part as that suggested.

20,001. You are not prepared to say that Mr. Tew Smith was at that election himself cognizant of or privy to any acts of bribery ?—No, I am not by any means prepared to charge any gentleman with acts of bribery at that election.

20,002. Have you any reason to believe it ?—Certainly not as regards Mr. Smith, or anyone else that I am aware of.

20,003. Are you of opinion that there is no reason at all to doubt the evidence which Mr. Smith gave in this court that he himself had nothing to do with bribery at the election of 1857 ?—I did not approve of the evidence given by Mr. Smith in some respects.

20,004. In what respects ?—I did not approve of his charge against Mr. Clutterbuck. I thought it was a very unwarrantable and gratuitous assertion to make.

20,005. With the exception of that did you observe anything in Mr. Smith's evidence to excite your discontent ?—Not as regards bribery. I do not suppose that he knew of any acts of bribery. I do not think he did.

Adjourned to Monday, Ten o'clock.

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Twentieth Day—24th October 1859.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called, and further examined.

20,006. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you any communication with Mr. Bernard before he was examined here on Saturday?—Yes; I saw him on Thursday last in London.

20,007. Did you see him subsequently in Gloucester?—Yes.

20,008. Had you any conversation with him as to the nature of his evidence?—Yes, I had; and I will tell you what it was. I saw him in London; I wrote to him to say that I should be going to London, and should be glad to see him; I saw him in London by appointment, and I told him you expected to see him on Monday; that is, to-day. He said he should not be able to attend on Monday, but should be glad if I could get an appointment for him to be examined on Saturday. I said I had no doubt that the Commissioners would hear him if he came down; and on talking over the matter he stated that he had a strong impression that the second 100*l.* cheque was given to me on the polling day. I told him he was quite in error as to that, and that he had never made a greater mistake in his life; but nothing that I said convinced him. I saw Mr. Cooke in the evening, and told him of this. I may say that I was very much disappointed at the want of recollection on the part of Mr. Bernard, because I knew immediately that if Mr. Bernard persisted in stating that as being the fact it would put me and Mr. Bernard in direct contradiction, and it would be seized hold of certainly by the illiberals of the liberals in Gloucester as being a point of contradiction which would be serious. This gave me a great deal of uneasiness; but as I was returning home the thought occurred to me that I had received a letter from Mr. Bernard in 1857, four or five days after the election, and immediately I got home I made a search of several hours, and found a letter from Mr. Bernard, dated the 2d of April in 1857, enclosing a note to Mr. Whithorn, and asking me to deliver it to him; that was on the 2d of April, five days after the election; that note I sent to Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Whithorn tells me that that note contained the second cheque of which Mr. Whithorn spoke in his evidence, and of which I had no knowledge whatever. Immediately Mr. Bernard came down on Friday I went up to the Bell to him, and said to him, "What is your recollection about that second cheque for 100*l.*?" He said, "The same as I told you in London." I said, "To convince you to the contrary, to show you how wrong you are, look at that letter?" And I showed it to him. Then Mr. Bernard saw immediately the error he had made, and was satisfied that my version was the correct one; that is all that passed.

20,009. Had you no conversation with him at all with regard to any cheques alleged to have been passed by him to Mr. Cooke?—No. He was quite satisfied. His impression was that either I or Mr. Cooke had mentioned on the polling day that he must advance 100*l.*; that was his impression, and that was the reason that took me to Mr. Cooke on that evening. Mr. Whithorn was more explicit than I was, and had a better recollection of the circumstance than I had, for I had forgotten the precise circumstances; but I was satisfied when I gave my evidence that the 100*l.* cheque never came to me, and that I never had anything to do with the second 100*l.* cheque. When I saw Mr. Bernard I tried to convince him of it, but he would not be convinced till I showed him that letter.

20,010. You are quite certain that no conversation took place between you and Mr. Bernard, either in London or in Gloucester, relative to any cheques alleged to have been given by him to Mr. Cooke?—Not one word.

20,011. Did you go to London for the purpose of seeing Mr. Bernard on this matter?—No. I will tell you, if you please, what I went to London for.

20,012. I do not want to hear that; but seeing that we were sitting here for the purpose of making an inquiry with regard to certain matters connected with the elections in Gloucester, do you think you ought to have seen Mr. Bernard relative to the evidence he was about to give?—It was not relative to the evidence he was about to give, particularly.

20,013. What was it with reference to, then?—It was not with a view to the evidence he was about to give; but I saw no impropriety in my seeing Mr. Bernard. He was not a man to be tampered with, or anything of that kind.

20,014. But he ought to have been allowed to give his evidence without any interference on your part; and I consider that you ought not to have seen either Mr. Cooke or Mr. Bernard?—I should like to explain to the court what it was that took me to London.

20,015. If you say you did not go there for the purpose of seeing Mr. Bernard, that is sufficient; but being in London you did see him?—Yes.

20,016. I am not asking whether you went to London expressly to see him, but being in London it would have been much more judicious on your part if you had not interfered with him as to the evidence he was to give?—Perhaps you will allow me to state this:—In the course of conversation this discrepancy occurred, which I at once saw, and which I am excessively glad to have put right, and Mr. Bernard was equally thankful that it was put right, because there could be no doubt that he was under the impression I have stated, which was entirely removed when I produced to him his letter.

20,017. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did anything pass between you and Mr. Bernard on either of the occasions you speak of as to the two halves of the 500*l.* note that were transmitted to Gloucester?—Yes; that was another subject that he discussed; he said he was quite satisfied they had been sent by post; he was quite satisfied of that; and I had certainly a very strong impression that the first half did not and could not have come by post; but that was his impression, and I did not attempt to remove it.

20,018. Did he state that he had sent both halves of the notes to you?—He was not clear; but he said he had sent them both by post, and his notion was just that which he stated here the other day, that he had either sent them both to me, or that he had sent one to me and one to Mr. Whithorn.

20,019. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He was quite clear that he had sent them both by post?—Yes; that he stated; and I immediately was clear that the first half did not come to me in any letter of mine, because no one opens my letters except myself, and I never heard of that first half, or of any note to Mr. Whithorn, till Mr. Whithorn called me out of the committee-room two hours after the first half of the note was found.

20,020. Could the second half of the note have come to your office without your knowledge?—The second half did come to me.

20,021. Could the first half have come to you without your knowledge?—No, because no one would presume to open my letters.

20,022. It is not the habit of your office to do so?—No. My nephew would open my letters now, but he was not in my office at that time.

20,023. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Bernard stated that the impression on his mind was that both letters were directed to you, and he said that with regard to the first letter he was clear it was sent to you?—Yes, I am aware of that.

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J. Lovegrove.

24 Oct. 1859.

20,024. That was his evidence ?—It was so.

20,025. He said that his impression was that both were sent to you?—Yes. I am perfectly satisfied that the first half did not come to me; the second half did. I should like you to take the evidence of those who were in the room at the time when the first half of the note was found, if you consider it material.

20,026. It is material only in this way; it is very much a question of the weight to be given to the evidence?—I quite see that, and therefore I should like you to take the evidence of those persons who were in the committee-room at the time.

20,027. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you mention who were there ?—There was Mr. Brown, and Mr. Taynton and Mr. Griffiths, and several others, I understand, but I was not there myself.

20,028. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If there is any witness who can state that he knew under what circumstances the envelope containing that first half of the note came into the committee-room, it would be important for us to have his evidence, but if it cannot be carried beyond the evidence of Mr. Taynton and Mr. Jordan, who say they were told there was a letter addressed to Mr. Whithorn which was picked up from the table, any evidence upon the subject would be irrelevant to our inquiry ?—I do not think they can carry it further than that.

20,029. When you saw Mr. Bernard in London had you any communication with him as to what he had told Mr. Coleridge ?—No.

20,030. Did you say to him, "What have you told Mr. Coleridge ?"—No; I do not think I mentioned Mr. Coleridge's name at all. I did say, "How very odd it was that when you were in Gloucester you should not have called upon me." He said, "Well, I had only a few minutes, and I merely just called on Mr. Coleridge to say I should be ready for examination on the following Saturday."

20,031. Did he say that he had called on Mr. Coleridge ?—Yes. Mr. Coleridge had told me that he had.

20,032. Did you not say to him, "What did you tell Mr. Coleridge?"—No; because I did not know what he had told Mr. Coleridge.

20,033. In what name was that telegram which was sent by Mr. Bernard to you, and which you received on the Saturday ?—I do not recollect at all. I have tried to find that telegram, but I have not been able to do so.

20,034. Do you not know in what name it was sent ?—No. Mr. Bernard was anxious for me to inform him, but I could not recollect.

20,035. Do you say that that telegram was the commencement of the communication between you and Mr. Bernard upon that occasion ?—It was.

20,036. No letter had been written ?—There had been no letter or interview, or anything of the kind.

20,037. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you received that telegram, which it appears was sent in a feigned name, did you know from whom it came ?—At first I did not, but on thinking it over I thought it very possible that it was from Mr. Bernard; before I went to the platform I certainly thought it was he.

20,038. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In your former examination with regard to the election of 1857, I did not ascertain clearly from you, I think, when you first of all became cognisant that bribery was either to be committed or was committed ?—I was not all aware that any direct bribery had been committed in 1857 until the settlement of the accounts, and then I became aware that Mr. Bernard had advanced 200*l.* instead of 100*l.* I became aware that there was 100*l.* due to Mr. Cooke, and that Mr. Whithorn claimed 200*l.*, and then of course I naturally inquired how that money had been expended, and so on.

20,039. Do you say that until the settlement of the accounts you did not know that any money had been advanced by Mr. Bernard?—I have told you I did not know of any other money having been advanced, except the 100*l.* advanced under the circumstances I described to you in my evidence in chief.

20,040. You did not know of any bribery in 1857 until the settlement of the accounts ?—I did not.

20,041. What date do you fix for that ?—August.

20,042. And had you no reason to believe that bribery had been committed ?—Not direct bribery. I had no reason whatever to believe that direct bribery had been committed at that election at all, for Sir Robert Carden was excessively popular; there was no difficulty in polling our votes, and I was engaged the whole day in getting the people to poll, and all that kind of thing, with Sir Robert Carden. I was scarcely in the committee-room more than a dozen times during the day.

20,043. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you include in the term "direct bribery" money paid ostensibly for expenses, or would you call that indirect bribery ?—Money paid for expenses would certainly not be direct bribery. There were a great number of voters who came from a distance; some of them were living at Bristol, Newport, Cardiff, and other places. There was one man came from Leominster.

20,044. You have heard the definition which these people give of expenses ?—Yes. Of course, if the money is paid, 2*l.* for coming two miles, that is direct bribery.

20,045. Had you any reason before the settlement of the accounts to believe that there had been that sort of bribery ?—No. I thought there had been an expenditure on the canvass, such as treating, and giving a shilling or half a crown, and all that kind of thing; that I had been aware of, because Mr. Whithorn had told me there was upwards of 100*l.* due to him.

20,046. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you had no reason to believe that there had been direct bribery. Had you any reason to believe that there had been no bribery of any sort ?—I did not term it at all bribery. There was a loose mode of conducting the election, and so on, but it was not direct bribery. I did not place it as bribery.

20,047. And you had no communication whatever with Mr. Whithorn upon the subject of the election of 1857 until after the petition had been heard ?—Mr. Whithorn most carefully avoided saying one single word to me upon the matter.

20,048. And you avoided making any inquiry ?—Yes, certainly.

20,049. Did you avoid making any inquiry because you had a suspicion that if you did make inquiry it would be disclosed to you that bribery had taken place ?—No. I did not wish to inform myself of any matters in connexion with the election. Anything that was brought to my knowledge, and so on, I should have received, but nothing of the kind was brought to my knowledge, and I did not make inquiry one way or the other.

20,050. (*Mr. Welford.*) Having been aware that there had been a loose mode of conducting the election you made no inquiry ?—That is really the fact.

20,051. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you of opinion that the amount of money which was returned to the election auditor as the amount of the expenses in 1857 was the total expenditure incurred by Sir Robert Carden at that election ?—No; I knew it was not.

20,052. At the time that the return of the expenditure was made to the election auditor, did you believe that that was the whole expenditure ?—I can scarcely say that I did, for this reason, that just at the time when the accounts were made up I was in a good deal of affliction; there was pressure in the office, and the accounts were made up in a very loose way, but I would not undertake to say that I was not aware that some of those items had been left out of the account.

20,053. (*Mr. Welford.*) In fact you must have been aware of it, must you not ?—I think so. I would not attempt to say I was not. They were made up in a very loose way.

20,054. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your belief was that there were some items omitted ?—Yes.

20,055. Which would have to be included in some

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account afterwards to be rendered to Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, I think so. Those were the messengers, of whom I have given you an account.

20,056. You were examined before the committee of the House of Commons in 1857?—I was.

20,057. Did you not upon that occasion say that the amount included in the return to the election auditor was the total amount of the expenditure?—No.

20,058. Are you sure of that?—No question was asked me as to that; but I recollect the only question asked me was, whether there were any, to my knowledge, further outstanding bills, or something of that kind, and I stated that there were not, which was literally the truth. There were not then, to my knowledge, any outstanding bills, though, as you will see, there were some afterwards paid that came in; a few; not of any amount.

20,059. Do you mean to say that, although there were outstanding bills, there were none to your knowledge?—Not any.

20,060. At that time you did not know there were?—No.

20,061. Although in fact there were?—It has so turned out; a few; one or two; because the additional account is made up by Sir Robert Carden's own liberality. He told me to pay the solicitors, and so on.

20,062. Are you quite certain that upon that occasion you did not state that there was no expenditure at all beyond the amount which was returned to the election auditor?—I am satisfied of it, because if I had been asked the question I must have told the fact, that I believed there were.

20,063. Were you present when Sir Robert Carden was examined before the committee of the House in 1857?—Yes, I was.

20,064. Do you remember his being asked, when he was examined before the committee, what was the amount that he understood would be the sum required for his election in 1857, when the deputation waited upon him in London?—Yes. I think he said 500*l.* or 600*l.*

20,065. Did he not say 450*l.*?—Yes; I almost think he did.

20,066. Did he not say 450*l.* was the sum that the deputation represented to him would be the probable cost of his election?—I cannot charge my memory whether it was four or five or five or six hundred pounds. I do not know.

20,067. You said just now you believed it was 450*l.*?—It was in consequence of your reminder. I believe he said about 500*l.*; 400*l.* or 500*l.*

20,068. My question is, whether Sir Robert Carden was not asked when he was examined before the committee of the House of Commons as to whether the deputation had not, when they saw him in London, stated that the expense of his election for Gloucester would be about 450*l.*?—I do not know; my recollection is not sufficiently clear to enable me to say he stated 450*l.*; but if I were asked the question as to my belief, I have some notion that he said 400*l.* or 500*l.*; I would not be clear, one way or the other.

20,069. You have not perhaps looked at the minutes of evidence?—I had not seen the minutes of evidence till the commencement of this inquiry.

20,070. But you have read them since the commencement of the inquiry?—Not the whole of them.

20,071. There are some answers given by Sir Robert Carden on the minutes of evidence which will require us to recall Sir Robert Carden from London?—I do not think I have even read his evidence.

20,072. Do you know anything at all about the charter of Gloucester? Gloucester has a charter, has it not?—Yes.

20,073. Is it very ancient?—Yes; it was granted in the time of Henry the Eighth.

20,074. Is that the earliest date?—I forget.

20,075. Was it under the charter of Henry the Eighth that prior to the Reform Bill the constituency was composed of the burgesses and freemen?—I think so; I am not quite sure.

20,076. Who will be able to give us information upon that point?—I should think Mr. Walker.

20,077. What I want to know is, under what circumstances it happened that Gloucester became a corporate city, returning members to Parliament, and from what date Gloucester did return members to Parliament?—I could not give you that information. Mr. Carter would probably be able to give you the best information upon that subject.

20,078. You know something of the commercial condition, I suppose, of Gloucester?—Yes; some little.

20,079. Its trade is principally corn and timber, is it not?—Yes; corn, timber, and salt.

20,080. Is it mainly an import trade?—Yes. They export salt, and they hope to export a good deal of coal also.

20,081. And they import timber and corn?—Yes; those are principally the commodities.

20,082. Has the trade of Gloucester increased of late years, or has it decreased?—Up to the time of the Russian war it was very flourishing indeed; but the Russian war caused a considerable depression in the trade; but the trade, I am happy to say, has gone on steadily increasing since that depression, and it is now on the increase.

20,083. Since the termination of the Russian war, the depression under which the trade suffered has been removed, and the trade is now again flourishing?—I should scarcely say it is flourishing, but it is gradually increasing.

20,084. Is that increase in the same subject matters in which the decrease had taken place prior to the Russian war?—Yes; it has not got back to the same point that it was at previous to the Russian war; but, judging from the returns I have seen, I should hope that it will get back to the same point again.

20,085. Prior to the Russian war, had there been a state of increase in the trade and commerce of Gloucester?—Yes.

20,086. For a number of years?—Yes; I may say it was going on increasing, and it was in a very flourishing condition at that time.

20,087. In what way did the Russian war produce a decrease in the traffic and commerce of the port?—In the same way as it was produced in all other ports; there was no timber. The people of this country were under a depression owing to the war, and consequently they suspended building operations and other operations, and there was a general stagnation of trade, which operated prejudicially on the trade of the port.

20,088. There was a decrease in the imports of timber and corn?—Yes; great. If you will permit me, I should like to state to the court the principal object that took me up to town, independent of my visit to Mr. Bernard. My object was to see Sir Robert Carden. From one or two words which fell from Sir Robert Carden in his evidence it did appear to me, that, without doubting the correctness of my accounts or the veracity of my statement, that he certainly left the matter in an equivocal position; and I wished to see Sir Robert Carden, with a view to clear that up; that was the principal object that took me to town. I took all my accounts with me to Sir Robert Carden, and was prepared to go into them. He said, "I never had the slightest intention of "doubting your honour or veracity, or the correct- "ness of your accounts, and really you are raising "doubts where none exist." "Well," (I said,) "it "would really be to me a matter of consolation if "you would carefully go through the accounts, and "see that I have disbursed every farthing of the "sum which is said to have come to my hands, "because I do not like to be under the slightest "suspicion that one farthing has ever gone into my "pocket other than in the mode I have told you." Sir Robert Carden very kindly said, "Very well; I

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J Loregrove. 24 Oct. 1859.

"will do that," and I left him to do as he pleased about writing me a note saying he was perfectly satisfied with the accounts. That was the object that took me to Mr. Cooke. I asked Mr. Cooke if he would, as a friend, see Sir Robert Carden on the following day, Sir Robert Carden having told me that he was perfectly satisfied with my honesty in the matter.

H. Woodyatt.

HENRY WOODYATT sworn and examined.

20,089. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A servant.

20,090. To whom?—To Mrs. Weatherall.

20,091. Do you live in Gloucester?—Yes.

20,092. Are you a freeman?—No.

20,093. A householder?—Yes.

20,094. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

20,095. For whom did you vote?—Price and Monk.

20,096. Did you receive anything for your vote?—No.

20,097. Were you offered anything?—No.

20,098. Were you offered anything on the other side?—No.

20,099. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—No.

20,100. Was the election in 1859 the first election at which you did vote?—Yes.

20,101. Have you anything to state with reference to the election of 1859?—No, nothing whatever.

20,102. Can you give the Commissioners any information with reference to that election?—No, none whatever.

20,103. Did you ever state that you had received 5*l.* for your vote?—Not that I am aware of, to anyone, for I never had it.

20,104. Did you state to any person that you had received 5*l.*, or any sum for your vote?—No, I did not; not to the best of my knowledge.

20,105. Had you promised at all to give a vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I had in the first commencement of the canvassing, but I had to go according to my employer's wish.

20,106. Had you promised to give a plumper?—No.

20,107. What had you promised to do?—To vote for Price and Carden. I said I would do so if I could. Those were the words I told Sir Robert Carden, and then I could not do it afterwards.

20,108. Why could you not vote for Sir Robert Carden; why could you not split the vote, and perform the promise you had made?—Because of my employer.

20,109. Mrs. Weatherall?—Yes.

20,110. Did she ask you to vote for Mr. Monk?—She wished me to go as a friend for Mr. Monk.

20,111. Did she tell you you would lose your place if you did not?—No, nothing at all of the kind.

20,112. And in consequence of your being requested by Mrs. Weatherall to vote for Mr. Monk you did vote for him?—She said, as a matter of form, it was her friend; that was all.

20,113. You are quite sure there was no threat held out to you that if you did not vote for Mr. Monk you should be dismissed from your place?—There was nothing at all of that kind, nothing whatever.

H. French.

HENRY FRENCH sworn and examined.

20,114. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am ostler at the "Ram."

20,115. But do you vote as a freeman?—No; not as a freeman.

20,116. As a householder?—Yes; I rent a house at ten guineas a year.

20,117. Did you vote at the election of 1859?—The one before this last, you mean?

20,118. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

20,119. For whom did you vote?—For Mr. Carden.

20,120. What did you receive for your vote?—Mr. Brimmell came down the yard, and says, "Here, Harry, is 4*l.*, my own money; that is nothing to nobody." That was all that passed. He said, "That is my own money, and that is nothing to nobody." That was all that passed; not a word more was said.

20,121. It was "nothing to nobody," except yourself?—He gave it me for myself; that was his own money.

20,122. That was for your vote?—Yes.

20,123. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I think I voted half-and-half; one for Mr. Berkeley and one for Mr. Carden.

20,124. What did you receive for your vote in 1857?—I had two sovereigns then.

20,125. From whom?—From Jeffs.

20,126. What Jeffs?—He lives in the same street.

20,127. What is his Christian name?—James.

20,128 Is he a carver and gilder?—Yes.

20,129. For your vote for whom?—For Carden and Mr. Berkeley. I voted for the two.

20,130. You received two sovereigns from James Jeffs, for voting for Admiral Berkeley?—Yes; that was it.

20,131. What time in the day did you receive those two sovereigns from Jeffs in 1857?—I cannot say exactly. It was some time in the day. I cannot say when, now.

20,132. Was it early or late?—It must have been in the morning.

20,133. You cannot tell particularly?—No; I cannot say exactly.

20,134. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive anything for your vote for Carden in 1857?—No, I did not; I had 7*l.* altogether; no, 6*l.* altogether; 4*l.* of Brimmell and 2*l.* of Jeffs; that was all the money I ever did receive.

20,135. You received 4*l.* at the last election, and 2*l.* the election before?—Yes; that is right.

20,136. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you not vote for Berkeley and Price in 1857?—No; I think it was for Berkeley.

20,137. Was it Berkeley and Price, or Berkeley and Carden?—Berkeley and Carden.

20,138. You seem to have forgotten yourself. You live in Southgate Street?—Yes.

20,139. And you are a shopkeeper?—My mistress keeps a shop.

20,140. You are down in the poll book as having voted for Berkeley and Price in 1857?—I never voted for Price in my life, that I know of; not to my knowledge.

20,141. Then you had no knowledge at the time you voted in 1857, I suppose? Were you very tipsy when you voted?—No; I am not in the habit of getting tipsy.

H. Castle.

HENRY CASTLE sworn and examined.

20,142. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Lower Westgate Street.

20,143. What are you?—A saddler.

20,144. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a householder.

20,145. For whom did you vote at the last election, in 1859?—For Sir Robert Carden.

20,146. What did you receive for your vote?—10*l.*

20,147. Did you receive that from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes, I did.

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H. Castle.

24 Oct. 1859.

20,148. For whom did you vote in 1857 ? — For Sir Robert Carden.

20,149. What did you receive for your vote then ? —Nothing at all.

20,150. You say you received nothing for your vote in 1857 ?—I did not.

20,151. Did you yourself know in 1857 of persons that were bribed ? — No ; I had no knowledge of anything of the sort.

20,152. Were you requested to go to London to give evidence upon the petition ?—No.

20,153. Did you see Mr. Wilton about going to London, and giving evidence ?—I do not recollect.

20,154. Did you ever tell Mr. Wilton that you were enabled to give evidence of bribery in 1857 ?—I do not recollect anything about it.

20,155. Not to either Mr. Wilton ? — I do not recollect anything of the sort.

20,156. Did you go to the poll in 1857 by your. self, or were you taken there ?—I think I went by myself, to the best of my recollection.

WILLIAM COOPEY sworn and examined.

W. Coopey.

20,157. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

20,158. What did you receive for your vote ? —£7.

20,159. Who paid it you ?—Mr. John Ward.

20,160. Do you know who polled for the Coopey who is dead ?—No ; I did not know that anybody did poll for him.

20,161. Did you receive any money for that vote ? —No.

20,162. For the dead one ?—No.

20,163. You received no more than 7*l.* ? — Yes. Mr. Ward gave me 5*l.* for persuading the rest to poll the same way as I did.

20,164. Besides the 7*l.*?—Yes.

20,165. Then you received 12*l.*? — I did ; and a sovereign in a fortnight after he gave me to have some drink with.

20,166. You received 13*l.* altogether ?—Yes.

20,167. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it a very difficult matter to persuade the others to vote for 7*l.* a piece ? —Yes ; I had a sight of trouble with them.

20,168. You had, had you ?—Yes ; because the yellow party was offering them 8*l.* a piece.

20,169. And you had some difficulty in making them take 7*l.* instead of 8*l.*?—I dare say I spent a pound or two treating them with a drop of drink.

20,170. Where do you live ?—At Churcham.

20,171. You treated them, did you ?—Yes.

20,172. And at last, by your persuasion and treating, you got them to take 7*l.* each for their votes, did you ?—Yes.

20,173. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you sure that part of the 5*l.* was not for the vote that was given for the dead Coopey ?—I am sure it was not ; I had nothing to do with it.

20,174. And you are sure you do not know that somebody polled in the name of that person who is dead ?—No ; I know nothing about it.

20,175. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857 ?—I never voted at all. I had not taken up my freedom then.

20,176. Then you had not voted before the last election ?—No.

20,177. How many Coopeys did you persuade to vote ? — Two brothers, and, I think, about three or four cousins, and William Rowles.

20,178. That is about eight or nine ?—About eight or nine, I could not tell exactly.

20,179. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you pay for taking up your freedom ?—No.

20,180. Who did ?—Mr. Browne.

20,181. When was your freedom taken up ?—In 1857 or 1858 ; I could not be certain.

JOSEPH COOPEY sworn and examined.

J. Coopey.

20,182. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

20,183. What did you receive for your vote ?— £7.

20,184. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. John Ward.

20,185. Did Mr. Ward canvass you ?—Yes.

20,186. Did you require much persuasion ?—No.

20,187. Did William Coopey, who was here before you, persuade you to vote ?—Yes, he did.

20,188. And had he a great deal of trouble to persuade you ?—No ; not a great lot.

20,189, Do you know who polled for the Coopey who was dead at the last election ?—No, I do not.

20,190. You know there was a John Coopey, senior, on the register, who was dead at the last election, do you not ?—That was my father, but I do not know who voted for him.

20,191. You are sure of that ?—I do not know who voted for him.

20,192. Did you receive the 3*l.* 10*s.* that was paid for putting his name on the poll ?—No.

20,193. Do you know who did receive it ?—No, I do not know who received it.

20,194. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857, two years before ?—The last election was the first time that I voted.

20,195. When did you take up your freedom ?—It is a long time ago when it was took up.

20,196. How many years ago ?—Not above a year and a half ago.

20,197. Did you pay for it yourself ?—It was Mr. Browne that paid. There is the gentleman (*pointing to a person in court*).

20,198. Is he the registration agent for the blue party ?—Yes.

20,199. Did he come to you to ask you to take up your freedom, or did you go to him ?—He asked me in Gloucester market if I was going to take it up, and I told him "Yes."

20,200. If it was paid for, I suppose ?—Yes.

20,201. He paid for it ?—Yes.

20,202. You are the brother of the last witness, are you not ?—Yes.

WILLIAM TOOTLE sworn and examined.

W. Tootle.

20,203. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?— At Tredworth.

20,204. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

20,205. Who did you vote for at the last election ? —Sir Robert Carden.

20,206. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

20,207. From whom ?—Mr. John Hanman.

20,208. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

20,209. What did you receive ?—£2.

20,210. From whom ?—Mr. John Hanman.

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H. J. Wilkins.

HENRY JOHN WILKINS sworn and examined.

24 Oct. 1859.

20,211. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Parker's-row.

20,212. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A freeman.

20,213. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

20,214. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

20,215. Who gave it to you ?—Mr. Whithorn.

20,216. In the committee-room ?—Yes.

20,217. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

20,218. What did you receive for your vote then ?—£2 10*s.*

20,219. Paid to you by whom ?—By Mr. Maysey.

W. Brown.

WILLIAM BROWN sworn and examined.

20,220. (*Mr. Welford.*) You live in Mitre-street, do you not ?—Yes.

20,221. Were you not summoned for Saturday ?—Yes.

20,222. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

20,223. What did you receive for your vote ?—£3.

20,224. Who paid it to you ?—John Smart.

20,225. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

20,226. What did you receive then ?—I did not receive any thing; I was out of town. My mistress received 2*l.* 10*s.*

20,227. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you sure you did not receive 5*l.* from Smart ?—Yes; only 3*l.*

20,228. Did you receive anything for drinking ?—No.

20,229. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where did Smart pay you ?—In the committee-room.

20,230. After you voted or before ?—Before.

20,231. If Mr. Smart has said he paid you 5*l.*, is that a mistake ?—Yes, a wonderful mistake.

20,232. Were you sober when you received it ?—Quite.

20,233. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive anything else ?—No.

20,234. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is that Smart of the "Swan and Falcon ?"—Yes.

20,235. (*Mr. Welford*) Who paid your wife the 2*l.* 10*s.* ?—Maysey; three weeks after the election.

J. Dunn.

JOHN DUNN sworn and examined.

20,236. (*Mr Welford.*) Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A householder.

20,237. Do you live in Mitre-street ?—Yes.

20,238. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

20,239. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

20,240. Paid by whom ?—Henley, the printer.

20,241. What did you receive for your vote in 1857 ?—Nothing; I did not vote.

20,242. Had you not a vote then ?—Yes, I had.

20,243. But you did not vote at all ?—No.

20,244. How was that ?—Because I would not.

20,245. Were you offered anything by the other side at the last election ?—No. I was offered no money on the other side.

20,246. You were not offered 10*l.* by anybody ?—No.

20,247. Were you offered anything at the election before ?—No.

W. Hooper.

WILLIAM HOOPER sworn and examined.

20,248. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a voter for Gloucester ?—Yes.

20,249. Who did you vote for in 1859 ?—Price and Monk.

20,250. What did you get for your vote ?—£5.

20,251. Who from ?—From Mr. Moss.

20,252. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

20,253. What did you get then ?—Nothing; and I never asked for anything.

20,254. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Price and Berkeley.

20,255. (*Mr Welford.*) You received nothing for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

J. Sholt.

JOHN SHOLT sworn and examined.

20,256. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—At Dockham.

20,257. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Carden.

20,258. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

20,259. Who paid it you ?—Mr. Whithorn.

20,260. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

20,261. What did you receive then for your vote ?—30*s.*

20,262. Who paid you ?—Mr. Whithorn.

J. Drinkwater.

JAMES DRINKWATER sworn and examined.

20,263. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Barton Terrace; in the out hamlet.

20,264. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

20,265. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you vote at the last election in 1859 ?—I did.

20,266. For whom ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

20,267. What did you receive for your vote ?—I received 5*l.*

20,268. From whom ?—From Mr. Whithorn.

20,269. In 1857 for whom did you vote ?—For Sir Walter Carden.

20,270. How much did you receive then ?—Not anything at all.

20,271. Did you receive nothing from any one ?—Nothing. I had one sovereign of Mr. Lovegrove, to go up to Birmingham to see my son, and to ask him if he would vote the same way as I did that is all I had, and that paid my expenses, as I reckoned, going up and down.

20,272. How long before the election was it that you received that sovereign from Mr. Lovegrove ?—A week; the Saturday week before.

20,273. What son was that that you went to see ?—George William. I have got a summons for him now, but I cannot find him anywhere. I wrote to him directly I had the summons, but he has not sent me an answer, and I do not know where he is.

20,274. Did Mr. Lovegrove tell you that if your son George William would come down to vote for Sir Robert Carden he should be paid anything ?—No; he did not say such a thing.

20,275. Was your son working at Birmingham ?—He works for the boats; he is sometimes at Birmingham, sometimes at Wolverhampton, and sometimes at Stourport.

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20,276. He is a boatman, is he ?—Yes.

20,277. (*Mr. Welford.*) Which Mr. Lovegrove are you speaking of; is it Mr. Joseph Lovegrove ?—Yes.

20,278. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you a son Thomas, who is a voter ?—Yes.

20,279. Is he here ?—No. He has got no work, and he is off on the tramp. His wife is here.

20,280. Do you not know where your son Thomas Drinkwater is at all ?—No. I went yesterday to his lodging, where his wife is, and I asked her, and she has not heard from him. It is last Wednesday week since he was in Gloucester.

20,281. She has not heard from him for a week, has she ?—Above a week.

20,282. Is your son George William here now ?—No, he is not. I wrote up on Saturday directly I had the summons to Birmingham, where he stops ; and I have not had an answer. I dare say he has gone further on.

20,283. Has your son Thomas any other name besides Thomas ?—Thomas Henry.

20,284. You were examined before the committee of the House of Common, were you not ?—I was.

20,285. In 1857 ?—Yes.

20,286. With reference to the election of 1857 ?—Yes; the election before the last. I have got no learning, so I cannot tell you the day of the month, and I do not keep it in my head.

20,287. Did you swear before the committee of the House of Commons that your son had received money for his vote ?—I did.

20,288. (*Mr. Welford.*) Which son ? — Thomas Henry. I was offered the same, but I would not take it.

20,289. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) By whom were you offered money ? — By Henry Collingburn, my first cousin.

20,290. How much were you offered ? — I was offered *5l.*, and I told him I would not have it. He told me he could speak to me now, but he could not at any other time.

20,291. You were offered *5l.* by Henry Collingburn ?—Yes ; and I told him I would not have it.

20,292. Where was that money offered to you ?—In a public house,—I cannot tell the name of it,—where William Preedy lived, near the "Old Swan."

20,293. Do you not know the name of the public house ?—No. I do not know the name of it.

20,294. It was a public house kept by Preedy ?—A beerhouse.

20,295. Was it on the day of the polling, or before the polling ?—On the day of the polling; in the morning, about a quarter before eleven.

20,296. Do you know where Henry Collingburn is now ?—I do not. I have not seen him but twice since.

20,297. What is he ?—He calls himself a corn merchant ; but I do not know whether he is or no.

20,298. Is he in Gloucester ?—I cannot tell you, for I never trouble any relations, and never go to them. I always take care of my own family.

20,299. He is a cousin of yours ? — Yes. My mother and his father are brother and sister, I believe ; they own to one another as such.

20,300. Have you seen him lately ?—I have not ; I have not spoken to him since I saw him up in London.

20,301. You have no idea, have you, where a letter would reach him ?—No, I have not.

20,302. Where was he living in Gloucester, or where was his place of business when he was here ?—In the roundhouse on the quay ; he has a storehouse there.

20,303. Do you know where he is now ?—No, I do not ; I keep myself to myself and my family.

20,304. The roundhouse on the quay ?—Yes ; it is called the roundhouse.

20,305. You would not take this *5l.* that he offered you ?— No. I told him I had been a soldier long enough, and that I did not want to be enlisted any more.

20,306. Were you offered any money on the other side ?—No.

20,307. What are you by business ? — A shoemaker.

20,308. A master shoemaker ?—Yes ; and I have carried that business on for 38 years myself, and have brought up a large family with my own hard labour. I have brought up 14 children by my own hard labour, and I do not think I have been a lazy man, and I have not had anything at all of anybody.

20,309. How do you know that your son Thomas Henry Drinkwater had any money for his vote ?—Because I saw him have it.

20,310. You saw him have it ?—Yes, I did.

20,311. Did you see him have the money paid to him ? — Yes. I saw Henry Collingburn pull out a farmer's purse, a yellow one, and he put his hand in, and said, "Here is the money ; will you vote for Mr. Price and Berkeley ?" He said, "I dare say I shall, but" (says he) "the old man will not."

20,312. You say you saw Collingburn put his hand in his pocket, and pull out a farmer's purse ?—Yes; a yellow one it was.

20,313. And do what ? — And give my son five sovereigns.

20,314. That you saw ?—I saw that myself.

20,315. Where ? — In "The Fountain" yard. He came out of Berkeley Street up "The Fountain" passage into "The Fountain" yard. I was stood at the door, smoking a pipe along with a friend I knew from Birmingham.

20,316. What time was this ?—The time was, I may say, half-past eleven in the day. We left Preedy's, down in the Island, and came up to 'The Fountain."

20,317. Who was there ?—My son Thomas Henry was there, my son George, and an old gentleman from Birmingham, and my wife was there, and one or two more; I do not know who they were. I saw them, but not to take any notice of them, but I can swear to them.

20,318. What is the name of the old gentleman from Birmingham ?—They called him Richard; I do not know his surname.

20,319. What is he ?—A labourer.

20,320. How came he to be in Gloucester ?—He came down along with my son; he worked with my son at the boat at that time.

20,321. Was he a voter ?—No.

20,322. He was a friend of your son's ?—Yes.

20,323. And he came here with him as a companion ?—He came down as a friend and companion with me and my son.

20,324. Did he come down with you and your son ? Did you come down together ?—Yes ; we all came together.

20,325. Were those the only people who were present, your son and this old man from Birmingham ?—He was present, and my son George, and my wife, and we all stood at the door. I had occasion to go out into the yard.

20,326. You were all in the yard together, were you ?—No. My wife stood by the door post. It was not decent for her to see what we were doing in the yard.

20,327. You were in the yard ?—Yes ; four of us were in the yard.

20,328. Had your son George these five sovereigns from Collingburn ?—Yes.

20,329. To vote for whom ?— He had the five sovereigns to vote for Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley.

20,330. Did he vote for them ?—No, he did not.

20,331. Who did he vote for —He voted for Sir Robert Carden.

20,332. Did your other sons vote for Carden ?—Yes.

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J. Drinkwater.

24 Oct. 1859.

20,333. You voted for Carden?—Yes; all three of us voted for Sir Robert Carden.

20,334. Were your other sons there when Collingburn was there?—Yes; George; he stood out in the yard.

20,335. Your two sons were there at the same time?—Yes; and this old gentleman I call Richard.

20,336. Did Collingburn offer any money to them?—My son said he would not have the money; he did not intend to vote for Mr. Price or Berkeley.

20,337. Did Collingburn offer any money to your other sons?—One son had it; Thomas had it.

20,338. Did he offer any money to George?—Yes; and he said, "Father will not have it, and I will not have it."

20,339. What money did he offer to George?—The same money; 5*l.*

20,340. And he offered you 5*l.*?—Yes; he offered me 5*l.*, and I would not take it.

20,341. He offered it to you at the same time?—No; first. He offered this down at William Preedy's.

20,342. What time was it when he offered it to you?—About a quarter before eleven, as near as I could tell.

20,343. There is no doubt about that, is there?—There is no doubt at all.

20,344. Is that all the money that your son had?—He had his expenses to pay himself back, and to pay for a man doing his work.

20,345. Was that all the money he had?—Thomas had five sovereigns; that is all the money I saw pass.

20,346. What did George have?—£3 to pay his expenses up and down, and to pay the expenses of a man that was towing his boat.

20,347. Who did he have that from?—From Mr. Whithorn; that was to pay his expenses up and down, and to pay for a man that was towing his boat.

20,348. Where did he receive that 3*l.* from Mr. Whithorn?—At the committee-room, the night he went away; the evening he went away.

20,349. Did he go away on the evening of the polling day?—He went away at night; he went out by the last train that went to Birmingham. He had to go to Stourport before he could overtake the boat, and I believe it took pretty nearly all his money.

20,350. Have you never sworn that the money that your son Thomas Henry received was three sovereigns?—I did not swear that he received any. I have not sworn that.

20,351. Not your son Thomas Henry?—No; George William. He had 3*l.* for his expenses to be taken up to Birmingham.

20,352. That was from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

20,353. Have you never sworn that Thomas Henry Drinkwater received three sovereigns?—I cannot remember that I swore it.

20,354. Were you not examined in London before the committee of the House of Commons?—Yes.

20,355. Did you not swear there that your son had received three sovereigns?—(*No answer*).

20,356. Come, answer the question?—I believe I did.

20,357. Then what do you mean by swearing here that he received five?—He received three from the blue party.

20,358. I am speaking of Thomas Henry Drinkwater?—He received 3*l.* for his trouble; he was working at Worcester at that time, and received 3*l.* of the blue party.

20,359. Your son Thomas Henry?—Yes.

20,360. From whom?—From Mr. Whithorn.

20,361. Where did he receive it?—He received it when his brother did; in the evening.

20,362. In the committee-room?—Mr. Whithorn gave it to him.

20,363. Did you not swear that the money that your son Thomas Henry received from Collingburn was 3*l.*?—No, I did not. I could not swear that, because I saw five sovereigns given to him. I mentioned in the House of Commons, I remember, that he came to me, and said, "Excuse me, father, for "calling you a fool, but you be a fool for not having "the same as I have got; it will do the old "woman good." There were two James Drinkwaters examined in London.

20,364. You are the father?—I am the father.

20,365. What other James Drinkwater is there?—A son of mine what went with his brother Thomas the night before the election.

20,366. You have got three sons?—Three.

20,367. James?—Yes; and Thomas and George; and that is where the mistake is.

20,368. Do not be too sure of that; we shall see presently. Was James Drinkwater in the yard of "The Fountain" as well as yourself and your own sons?—No; not that I know of.

20,369. Was he or was he not?—No, he was not.

20,370. Is your son James here?—No; but I can have him here if you think proper; it will take me about an hour or an hour and a half to go and fetch him.

20,371. Was he at "The Fountain" when Collingburn was there?—No; I did not see him there.

20,372. Was he at the beerhouse you speak of?—He was in the beerhouse at Preedy's with us.

20,373. Were your other two sons there?—Yes; at William Preedy's they were.

20,374. Will you come here again at two o'clock to-day, and bring your son James, and ascertain, if you can, the addresses of your other two sons?—I tried that yesterday, but I will do so again.

20,375. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did Thomas Henry receive at the last election?—Nothing at all; he did not vote.

20,376. What did George receive at the last election?—£5.

20,377. From whom?—Mr. Whithorn.

20,378. He was paid at the same time as you were, I suppose?—Yes.

20,379. Did you see him paid?—Yes.

F. Hanman.

FREDERICK HANMAN sworn, and examined.

20,380. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you keep "The King William?"—Yes.

20,381. In what street is that?—Alvin Street.

20,382. Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden at the last election?—Yes.

20,383. Have you a bill against Sir Robert Carden's committee?—Yes.

20,384. In respect of provisions and entertainment afforded there?—Yes.

20,385. What is the amount of it?—Between 7*l.* and 8*l.*

20,386. By whose direction was that bill contracted?—I did not have any authority from any party to contract the bill.

20,387. To whom did you afford the entertainment for which your bill amounts to 8*l.*?—Mr. Lovegrove. I informed Mr. Lovegrove that I had an account against Sir Robert Carden.

20,388. You do not understand the question. Were there many people that came to your house, and consumed beer or meat, or bread and cheese, for which the bill amounted to 8*l.*?—Yes.

20,389. Were those persons voters?—Yes, some of them.

20,390. Were they partisans of Sir Robert Carden?—They promised me they would be so, but they went the other way, a great many of them, after they had partaken of what there was to be had.

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20,391. A great many were friends, and a great many said they were friends, but they proved not to be friends?—Exactly so.

20,392. Did you understand that you had authority to supply meat or drink to persons who represented that they were voters in the interest of Sir Robert Carden?—I did it on my own responsibility.

20,393. Have you been paid anything at all?—No, I have not.

20,394. Did you see John Ward at your house?—Yes.

20,395. Maysey?—Yes.

20,396. Stamper?—No; not during the election.

20,397. When Ward and Maysey were there were they there with voters?—Sometimes they were.

20,398. Were the voters treated by Ward and Maysey when they were there?—They might have called for a glass for themselves and the party they came in with.

20,399. Did Ward and Maysey treat the voters, or did they pay for what they had, or request you to put it down in the bill?—Sometimes they paid, and sometimes it was put down in the bill.

20,400. Did they tell you to do so?—No; they did not tell me to do so. They did not know that I had an account against them.

20,401. Did you receive anything at all for your vote?—No.

20,402. Did you offer any money to any person yourself?—Yes.

20,403. To whom?—I offered money to several people.

20,404. To whom did you give money?—I gave Llewillin Tasmer 10*l.*

20,405. Who is he?—A painter and glazier living next door to me.

20,406. In what street does he live?—Alvin Street.

20,407. Did you give him 10*l.* to vote for Carden?—Yes.

20,408. To what other person did you give money?—James M'Coy.

20,409. How much?—£5.

20,410. Where does M'Coy live?—In Brother's Place.

20,411. To whom else did you give money?—I gave 5*l.* to a man named Hatch. Whether his Christian name is Henry or Charles I cannot tell. He lives in Barton Street. Henry, I am told. He is a carpenter.

20,412. You gave 5*l.* to him?—Yes.

20,413. Anybody else?—That is the lot.

20,414. Where did you get that money from?—Mr. Whithorn.

20,415. How much did you receive from Mr. Whithorn altogether?—£20.

20,416. Did you offer money to any other persons?—It was too late; I had no more money to offer.

20,417. And you did not offer any money to any other person?—I had none to offer, and I could not offer any.

20,418. Did you or did you not offer any other money?—To the best of my knowledge I did not.

20,419. You gave that money to those three persons whose names you have mentioned to vote for Carden?—Yes.

20,420. At the election of 1857 did you vote for Carden?—Yes.

20,421. Who did you bribe on that occasion?—Shadrach Wood and Walter Wood; father and son.

20,422. Where do they live?—Somewhere down in the suburbs; Sweet Briar Street, I think.

20,423. How much did you give them?—Fifty shillings a piece.

20,424. (*Mr. Welford.*) To vote for Carden?—Yes.

20,425. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who else?—That is the lot.

20,426. Where did you get the money from for those two persons?—Mr. Whithorn.

20,427. How much did you receive for them?—£5.

20,428. Had you any bill at the election of 1857?—Yes.

20,429. What was the amount of it?—£3 or 4*l.* I think.

20,430. For treating?—Yes.

20,431. Were you paid that bill?—No; I omitted sending it in till the accounts were cleared up, I understood.

20,432. Do you mean to say that as regards that money you have not been paid?—I have not.

20,433. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you sent in this bill for 7*l.* or 8*l.* after this last election did you include in it the sum that was not paid in 1857?—No, I did not.

20,434. Have you sent in the bill of 1857 this year?—Yes, I have.

20,435. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I suppose you expect to be paid the 4*l.* in 1857 as well as the 8*l.* at the last election?—I should like to be paid.

20,436. Do you know of any other persons that were bribed either at the election of 1857 or the election of 1859?—Not to my knowledge.

20,437. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you allowed these bills to run up, had you reason from past experience to expect they would be paid?—Certainly I had.

20,438. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you been paid bills at previous elections?—Yes.

20,439. By the blue party?—Yes. I wish to say that I only delivered my bill one day last week to Mr. Lovegrove.

20,440. Which bill?—The bill of 1859. I heard of bills being handed over, and read over, and mine was not in.

JEREMIAH PRICE sworn and examined.

20,441. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

20,442. Who did you vote for?—Monk and Price.

20,443. Where do you live?—Upper Dockham.

20,444. You are a baker, are you not?—Yes.

20,445. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

20,446. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing.

20,447. Are you quite sure of that?—I am.

20,448. Do you remember going to Mr. Hadley for some flour?—Yes.

20,449. What was the usual quantity of flour you bought at a time?—I generally buy ten sacks and six sacks.

20,450. Generally ten?—No; generally six.

20,451. Has that been the quantity you usually purchased?—Yes, for a long time back.

20,452. Six sacks at a time?—Six sacks at a time.

20,453. And you have paid for them at the time?—Yes.

20,454. You have generally purchased six sacks at a time for some time back?—Yes.

20,455. And you have generally paid for them at the time?—Yes; before I had them.

20,456. Are you quite certain?—I am quite certain.

20,457. Are you quite certain that your purchases of flour were not before the last election limited to one sack or two sacks at a time?—No, it was not. I have had as little as two at a time when I have been short of cash.

20,458. But I thought you said generally it was six sacks at a time?—It has been so the last six or nine months, I suppose.

20,459. Sometimes you have had as little as two sacks?—I have, when I particularly wanted it.

20,460. Do you remember, after the last election,

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J. Price.
24 Oct. 1859.

ordering a considerable quantity of flour at one time?—No.

20,461. You do not?—Oh, dear no.

20,462. Do you remember, either just before or just after the last election, buying ten sacks?—No.

20,463. You do not?—I do not.

20,464. In 1857, for whom did you vote?—If I had been aware of it I would have brought you all the bills.

20,465. For whom did you vote in 1857?—For Berkeley and Price. I have always voted that side for thirty years.

20,466. I am obliged to put you questions, in consequence of suggestions that are made to me?—I guessed who it was from the first step, when I had the summons, because I have been chaffed in the club-room and other places.

20,467. In 1857, you voted for Berkeley and Price?—I did.

20,468. Had you before that time been in the habit of purchasing as large a quantity as six sacks of flour at a time?—Yes, I think I had.

20,469. Did you receive nothing for your vote in 1857?—Never, from either party; they never offered me a farthing.

20,470. You received nothing at all?—No, nothing at all from either party. In fact the other party never troubled about me, because I did not vote for them.

20,471. Do you remember, before or after 1857, ordering ten sacks of flour from Mr. Hadley?—Very likely I may.

20,472. Do you remember paying at the time for six sacks?—No. I cannot bring it to my recollection. I never had any without paying for it before I had it.

20,473. Do you remember about that time that flour had risen very much in price; that almost immediately after you had made the purchase flour rose considerably?—It did.

20,474. Do you remember any refusal by Mr. Hadley to let you have the flour unless you paid for it at once?—No.

20,475. Not only the price, but the additional price?—No; nothing of that sort.

20,476. If you ordered, about the time of the election of 1857, ten sacks of flour, or six sacks about the same time, was that paid for with your own money, and not with the money obtained for your vote?—It was not paid for out of the money I got for my vote; nothing at all of the sort. It was my own money and my brother James'.

20,477. You quite understand the question?—Yes, I do. I never received a farthing from the party to buy anything; nor the party never ordered anything for me. I always bought it myself.

20,478. I put the question to you, whether the money with which you paid for that flour was not the money you received as the price of your vote?—Nothing of the sort.

20,479. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it money that your brother received for the price of your vote?—My brother lent me money twice to pay for flour.

20,480. Was any part of that money for your vote?—No.

20,481. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are sure it was your own money with which you purchased the flour?—It was my own money.

J. Hall.

JOHN HALL sworn and examined.

20,482. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In St. Mary's Square.

20,483. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monk and Mr. Price.

20,484. What did you receive?—£5.

20,485. Who paid you?—A man of the name of Price.

20,486. What is his Christian name?—George.

20,487. Where does George Price live?—He lives in the Southgate Street.

20,488. What is he?—A labourer, I believe.

20,489. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know who he got the money from?—No.

20,490. (*Mr. Welford.*) How came he to give you *5l.*? Did anybody promise you money for your vote before you received it?—Yes, he did.

20,491. George Price?—I said Pugh.

20,492. You said Price. Then it was Pugh who promised you money?—Yes.

20,493. When did he pay you?—The morning of the nomination day.

20,494. He paid you before the polling day, then?—No; I mean the polling morning.

20,495. Before you voted?—Yes.

20,496. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Pugh pay you the money, or did Price pay you?—Pugh paid me.

20,497. You mean to say you did not get the money from Price, but from Pugh?—From Pugh. If I said Price I made a mistake.

20,498. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

20,499. Had you no vote?—No.

20,500. Are you a freeman?—No.

20,501. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep "The Black Horse", do you not?—Yes.

20,502. Who is George Pugh?—He is a man that lives in Littleworth, in this town.

20,503. Do you say he is a labourer? Is that what you call him?—He drives an engine; that is what he does.

20,504. A locomotive engine?—No; at a saw-mill.

20,505. At Littleworth;—Yes.

20,506. In whose works?—Mr. Price's.

20,507. You had promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden, had you not?—No.

20,508. Did you not promise Mr. Hulls, the solicitor?—No.

20,509. Were you canvassed by Mr. Hulls?—No.

20,510. You were not canvassed by him at all?—No.

20,511. You are quite sure about that?—Yes.

20,512. Were you canvassed by any person on behalf of Sir Robert Carden?—Not by any one.

20,513. You say you had not promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, I had not.

20,514. Did you ever tell Mr. Hulls that you could not vote for Sir Robert Carden because you had a chance of doing yourself some good this time?—No, I did not.

20,515. Nothing of the sort?—No.

20,516. Did you get any other money besides the *5l.* you have spoken of?—No.

20,517. Were you a messenger?—I was on the committee a week; I had a guinea for that.

20,518. Who paid you that?—Mr. Monk.

W. Davis.

WILLIAM DAVIS sworn and examined.

20,519. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Union Street.

20,520. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

20,521. Who did you vote for at the last election in 1859?—Price and Monk.

20,522. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

20,523. Are you sure?—Yes.

20,524. Did you not receive any money from Mr. Henley?—No.

20,525. Do you keep "The Magnet"?—Yes.

20,526. Did you bribe any persons at the last election?—No.

20,527. Was your house open for treating?—Voters

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W. Davis.
24 Oct. 1859.

would come to have a pint or anything of that sort, but nothing else.

20,528. Have you got any bill against Messrs. Price and Monk?—I have a bill for the polling day.

20,529. How much?—I sent it up to Mr. Henley, and he got the bill and the money, I suppose.

20,530. He paid you the money, did he?—I have had no money.

20,531. What was the amount of the bill?—About 5*l.*

20,532. You have a bill for treating on the polling day of 5*l.*?—That is my bill which I sent in.

20,533. Which you have not been paid?—I have not been paid.

20,534. Who did you treat; voters?—Voters were sent down to our house, and they were to have what was right.

20,535. Who sent them down?—Mr. Henley; that is what they did tell me, and I let them have what they liked that was reasonable.

20,536. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he send any written order with them?—No; he sent them down, and they said they were sent by him, and I let them have what was in reason, but nothing particular.

20,537. Did Mr. Henley himself tell you to draw the beer for them?—No.

20,538. You did not receive any instructions from him?—He did not tell me anything about it.

20,539. Before the election was treating going on at your house?—Yes; a meeting or two.

20,540. A supper or a dinner?—No.

20,541. But a number of people came to drink beer?—Yes; a meeting of voters, Blue and Yellow; all sorts; 40 or 50 might be there altogether; whether they were all voters I cannot tell.

20,542. I suppose when they came together, 40 or 50, they had something to drink?—Yes.

20,543. Who paid for that?—William Probert.

20,544. William Probert, junior?—Yes.

20,545. Was that more than once?—Only once.

20,546. Had that any influence upon your vote?—No.

20,547. The money you received for beer consumed had no influence on your vote?—Not a bit.

20,548. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Berkeley and Price.

20,549. Had you a bill then against the Liberal party?—No; no bill at all.

20,550. No treating at all?—No. What they had the voters paid for themselves, on the day of voting; they came down to me once, and what they had they paid for. If I gave them anything it was out of my own pocket.

20,551. You had no bill against the Liberal party then?—No bill at all.

20,552. Do you know of any bribery at all that was committed at the election in 1859 or the election of 1857?—No, I do not.

20,553. You were no party to it?—No.

20,554. No money passed through your hands?—No.

20,555. And you did not bribe anybody?—No, I did not bribe anybody, and nobody bribed me.

DANIEL TANDY sworn and examined.

D. Tandy.

20,556. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—I live at "The Mitre" in Mitre-street. I keep "The Mitre."

20,557. Who did you vote for in 1859?—Price and Monk.

20,558. Have you a bill against the Liberal party?—I have not.

20,559. Was there any treating going on at your house?—Not that I am aware of.

20,560. Was there any inducement or any bribe given to you for your vote?—I should not like to take one.

20,561. I am bound to ask you the question: Did you bribe any person yourself?—I did.

20,562. Who did you bribe?—William Merrett, a well-known character.

20,563. Where does he live?—He lives in Mitre Street.

20,564. How much did you give him?—£5.

20,565. Was that for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

20,566. Who else did you bribe?—I think the next would be John Phillips.

20,567. Where does he live?—In Barton Street.

20,568. How much did you give him?—£2 10*s.*

20,569. That was also for his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

20,570. Now, the next person that you bribed?—The next person is a person of the name of Salabank.

20,571. Where does he live?—He formerly lived in Barton Street.

20,572. How much did you give him?—£2 10*s.*

20,573. For his vote for Price and Monk?—Yes.

20,574. Who was the next?—There was another gentleman I gave 2*l.* 10*s.* to, but what his name is I cannot tell you; I cannot recollect what his name was.

20,575. Was he a person you knew at the time you gave the money?—He was a voter, but I cannot recollect his name.

20,576. Where did you give it him?—I gave it to him in the Westgate Street; somewhere in the street, but I cannot tell you where.

20,577. Did you know the man before?—I did not.

20,578. Did you take him down to poll with you?—I did.

20,579. And saw him poll?—And saw him poll.

20,580. Who did you get this money from?—It was my own money.

20,581. You gave it out of your own pocket?—Yes.

20,582. It was done for the good of the cause, was it?—Yes.

20,583. Have you never been repaid this money?—Never.

20,584. Have you never sought to be repaid?—I never sought to be repaid.

20,585. You have never applied for it?—No, I have not.

20,586. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is this the first time you have mentioned it?—Yes.

20,587. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That was with regard to the election of 1859?—Yes.

20,588. In 1857, who did you vote for?—For Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price.

20,589. Did you expend any of your own money at that election?—No, I did not.

20,590. You did not bribe at all?—Not at all.

WILLIAM LEA called and further examined.

W. Lea.

20,591. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A grocer and provision dealer.

20,592. You received some money from Mr. Roberts, the solicitor?—I have been examined on that point before. I am here to-day about the election of 1857.

20,593. As regards the election of 1857, what have you to say about that?—I believe that Mr. Robert Wilton mentioned my name as paying me 5*l.*

20,594. You voted upon that occasion for Berkeley and Price?—For Berkeley and Price.

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W. Lea.
24 Oct. 1859.

20,595. What have you to say as to that?—I say that the 5*l.* which Mr. Robert Wilton paid me was money due to me in 1853 for expenses, which he paid me in August 1857.

20,596. Mr. Robert Wilton paid you in August 1857 5*l.* for money due to you in 1853?—Yes; that was due to me in 1853 for expenses.

20,597. What expenses were those?—Those were expenses that were paid for messengers. I was ordered to pay it by the late Robert Hudson for messengers in 1853.

20,598. You were ordered to pay 5*l.* by the late Robert Hudson?—Yes, for messengers, which I was to receive the money for from Mr. Robert Wilton again.

20,599. Do you represent that the money which you received from Mr. Robert Wilton was not given in consideration of your vote at the election of 1857?—It had nothing to do with my vote for the election of 1857. I never had anything for my vote in my life.

20,600. The subsequent payment was not in consideration of your vote?—No. I had occasion to go to Mr. Robert Wilton, to take out some summonses. I saw him then, and said to him, "Is it not almost time "to pay me that money?" and he said he would pay me now if I would come in.

20,601. Had you not spoken to him upon the subject before you voted?—No; I had spoken to no person upon the subject.

20,602. Have you anything more to say?—No. I did nothing in 1857, because I was cautioned by Mr. Ellis not to give anybody a glass of beer, except on my own responsibility, and therefore I did not do it.

W. Wingate.

WILLIAM WINGATE called and further examined.

20,603. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Hampden Place.

20,604. What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

20,605. Are you a freeman?—Yes, and a householder.

20,606. Who did you vote for in 1859?—Price and Monk.

20,607. And who did you vote for in 1857?—Berkeley and Price.

20,608. Did you offer any money to any person in 1857 for his vote?—I cannot say that I did exactly for his vote. I was in "The Bull's Head" about half past one. I had heard a little conversation going on. There was a man there who was a voter, and he had got a bill against a gentleman of the name of Castree, a gent. belonging to our municipal lot. It was for some bell ringing, and he wanted to be paid his bill before he voted, and he swore he would not go to the poll till he was paid.

20,609. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that Mr. Charles Castree?—Yes; the gentleman who has gone away for the benefit of his health.

20,610. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the name of the voter?—Michael Jennings. So I let them have a little chaff with him. It appeared that he was not in a hurry to go and vote for Sir Robert Carden. I said, "Will you go and vote against him if I will settle "your bill?" He said he would. I said "Stop a "minute or two;" and off I set up the street, and saw Brewer Monk, and told him there was a man at "The Bull's Head" who would not vote till his bill for bell-ringing was paid. Brewer Monk said, "Go to him "and settle his bill;" and he gave me 30*s.* and I went; but when I went back again I found that the Philistines were about, and I was afraid they would get him from us. At last I saw a cab, and I said to him, "Come along; it is all right;" and I got into the cab, and in he jumped, and we had him up at the hustings in no time. and polled him so that the Philistines went back without him.

20,611. What did you give him to seduce him from the Philistines?—I paid him his bill.

20,612. What was the amount of it?—30*s.* The bill, I think, I put in the fire. I did not bring it away with me; I did not want the bill, all I wanted was the man.

20,613. You bribed him with 30*s.*?—I paid his bill. I do not know whether you put it down as bribery or not.

20,614. You call it "paying;" we call it "bribing"?—He stuck to his text, that he would not vote without his bill being paid.

20,615. And you paid it to him and then went and polled him for Berkeley and Price?—Yes.

20,616. Where does Michael Jennings live?—In St. Mary's Square; it is Michael Jennings, junior.

20,617. Did you receive the 30*s.* from Brewer Monk?—Yes; from Brewer Monk.

20,618. What time in the day was it?—It was about 20 minutes past two when I went by the church. I had him up and polled him by half past two. We were not many minutes about it.

20,619. Did you tell Brewer Monk, when you got the 30*s.* from him, that you wanted it for Jennings's vote?—Yes; that Jennings had a bill that he wanted settled, that he would not vote till it was paid, and that I was going to settle it. Those were the words I told him.

20,620. Did you bribe any other person at that election?—I gave a shilling to a "beautiful youth. His name is Drinkwater.

20,621. Which Drinkwater is that?—Thomas, junior, I think; the young one. He was before the committee of the House of Commons, and told them that I gave him a shilling. I stood by "The King's Head" about twelve o'clock on the Friday evening; there were some persons running down the street, and this man was one of three or four. I asked him what was the matter. He said there some men wanted to take him off to vote their way. I said, "Who are they?" He said, "They are some of "Price's men." He said, "I will go along with you." So I took him to "The Queen's Head;" to Probert's, and paid for a quart of beer. He said he was come from Birmingham. That is what he stated to me, and he wanted his expenses. I told him he should have his expenses paid where he came from, if he would vote for Berkeley and Price; and he said he would, and I persuaded him to stop at Probert's.

20,622. What time do you say that was?—About half past twelve; between twelve and one; and I left him at Probert's, and came up the street again, and went as far as "The Crown."

20,623. Where was it that you say you saw him running down the street?—By "The King's Head," at the top of Three Cocks Lane.

20,624. What time was that?—Between twelve and one; I could not say to ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. Three men had been treating him at "The Rein Deer;" but he said it was "The Pelican," by mistake, in the House of Commons.

20,625. Who were those persons who you saw running after him?—Labouring men; one of them was Williams. They were all Price's men.

20,626. James Williams?—Yes; James Williams.

20,627. Did you know the others?—I do not know who they were. I know they were men in their employ; they had been treating him.

20,628. And you took him to Probert's?—Yes, at "The Queen's Head."

20,629. How long did you stop there with him?—I suppose half an hour.

20,630. Not more?—Not more; I left him there, and went to "The Crown."

20,631. Were any of the other Drinkwaters at "The Queen's Head" with you?—Yes; a younger brother; but I do not think he is a voter.

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W. Wingate.
24 Oct. 1859.

20,632. Not the father, James Drinkwater?—No, not the father.

20,633. (*Mr. Welford.*) Is the younger one's name James?—I do not know his name; he is about eighteen or nineteen, I think.

20,634. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was Thomas Drinkwater tipsy, or was he sober?—Sober.

20,635. Did you see him afterwards the same day?—Yes.

20,636. When?—About two o'clock. I was at "The Crown," and he came in. I thought he was in bed.

20,637. Was this two o'clock in the day?—No; in the morning, after twelve o'clock at night.

20,638. Are you speaking now of the night of the polling or the night of the nomination?—The nomination night, at 12 o'clock.

20,639. About two in the morning he came to "The Crown?"—Yes.

20,640. Did you treat him?—Yes; I paid for some more beer for him.

20,641. Is that what you call giving him a shilling?—No; I gave him a shilling before that, I paid for several quarts of beer for him, and he wanted to have his jug filled again, but a young man named Hyett, I think, leant over the table, and said, "Don't you have "anything to do with that scamp, for he is sure to "sell you;" and I am very glad I did not have anything more to do with him, for he sold the Yellows and the Blues.

20,642. What Hyett was that?—I think it was Lewis Hyett, but I could not say. There was Mr. Maysey there. I had a cigar with him and a glass, and we was very comfortable all together.

20,643. Did you see that same Drinkwater the next day?—I never lost sight of him till half-past six o'clock. I followed him down to "The Hope and Anchor;" that was the last I saw of him.

20,644. At half-past six you lost sight of him?—Yes. I followed him to the door of "The Anchor." I then returned up home, and went and had a wash and some coffee and went to sleep.

20,645. Did you see him on the polling day?—I cannot say that I did, after that.

20,646. Did you bribe any other person?—Not to my knowledge. I think that is the whole and true account of my offending.

20,647. Was any money offered to Thomas Drinkwater in your presence by any other parties?—Not a penny. I told him he should have his expenses; and then I found he had only come from Worcester instead of from Birmingham. He told me he had come from Birmingham.

20,648. Did he tell you he had only come from Worcester?—No. I have heard since that that was where he was working.

20,649. Did you receive any money from Mr. Moss?—Yes; I gave an account of that.

20,650. That was in 1859?—Yes.

20,651. That was Smith?—Yes; I told you about that before; about losing my hat and so on.

20,652. You gave 3*l.* to Smith?—Yes.

20,653. But you received 5*l.*?—Yes.

20,654. That was in 1859?—Yes.

JOSEPH WINGATE sworn and examined.

J. Wingate.

20,655. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

20,656. Where do you live?—In Prince's Street now.

20,657. What are you?—A carpenter and joiner.

20,658. In 1859, for whom did you vote?—For Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

20,659. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

20,660. Were you offered anything?—No.

20,661. Did you get any money for the purpose of bribing any one?—No.

20,662. Had you anything to do with bribery at the last election?—No, nothing at all.

20,663. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Price and Mr. Berkeley.

20,664. Did you receive anything then?—Nothing at all.

20,665. Do you know anything of any bribery that took place at that election?—Not particularly; nothing at all particular.

20,666. What is it you do know?—No more than having a glass of ale or anything in that way.

20,667. Did you treat any person yourself?—No.

20,668. Were you treated?—No.

20,669. What do you mean by nothing particular?—Only a glass of ale, or a pint of ale.

20,670. Between you and some others?—Yes.

20,671. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the expense of the candidates?—No; out of my own pocket.

20,672. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you no information to communicate with respect to the elections of 1859 and 1857?—Nothing at all.

20,673. (*Mr. Welford.*) Beyond voting, you know nothing about the election?—No.

20,674. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you not aware of anything that took place at the election of 1857 with regard to other persons that were bribed?—I had heard talk of one thing and the other thing, but I had nothing at all to do with it.

20,675. Do you know nothing at all about the Drinkwaters?—No; I do not know anything at all about them.

JAMES PRENDRELL JEFFS called and further examined.

J. P. Jeffs.

20,676. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We examined you before with regard to the election of 1859. What have you to say with regard to the election of 1857?—I gave a party named French 2*l.* to divide his vote between Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley, on the day of the election. He had promised Admiral Berkeley to vote for him, but not Mr. Price, and I went to see, him about one in the day, to induce him to divide his vote for Mr. Price. He refused at first; but I told him I would give him two sovereigns if he would do so, and he consented. I was to call for him at 2 o'clock. I called for him at 2 o'clock, and he had gone up to poll.

20,677. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did he poll for?—Admiral Berkeley and Mr. Price.

20,678. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said he polled for Berkeley and Carden; but it was for Berkeley and Price, was it?—Yes, it was.

20,679. Did you give any other person any money at that election?—I did not; not money; I treated several others on the day of the election, but not till late in the day.

20,680. Late in the day you treated some?—Yes; from about 12 o'clock, or some time after 12.

20,681. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were they voters?—Yes; several that I could not name.

20,682. Some time after 12 you treated voters?—Yes.

20,683. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you treat the voters to induce them to vote for Berkeley and Price?—Well, not particularly for that, but several that I was with, I treated.

20,684. They were hanging about, and declining to vote, were they not?—Yes.

20,685. Where did you get the money from?—I was paid, as I told Brewer Monk, several days after, that I had been to some little expense during the election; I did not tell him what; and he said, "How much is it?" and I said, "Between two and three pounds," and he gave me three sovereigns.

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J. P. Jeffs.
24 Oct. 1859.

20,686. At the time you spent this money, it was money paid out of your own pocket?—It was; in fact I did not pay French till the next day, for when I went to take him to vote at 2 o'clock he was gone; he had voted.

20,687. You had no communication with Brewer Monk prior to giving that money to French?—I had not with any one.

20,688. Besides paying the two sovereigns to French, and treating voters, do you mean to say that you were not cognisant or privy to any acts of bribery at that election?—I was not. I beg to contradict the statement that was published in "The Gloucester Journal" about my evidence before. It was stated in "The Gloucester Journal" that Mr. Pearce at the Llanthony Inn would not let a man go to vote till I paid his score. Now I never stated that in court. I stated that the man would not go to vote until his beer score was paid.

20,689. That the man himself would not go to vote?—Yes. I did not know the man's name at the time.

20,690. But you stated there was a man at Mr. Pearce's?—Yes.

20,691. Who would not go to vote?—Yes, till he had had his beer score paid, 15*s*.

20,692. That is in fact what you wish now to state as the evidence you gave?—I stated so before, but the reporter of "The Gloucester Journal" must have made a mistake. Mr. Pearce was very much annoyed about it, and has published a letter in "The Gloucester Journal" contradicting my evidence. The reporter must have made a great mistake.

20,693. It was the man who was bribed by the payment of 15*s*.?—I did not consider it a bribe; the man was tipsy, and said he would not go to vote till his score was paid.

20,694. You paid the beer score for the man?—I did.

20,695. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is the name of that man, do you know?—I do not; I made every inquiry.

A. Halcomb.

ALEXANDER HALCOMB sworn and examined.

20,696. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A merchant.

20,697. In Gloucester?—In the Docks at Gloucester.

20,698. You voted at the last election, for whom?—Price and Monk.

20,699. Do you know of any bribery at the last election?—None at all. I was engaged in canvassing, and in addressing several parties in various parts of the city. It was the original intention of the Liberal party to hold meetings at the Working Men's Institute; but we found that all the public houses were taken up by the Conservative party, and we were reluctantly under the necessity of having our meetings at different places of the same kind; and in so doing I incurred expenses out of my own pocket to the amount of from 10*l*. to 15*l*.; 2*l*. of that I paid for a man named John Withers, to John Chadborn, for his expenses in coming from Bristol; that I considered to be a fair sum to give him for his expenses, as he had had to pay his railway fare, and he had to pay a man to bring his trow from Bristol. That is the man that Mr. Brimmell referred to in his evidence when he said that he offered him 3*l*., but that he had been kidnapped by the other party, and a larger sum given to him as a bribe.

20,700. You paid 2*l*. to Withers?—Yes; for him.

20,701. What was his Christian name?—I believe it is John Withers.

20,702. You paid that through Chadborn?—Yes; I gave the money to Chadborn. The man's expenses, I think, must have come to that.

20,703. The railway fare from Bristol and the return ticket back to Bristol would be only a few shillings, I suppose?—I think it would be 3*s*. 6*d*. and the probability is he would have to put a man on to do his work at Bristol if the trow was loading, and he would have to pay a man to bring it to Gloucester.

20,704. Do you know that that was the case?—It was stated to me to be the case by Mr. Chadborn.

20,705. When you paid the two sovereigns you paid it for the man's railway fare to Gloucester and back to Bristol, and also for the expense to which he would be put in procuring a substitute to pilot his boat up to Gloucester; is that so?—Yes. Mr. Brimmell referred to that man, saying, that he had offered him 3*l*., but that he had been before kidnapped by the other party, and a larger sum given him as a bribe, which you will find to be incorrect.

20,706. Do I understand you to say that the other money which you expended out of your own pocket was paid for the use of rooms?—No; in treating at various public houses, in various parts of the city. The 2*l*. formed a portion of the money I have named; 10*l*. to 15*l*.

20,707. The remainder was spent in treating voters?—In treating voters and non-voters; in fact anybody that attended.

20,708. (*Mr. Welford.*) You could not get a public meeting, to address them politically, without treating them?—I am sorry to say that that was the fact. We intended to convene a meeting at the Working Men's Institute or some such place; but we found that all the houses were opened by the Conservatives, and that Conservative beer was flowing too freely to allow of our getting a meeting at any such place.

20,709. Otherwise you would have had a meeting at the Working Men's Institute?—Yes.

20,710. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is it the case that the working men would not attend a meeting at the Working Men's Institute where they could not get beer, but that they would do so if you called a meeting at a public house where they could get it?—It was our impression that we could not get a meeting at the Working Men's Institute, as we found that all the houses that were opened by the Conservatives were filled with men; we thought it would be of no use to try and get a meeting at the Institute or any such place.

20,711. Did you make any attempt to do so?—We had the matter under consideration, and came to the conclusion that it would be almost impossible to do so.

20,712. There were a great number of houses opened on the Liberal side, were there not, at the last election?—I think not many; I am not aware.

20,713. We have been told that there were a great number of houses in the Liberal interest where voters and non-voters were in the habit of being treated?—I had no connexion with any cash matters, and therefore any expense I incurred I paid out of my own pocket at the time.

20,714. But I understood you to say that you did not go to the Working Men's Institute because you found that nearly all the public-houses were opened in the Conservative interest?—Yes.

20,715. And that was the reason why you were obliged to go to some other public houses for the purpose of getting a meeting?—Yes.

20,716. You thought it necessary, if the other party resorted to treating, that you should resort to treating also?—I did.

20,717. You did not make the attempt to get up pure meetings before you resorted to these other meetings?—No; but we had it under consideration. I wish to state that it has been currently reported that I bribed a man named Horler with 10*l*.; that I most distinctly deny. I have heard it currently reported and stated that I bribed him to the amount of 10*l*.

20,718. I do not think we have had any evidence

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of that kind here?—No; but as it has been currently reported, I wish to state that during the election I advanced him money, and I did so under the impression, certainly, that it might influence his vote. I advanced him money for trade purposes; but I never asked him for his vote.

20,719. How long was that before the election?—He was to have been at my office on the Monday before the election. He came on the Tuesday; I was out. He then came on the morning of the election. I told him I had no time to attend to him. I was leaving the docks, and going into the city, and I then gave him the money.

20,720. How much did you give him?—£5.

20,721. You did advance him 5*l.*?—Yes; for trade purposes.

20,722. But you were under the impression that it would influence his vote?—Yes; but I never asked him for his vote, and he never mentioned anything to me about his vote.

20,723. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did he repay you that 5*l.*?—I have an account current with him. Within a fortnight afterwards I paid him another 5*l.* I have paid him several 5*l.* That 5*l.* was charged to his account.

20,724. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is Horler?—A broker and commission agent.

20,725. You paid him that 5*l.* without any consideration?—With the consideration that he was to purchase for me a stationary cupboard and flour barrels.

20,726. Did he do it?—Yes; he has done so, to the extent of some 18*l.* or 20*l.* in addition to that; that was part and parcel of an account current with him.

20,727. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was there anything due from you to this man at the time when you paid him the 5*l.*?—No. I have been in the habit of advancing such sums to him.

20,728. He rendering you an account afterwards of how much he has expended for you?—Yes.

20,729. Did you write to Horler at all upon the subject?—No, I believe not; in fact, I may say I did not.

20,730. Is Horler a man well off, and able to pay anything that he might necessarily expend, without coming to you for previous payment?—Not at all times. He is a broker; and sometimes when he has been to a sale he may have made large purchases, and may not have cash enough by him; but, besides that, I do not wish him to pay cash on my account.

20,731. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You paid him this 5*l.* you say as part of a business transaction. Was the payment made to him without any consideration, or without any consideration to be rendered by him in any way?—It was paid with the distinct understanding that it was to be laid out for purchases for me.

20,732. What profit was he to derive from it?—A commission on what he purchased for me, and his expenses.

20,733. Had you made a contract with him?—Yes, I had.

20,734. At the time of the election?—Yes.

20,735. Was it just before the election that you made that contract with him?—He had been purchasing for me for two years before that time. He generally purchases for me, and I advance him the money for that purpose. My reason for stating this is that it has been currently reported that I bribed him to the extent of 10*l.* I deny having given him any bribe at all.

20,736. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you told him you wanted him to buy certain articles for you when he had the opportunity?—Precisely; and since then he has had similar transactions to the extent of 22*l.*, I believe.

20,737. You tell him from time to time what you want, and he makes the purchases for you when an opportunity occurs?—Yes.

20,738. Did you ever give Horler, or did you ever promise him anything, to influence his vote in the municipal elections?—No, I did not.

20,739. Did you ever ask him for his vote, or hold out any inducement to him to vote on your side in municipal elections?—No, I have not. I saw him one morning at a municipal election in the Corn Exchange, and I was about to speak to him, but Mr. John Butt came, and said, "It will not do this morning; I have got him;" and I afterwards saw Horler, and Horler assured me he had voted at the request of Mr. Cooke, a surgeon, who had been very kind to his wife. I told him I thought it strange his voting as he did; and he said, "I did it at the request of Mr. Cooke, the surgeon, who has been very kind to my wife in attending her in her illness."

20,740. You felt that Horler was to a certain extent under your influence, did you not?—Yes.

20,741. Both at municipal and parliamentary elections?—Yes; not so much so that I could control his vote at a municipal election.

20,742. Or at a parliamentary election?—Or at a parliamentary election.

20,743. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do I understand you that the transactions between you and Horler were of such a nature that you would have paid him that 5*l.* if no election had been going on?—Precisely. I deny its being a bribe. I only mention it from hearing it currently reported that it was a bribe. I think that a fortnight afterwards I gave him another 5*l.* note in a similar manner; indeed I am certain that I did; and I think the next transaction I paid him 6*l.*

20,744. Did you advance for the purpose of the election any other money except that which you have mentioned?—I did not.

20,745. In no way at all?—In no way at all.

20,746. 2*l.* to John Withers by Chadborn, and from 10*l.* to 15*l.*, besides the 5*l.* you paid to Mr. Horler?—Yes.

20,747. Did you take any part in the election of 1857?—I did not.

20,748. Do you know a person of the name of Hookett?—I do not know him personally.

20,749. Do you remember taking any voters up to the poll at the last election?—Yes; several.

20,750. Was there a man of the name of Hookett among them?—Yes, I remember I did. I took a cab for him. He was very unwell at the time. I perfectly remember it.

20,751. Did you give him anything?—No.

20,752. Did you hold out any inducement to him?—No. He expressed a great feeling of gratitude for being in the Reform Club, and for being able in illness to receive money from the sick fund. I think he had sent to several people to ask them to fetch him to poll. He was very ill, and was wishful to poll if he could get out of the house. Some person told me he wished to have a cab to go to the poll, and I got a cab for him.

20,753. You did not bribe any of those persons you took to the poll?—I did not.

20,754. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you put Hookett into the club?—No; I had never seen him.

20,755. Did he say he felt under an obligation to the party, being in the Reform Club?—I asked him if he was not in the Reform Club, and he said, "Yes." I asked him if he was on the sick fund. I do not know whether he had been sufficiently long in the club to receive from it. I fetched him, from information which was given to me, that he was waiting, and was quite willing to poll.

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H. Gardner.

24 Oct. 1859.

HENRY GARDNER sworn and examined.

20,756. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Park Street.

20,757. What are you ?—A wood turner.

20,758. Did you vote at the last election in 1859 ?—I did.

20,759. For whom did you vote ?—For Price and Monk.

20,760. How much money did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

20,761. Did you receive nothing from Brewer Monk ?—I received money through the hands of another person; I believe it was from Brewer Monk. A person named Smart, who was formerly in the police, brought me four sovereigns.

20,762. Smart brought you four sovereigns ?—Yes.

20,763. From Brewer Monk?—From Brewer Monk. That was for travelling expenses to fetch a father-in-law of mine at a place called Eberington, fifty-two miles and a half from here, near Chipping Camden.

20,764. What is your father-in-law's name?—William Botham.

20,765. Did you get to the place where he lives by railway ?—Yes; a portion of the way.

20,766. What did it cost you ?—About 18*s.*; that is the up journey.

20,767. What did your father-in-law get ?—I paid him two sovereigns out of the money I received; that was for his loss of time and travelling expenses.

20,768. And you kept two sovereigns yourself ?—I returned 30*s.* to Brewer Monk out of the 4*l.* I received from him.

20,769. Then it cost you 10*s.*?—I returned 30*s.* to Brewer Monk, but I afterwards received 50*s.* from Mr. Lovegrove.

20,770. For what did you receive 50*s.* from Mr. Lovegrove ?—Because, after my father-in-law had told me, that provided his expenses were allowed, and I went to fetch him (for he is now seventy-two years of age, and not capable of travelling alone), he would come and poll for the Liberal party, and I had spoken to the Liberal party respecting it, he promised one vote to Sir Robert Carden.

20,771. You got four sovereigns from Brewer Monk ?—Yes; and then previous to my going up to my father-in-law it appears that one of the Conservative party (Mr. Lovegrove's nephew) had been up to canvass him; that was the day before I arrived there.

20,772. Before you got to Eberington ?—Yes, he was there the day before I arrived; and consequently my father-in-law had promised one vote to Sir Robert Carden, and when I came and found such was the case, having received a certain sum of money from the Liberal party to bear my expenses, I felt it my duty to return a portion of that money, and to charge the Conservative party the other portion; and therefore I returned thirty shillings to Brewer Monk, and received fifty shillings from Mr. Lovegrove. I had four journies, 210 miles, because I had to fetch my father-in-law down and to take him back, consequently I travelled the journey to my father-in-law's twice, and I paid my father-in-law 2*l.* out of the 5*l.*

20,773. Your father-in-law did not tell you that young Mr. Lovegrove had promised him any money if he would come and vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Certainly not; nothing of the kind. This money was merely paid in consideration of the railway expenses and loss of time.

20,774. Is that all you know about the election of 1859 ?—Yes.

20,775. Are you a voter ?—I am.

20,776. You voted for Price and Monk ?—Yes. I have voted for the last twenty years for the Liberal party.

20,777. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

20,778. For Berkeley and Price ?—Yes.

20,779. Did you receive anything for your vote then ?—I never have received anything for twenty years.

W. H. Cooke.

WILLIAM HENRY COOKE sworn and examined.

20,780. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a barrister ?—Yes.

20,781. You know Mr. Bernard ?—I do.

20,782. You had a communication with Mr. Bernard, had you not, with respect to Sir Robert Carden becoming a candidate for Gloucester in 1857 ?—In 1856.

20,783. Was that your first communication with Mr. Bernard on the subject ?—Yes. I forget whether it was in April or May.

20,784. Did you see him in consequence of a communication from Mr. Lovegrove ?—Yes. At the Spring Assizes in 1856 Mr. Lovegrove asked me if I knew of any one connected with commercial pursuits who would be willing to contest Gloucester; not to have a walk over, but to stand a contest. I did not at that time know of anybody; but afterwards, hearing that Sir Robert wanted to go into Parliament, I went to Mr. Bernard, who I knew to be his friend, and said, "I understand your friend, Sir Robert "Carden, wants to get a seat in Parliament. Has he "a mind to contest Gloucester?" Mr. Bernard (who I should say is as much at sea as anybody I ever met with in my life, and who looks at every question that anybody asks him as if he thought there was a plot in it,) gave a doubtful kind of answer; and after some conversation I said, "Will you ascertain from Sir "Robert Carden whether he is disposed to do so, and "let me know." Mr. Bernard said he would. He afterwards called on me, and said that Sir Robert Carden declined to pledge himself without first seeing some people from the place, and ascertaining from them what his prospects of success would be.

20,785. Mr. Bernard called on you ?—Yes; at my chambers. He said he had mentioned the subject to Sir Robert Carden, who declined to pledge himself to stand till he had seen some people from Gloucester who could give him information as to what his prospects of success would be. I told Mr. Bernard that I could not say anything upon that subject, because I had not gone into it, but that I would write to the parties in Gloucester, some of whom would probably come up to London, and see Sir Robert Carden, if a day were appointed for that purpose, On that day, or on some day afterwards, I went to the Royal Exchange, and was introduced to him, and asked him if he would name a day to receive a deputation from Gloucester.

20,786. Were you introduced by Mr. Bernard ?—Yes. It seemed to me as if Sir Robert Carden had never heard of the subject before. I dare say that Mr. Bernard had only mentioned it in a sleepy, casual way. Sir Robert Carden appointed a day. I wrote to Mr. Lovegrove, and up came the deputation.

20,787. That is the history of your introduction to Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes. I believe that that is about all that took place. I then left Sir Robert Carden and the deputation to settle their affairs. There was Mr. Lovegrove, Mr. Smith, Mr. Whithorn, and I think Mr. Matthews; I believe there were four of them.

20,788. You are now speaking of the deputation to Sir Robert Carden in 1856 ?—Yes. I took no further part in the matter. I thought they were quite competent to tell Sir Robert Carden all he required to know.

20,789. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you present when the deputation waited on Sir Robert Carden ?—I accompanied them to Exchange Buildings to introduce them to Mr. Bernard, and I went in with them.

20,790. Was anything said about expenses ?—I

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cannot charge my memory. I think that what passed then was chiefly with reference to the probable strength of the party; and the meeting broke up in this way: Sir Robert Carden said, "Am I to under- "stand from you that you have had a meeting of "your party, and that I am accepted by them as a "candidate." They intimated that that was not so; that his name was only known to those four gentlemen who had come up; and I think upon that Sir Robert Carden said he should reserve the matter for consideration; that he could not at that moment decide. He seemed to hesitate as to how far those gentlemen were competent to pledge the party.

20,791. You think it hardly went so far as a conversation about expenses?—That is my impression. I do not remember anything being said on the subject of expenses, one way or the other.

20,792. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When you first saw Mr. Bernard or Sir Robert Carden did any conversation take place between you as to the probable expense of a contested election at Gloucester?—Not a syllable; and from the fabulous statements which I had heard with reference to the cost of elections in Gloucester in antecedent times, if any question of that kind had arisen I should have put the expense at a very high figure, indeed at a figure which would have almost startled him.

20,793. But there was no statement by you, or any inquiry of you, as to the probable expense?—No. I do not think that the first interview I had with Sir Robert Carden lasted many minutes. He was in his front room. We were shown into the back room. I referred to the subject of his becoming a candidate for Gloucester; and he said, "Gloucester! Gloucester! What are the prospects? Is there any chance there"? I said the local people will tell you all about it, and I suggested that he should see some of them, and that they would no doubt come up if he would appoint a day to meet them; and he then fixed, I think, the following Friday.

20,794. Had you an interview with Sir Robert Carden afterwards before he became a candidate?—No. I was determined not to have anything to do with any local election. Being a counsel attending parliamentary committees, I did not want to have anything to do with elections; and when the deputation came afterwards to London, and had a dinner at Wood's Hotel, Mr. Bernard called to invite me to dine with them, which I declined; and I said at the same time that it must be distinctly understood that I would not pledge myself in any way as to Sir Robert Carden's chances of success.

20,795. As you seem to have abstained from taking any further part in the matter than that which you have stated with regard to the choice of a candidate, perhaps you are surprised to hear that Mr. Bernard says he also abstained, and that in fact he had nothing whatever to do with Sir Robert Carden after your communication to him?—I read his evidence in the newspaper to day, and I was certainly very much astonished at it. I cannot imagine why, on so immaterial an issue in a royal commission of this sort, Mr. Bernard should have given the answers he did; but I must say, from what I have seen of Mr. Bernard, that he does confuse himself about the most trifling facts in a most strange manner, so that I am very sorry for but not surprised at the sort of evidence he gave. He was under the impression, until Thursday last, that he had given me a cheque for 100*l.* in Gloucester on the polling day. I said, "If you will "examine your own banker's pass book and cheques "you will find that you are egregiously mistaken." He did so, and found that he was mistaken.

20,796. Mr. Bernard's evidence certainly rather astonished us?—It astonished me this morning. A great part of it related to matters that it really was not worth having even a difference of opinion about.

20,797. You were in Gloucester at the election in 1857, were you not?—I came to Gloucester on my way to Monmouth. I left Hereford at 11; I got here at 12.30, and remained till the 3 o'clock train went out.

20,798. You were not here taking any part in the election?—Not the slightest. I was at the Hereford Assizes until the morning of that day. Instead of going straight on to Monmouth, I stopped here for a short time; I went into the Westgate Street, but did not go in any committee-room.

20,799. You were here only on your way from Hereford to Monmouth?—Yes. I came here as a mere matter of curiosity, in order to see how the election was going on. There was only one matter in which I took any part whatever. I was watching the poll, and at about half past two o'clock, in consequence of what I had heard previously, that if Sir Robert Carden was safe Admiral Berkeley was going to be put aside at the last moment by Price, I said to Mr. Lovegrove, "Are you safe?" He said, "Yes." I said, "Then I suppose you can return whichever "Liberal you like; and I hope that if a trick is to be "played at the last moment to turn out Admiral "Berkeley, and to put Mr. Price in, you will not "allow the Conservative party to have anything to "do with it." Mr. Lovegrove told me that from what he heard he believed it was inevitable, and that Admiral Berkeley would be put out at the last moment. I said, "Well, I will not stop in the place "any longer," and I walked off to the Railway "platform.

20,800. Was anything said to you by Mr. Lovegrove which led you to believe that corrupt practices were then being carried on in order to insure the return of Sir Robert Carden?—Just the contrary. Sir Robert Carden appeared to me to be sure of winning easily. I had watched the different returns of the poll. Sir Robert Carden had a large majority, and there was very little difference between the numbers polled for the two other candidates; and Mr. Lovegrove told me it was understood that at the last hour or half hour certain persons were to poll for Price and Carden in order to put Admiral Berkeley out.

20,801. You did not know at that time by what means Sir Robert Carden was at the head of the poll?—No; I did not trouble myself at all about it.

20,802. Nothing was said to you by Mr. Lovegrove about money at all?—No, not a word.

20,803. Do you remember Mr. Whithorn making an application to you in London for a cheque for 100*l.*?—I do, in April.

20,804. In April 1857?—Yes.

20,805. Will you state, if you please, the circumstances under which he made that application to you?—I could not attempt to state them to you with any degree of certainty. My impression is, that he called upon me, and said he was a good deal out of pocket by what he had paid at the election. I do not know whether he said that he had intended to see Sir Robert Carden, or whether he said that Mr. Lovegrove had suggested that they could not ask Sir Robert Carden at that time for any money; but he asked me to lend him 100*l.* on account of what he had paid away and was out of pocket, and I did so.

20,806. Did he say in what way he was out of pocket?—By payments for the election.

20,807. Did he say anything as to the character of those payments?—Not a word. There are always at elections a great number of disbursements of money independent of paying coin for votes.

20,808. Did you understand from Mr. Whithorn at that time that he had made any payments to parties in bribery which he wished to recoup himself for by a cheque on you?—He did not say a word about bribery. He merely said, "I am a good deal out "of pocket. Can you lend me 100*l.* till Mr. Lovegrove "gets some money from Sir Robert Carden?" or something to that effect.

20,809. You had no reason to believe at the time when you let him have that money that it was for the purpose of making illegal payments?—On the contrary, I understood him to wish to put himself in

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funds in consequence of the payments which he had already made. He conveyed to my mind the belief that he had paid away so much of his own money, which he could not at that moment have repaid him, that he wanted me to lend him 100*l.*

20,810. (*Mr. Welford.*) He did not explain to you whether those were legal or illegal payments?—No; he did not go into it. He merely asked me, in point of fact, to lend him 100*l.*

20,811. Which he said had been spent in the election?—Yes.

20,812. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did he tell you that you might receive that 100*l.* back from Sir Robert Carden?—Not exactly in the way you put it. I have no doubt he led me to believe that I should be repaid whenever Sir Robert Carden settled his election bills. I understood that I was advancing him money which he ought to have been able to receive, but as there were petitions pending (I suppose that was the real secret of it) he did not like to ask for the money, because, if the money was not paid, Sir Robert Carden, who would no doubt be examined before the election committee, would be able to state that he had paid so much money, and no more. Those were the circumstances under which I gave Mr. Whithorn the 100*l.*

20,813. The object was to avoid the necessity of Sir Robert Carden, when he should be called as a witness before the election commitee, revealing a larger expenditure than was necessary?—That is the impression that was made upon my mind.

20,814. When was that sum paid to you?—Mr. Lovegrove says I deducted it from the 1,000*l.* which I received afterwards. It is very probable I did. I thought it was after that.

20,815. There was a sum of 1,000*l.* which came to your hands from Sir Robert Carden?—That is so. Mr. Lovegrove, at the summer assizes, said he did not like asking Sir Robert Carden for money, and he asked me how he was to get it. I said, "If I see Sir "Robert Carden I will tell him that he ought to send "you down some money." On my return to London I called on Sir Robert Carden, and said to him, "Your "friends at Gloucester, now that the petition is over, "would like a little money." He said, "How much "do you think I should send." I said, "I should "think about 1,000*l.*" He then gave me 1,000*l.*; and I dare say that Mr. Lovegrove is right when he says that I paid myself my 100*l.* out of it, and sent him the balance.

20,816. When you applied to Sir Robert Carden for money for his Gloucester friends, did Sir Robert Carden express to you any surprise at the large amount that his election had cost him?—He did. He began to ask me some questions about it. I said, "Every candidate, when he starts for a place, is "supposed to have a mint of money, and everybody "likes to put his hand in his pocket; it is impossible "to prevent it."

20,817. Did he lead you to understand that he believed a considerable portion of the money that had been spent had been spent in bribery?—No; I did not go into anything of that sort.

20,818. Did he himself express any opinion of that kind?—No; I do not remember his expressing an opinion one way or the other. I think he merely said, "It seems a large sum of money."

20,819. Did he say he thought there must have been a considerable amount of bribery at Gloucester?—I do not remember that he did.

20,820. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he say that there had been an extravagant and improper expenditure?—You are asking me as to what occurred two years ago in a casual conversation.

20,821. I ask you to speak to the best of your recollection?—If I had thought that the two Houses of Parliament would have advised the Queen to send a Royal Commission to ask me about it, I would have kept the facts in my recollection; but I really cannot charge my memory whether anything of that sort passed or not. I do not think that he would to me, in that casual visit, express any opinion of that kind; he might to his agents, but he would not be likely to converse with me on the subject.

20,822. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were there to some extent as a friend of Sir Robert Carden's, going to him for 1,000*l.*, and you had been the means of introducing him to Gloucester; did he say nothing to you about the expense of his election?—If he says he did, he probably did. I cannot say whether he did or did not.

20,823. Was the giving of the cheque to Mr. Whithorn for 100*l.* all that you had to do, in a pecuniary way, with regard to the election at Gloucester in 1857?—Certainly. I did not consider that that had anything to do with the election; I thought that it was a mere private loan from myself to Mr. Whithorn.

20,824. Were you ever required or asked to advance any money to any person with respect to that election?—Not a farthing.

20,825. And I understand you to say you are perfectly certain that no cheque passed through your hands to Mr. Bernard?—Certainly not.

20,826. Is it the fact that until the revelations which have been made before us you were not yourself cognizant of any bribery having been committed at the election in 1857?—No; nothing of the kind was ever brought to my knowledge in any way. Of course, having been counsel in the two petitions, I knew that there must have been travelling expenses, and the employment of messengers, and so on. Whether those expenses and that employment were colorable or not I did not trouble myself to inquire.

20,827. At all events, before you were retained as counsel in those election petitions in 1857, you were ignorant that bribery had been committed?—Yes; because the chief communications that I had with Mr. Lovegrove were communications with reference to the construction of the Corrupt Practices Act. Mr. Lovegrove being called on for the first time to manage an election, I had different conferences with him as to the appointment of an agent for election expenses, and so on; but we never entered into the question whether any man was to have money or not.

20,828. You advised Mr. Lovegrove as to the construction of the Corrupt Practices Act?—Yes; he used to come to me frequently after Sir Robert Carden had become a candidate to be advised as to the legal proceedings of the election.

20,829. When you say that the 100*l.* cheque which you gave to Mr. Whithorn you considered in fact as a loan to him for his private purposes, you mean, I suppose, that it was a loan in respect of money which he had paid out of his own funds for the purpose of the election?—Quite so. I understood that he had out of his own proper monies advanced money for the purpose of the election to a certain amount, and instead of being at once repaid, because he could not go and ask Sir Robert Carden for any money at that moment, he asked me if I would lend him 100*l.*

20,830. Had you anything to do with the election of 1859?—Not anything; I had nothing whatever to do with it, except that I had the pleasure of receiving some fees for appearing as counsel before the election committee.

20,831. You were not consulted at all by Sir Robert Carden?—Not at all.

20,832. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you concur in the opinion which has been expressed by some of the witnesses who have given evidence before us, that the Corrupt Practices Act is a mere piece of waste paper?—Certainly; I think that if it had ever been intended to be otherwise than waste paper power would have been given to the election auditor to tax bills, and then candidates and agents intending to be honest might be protected. I have found in my experience that voters always charge more for their legal bills than they ought, and the consequence is

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that the agent of a candidate is placed in a most embarrassing situation. If he does not pay extortionate demands he makes his candidate unpopular, and if he does pay them, it is thought advisable to have a Commission like this issued. At present, I think that the Corrupt Practices Act is a delusion and a snare.

20,833. You think that the auditor should have the power of taxing the bills?—Yes; I think that the election auditor, to be efficient, should be either a member of the bar or a person in such a position in society that he could not afford to be a partisan, and that he should be competent to decide whether demands are legal or illegal; he should be a taxing master for election purposes; and if he were properly selected, and went his circuit regularly, I am satisfied that a great deal of wasteful and extravagant expenditure would be avoided.

20,834. When you first suggested Sir Robert Carden as a candidate for Gloucester did you take into consideration the fact of his being a man of considerable wealth?—When Mr. Lovegrove first asked me whether I knew anybody who would be likely to become a candidate, I knew quite enough of Gloucester to be aware that it would be quite idle to ask any man to come without letting him know that there would be a contest. I did not suppose that either Admiral Berkeley or Mr. Price would run away. No man should embark in an election contest without having from 4,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* to spend.

20,835. You were aware at that time, were you not, that the constituency of Gloucester was to a certain extent venal?—I have a similar opinion of every constituency in the kingdom, if they are tempted.

20,836. Had you any knowledge that a considerable portion of the constituency was venal?—No; I only knew that they were famous fellows, Blues and Yellows, and that there must be beer and all sorts of things given away; I knew that somebody must pay for all that. It is a sort of saturnalia, and has been ever since the days of Queen Anne, and I think you must alter human nature before you can make it otherwise.

20,837. At all events corrupt practices do not find any very strong opponent in you?—Yes; I do not approve of them; but it is idle to shut your eyes, and say you do not know what is going on. I do not patronize corrupt practices; but if you ask me, especially on my oath, if such things exist, I say I believe they do; and I believe that if you had a similar commission to this in every other borough in England, supposing the people to be equally candid, the revelations that would be made would be as "startling" as those which have been disclosed before you.

R. Fletcher

RICHARD FLETCHER sworn and examined.

20,838. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Water Street.

20,839. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

20,840. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

20,841. Did you not receive any money from anybody?—No.

20,842. Were you offered any money by anybody?—No.

20,843. Were you a messenger?—No.

20,844. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

20,845. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you get anything then?—No.

20,846. You changed your politics?—Yes.

20,847. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you any inducemen to change?—No, not at all.

20,848. Did you bribe anybody?—No.

20,849. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) May I ask you what was your reason for changing your politics?—I did not like the man after I had promised him.

M. A. Coopey.

MARY ANN COOPEY sworn and examined.

20,850. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Churcham.

20,851. You received some money for your brothers, did you not?—I received 15 sovereigns.

20,852. Was that at the last election?—No; it was in 1857.

20,853. Did you receive any money at the last election?—No; I had nothing to do with it.

20,854. You received 15 sovereigns?—Yes.

20,855. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Ward told me to go up stairs, and there was some money for me. It was at the Upper George. I had 15 sovereigns; it was put on the table.

20,856. Was there anybody up stairs?—No; I went into a room, and found 15 sovereigns on the table.

20,857. Did Mr. Ward tell you the amount you would find there?—He told me there was 15 sovereigns up stairs.

20,858. Did he tell you what to do with it?—No. When I came down stairs, I met my brothers, Joseph and John, and I gave them 3*l.* apiece.

20,859. Did they ask you for 3*l.*?—They told me I was to give them 3*l.* apiece; and I gave to Richard Coopey and Thomas Coopey 3*l.*, and William Rowles 3*l.*; that was the 15*l.*

20,860. And you had nothing for your own trouble?—No.

20,861. That was for their votes; to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—They did not tell me. They told me they was to have 3*l.* apiece, and I gave it them.

20,862. All you know is that Mr. Ward told you there was money up stairs?—Yes.

20,863. And they told you how you were to divide it?—They had the money off me.

20,864. And that is all you know about it?—That is all I know about it.

C. Hooper.

CHARLES HOOPER sworn and examined.

20,865. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Littleworth.

20,866. Are you a freeman?—No; a householder.

20,867. For whom did you vote at the last election?—Price and Monk.

20,868. What did you receive for your vote?—I did not receive anything for my vote.

20,869. What did you receive then?—I received 5*l.* for expenses and railway fare.

20,870. What were your expenses; where did you come from?—I came from Staffordshire, near Bilston.

20,871. How long were you in Gloucester?—Two days.

20,872. Did you come on the nomination day?—No; I came on the election day, and next day was Sunday.

20,873. And you went back again on the Monday?—Yes.

20,874. What were your expenses; what did you pay?—I forget what the expenses were on the last election; but when I went away from home with the boat there was several parties came to the house where I was at the time, and I told them I should not come back and neglect my business, except I was paid for the first offence.

20,875. That is unless you were paid for what you had done at the election before?—Yes; and they

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said I was to come back on this second occasion, and I was to be paid for the first and the last if I would come back.

20,876. And how much did you require to be paid?—I required *5l.*

20,877. That was to cover both?—Yes.

20,878. Who paid it you?—Thomas Evans.

20,879. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—For Price.

20,880. For Price only?—Only.

20,881. And did you receive anything then?—No, not a halfpenny.

20,882. Where did you come from then?—I came then from the same place.

20,883. You were living there then, were you?—No; I was only there with the boat.

20,884. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always been a Yellow?—Yes.

20,885. Have you been a long time a voter for Gloucester?—No, not a long time.

20,886. How many times had you voted before the two last elections?—I cannot say.

20,887. Had you voted at all?—Yes.

20,888. Did you ever get paid before?—No.

20,889. You do not consider this *5l.* as having been given to you for your vote at all?—No.

20,890. (*Mr. Welford.*) If you had not received this *5l.* you would not have voted?—I should not have come back if they had not promised me payment.

20,891. If they had not paid your old score you would not have come?—No; and I was offered payment on the Blue side as well as on the Liberal.

20,892. Did you receive anything on the Blue side?—I received a shilling; that was while they were going round to see who they could get to vote.

20,893. When they were canvassing?—Yes.

20,894. They gave you a shilling?—Yes; but I was promised payment of what I required.

20,895. They said they would pay you what you required if you would vote for them?—Yes.

20,896. And then you went to the other side?—No, I did not. They came to our house, and I happened to be at home, and they promised me they would give me anything I required.

20,897. And what you required was *5l.*?—What I required when I came back on the second occasion was *5l.*

20,898. Did you want anything more than you received; did you want a horse or anything of that kind?—Not at all.

20,899. Did you talk about buying a horse?—No.

20,900. Or a cart?—No. I do not require a cart. We have a cart that makes water; our cart makes water.

20,901. You only wanted one for a canal boat?—Yes; but I did not ask anything about that.

20,902. Had you any conversation with Mr. Brimmell about your vote?—No, not at all.

20,903. Did he canvass you?—No.

20,904. Not at either election?—No.

20,905. Neither the election of 1857 nor the last?—No.

20,906. The only person you talked to about it was Thomas Evans?—No.

20,907. Who was it you talked to about it?—Mr. Lovegrove.

20,908. But I am speaking of the persons on the side you voted for?—I talked to no one else but Mr. Thomas Evans.

C. Jeremey.

CHARLES JEREMEY sworn and examined.

20,909. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A beer retailer.

20,910. Where do you live?—In Suffolk Street.

20,911. What were you in 1857?—In the same situation as I am now.

20,912. A beer retailer?—A baker as well. I dare say you have it as a baker on the register.

20,913. You are a baker now?—Not at the present time.

20,914. You were a baker then?—Yes.

20,915. A journeyman baker?—Yes.

20,916. Were you in the employment of Mr. Cook?—Yes.

20,917. Mr. Reuben Cook?—Yes.

20,918. Where was Mr. Reuben Cook's shop?—No. 31, Northgate Street.

20,919. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Price and Berkeley.

20,920. What did you receive for your vote then?—Nothing.

20,921. Are you quite sure of that?—Yes.

20,922. Did you never tell any person that you had received five sovereigns?—I did not.

20,923. Did you tell Michael Stock that you had?—I did not.

20,924. Was Stock in the same employment as you were?—Yes.

20,925. Did you originally promise to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

22,926. How came you to change your mind?—Because my employer was a strong Liberal, and I did not like to go against him.

20,927. Did you know that your employer was a strong Liberal when you promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, I did.

20,928. How came you to promise then to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I promised to vote for Carden; but still, during the morning of the election, my employer told me his principle was to vote on the Liberal side, and therefore I took it from that he meant me to vote that way.

20,929. Did he tell you to vote for the Liberals?—No, he did not.

20,930. Are you certain that you changed your mind, and voted for the Liberals, and not for Sir Robert Carden, in consequence of the knowledge you had that your employer was a strong Liberal?—Yes, I am.

20,931. Was that the only reason?—Yes; that was the only reason.

20,932. Why did you not think that when you promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Because I did not know whether I should be discharged or not; and I might have got discharged if I had voted for Carden.

20,933. Were you threatened that you would be discharged?—No, I was not; but I was a little bit cautioned about it.

20,934. By whom?—By Mr. Reuben Cook; that he had voted for the Liberal side; and that was the cause of my voting.

20,935. What do you mean by your being cautioned by Mr. Cook?—He told me which way he was going to vote, and that he would spare me to go and vote.

20,936. Was that all that he said to you?—That was all.

20,937. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he say that he wished you to vote on the same side as himself?—No, he did not say that word.

20,938. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He only told you which way he had voted, and that you might go and vote?—Yes. He said he could spare me to go and vote.

20,939. And in consequence of that you went and voted for the Liberal candidate, instead of voting for Sir Robert Carden, as you had promised?—My inclination was to vote for Sir Robert Carden.

20,940. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was there anything in his manner that induced you to think you had better vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I do not know; he looked rather stern about it, and I expected what would follow if I went against him.

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20,941. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who went to the poll with you?—Not any one; not to the poll; some part of the way.

20,942. Did any person come to Mr. Cook's shop? Yes.

20,943. Who came there?—Mr. Goold and Mr. Niblett.

20,944. Were Mr. Goold and Mr. Niblett friends of the Liberal candidates?—I believe so.

20,945. Do you know that they were?—Yes, I think so.

20,946. Is that Mr. Goold the currier?—Yes.

20,947. Who is Mr. Niblett?—Mr. Niblett is a builder.

20,948. And did you go with them down the street?—Part of the way; not all the way; almost to the Shire Hall.

20,949. Did you go to the Liberal committee room?—Not with them.

20,950. Where did you leave them?—Outside the Shire Hall.

20,951. When you left them did you pass on yourself to the committee room?—I did.

20,952. How long were you in the committee room?—I should think it was an hour; it may have been; I cannot exactly say the time now; I should say it was an hour.

20,953. What time was it when you left your master's shop?—I do not recollect; it may have been twelve o'clock, or half-past twelve, or something like that.

20,954. Was there a person of the name of King who was in the same employment as you were?—Yes.

20,955. What is his Christian name?—Samuel.

20,956. Did Samuel King go with you down the street?—Yes.

20,957. Did he go to the committee-room with you?—Yes; he went to the committee-room.

20,958. Did he remain there as long as you did?—Yes. It was not in the committee-room; it was in a part of the premises belonging to the committee-room.

20,959. It was not in the committee-room?—It was the house altogether; next door to the Shire Hall.

20,960. Were you in the committee-room?—Yes; we were in the committee-room both together.

20,961. Was King in the committee-room with you?—Yes, he was.

20,962. How long after you had been in the committee-room did you make up your mind to go and vote for the Liberal candidates?—In five or six minutes.

20,963. How came you to remain in the committee-room an hour?—I did not; not in the committee-room.

20,964. In the house, then?—Because I had not made up my mind to vote on the Liberal principle.

20,965. You remained an hour in the house because you had not made up your mind?—Not in one room, but in different parts of the premises.

20,966. You remained in the house an hour because you had not made up your mind?—Yes.

20,967. Did you not say just now that five or six minutes after you went to the committee-room you made up your mind?—Yes.

20,968. Did you not go into the committee-room when you went down there?—No, I did not.

20,969. Who took you into the committee-room?—I cannot tell.

20,970. Did you make up your mind first, or did King make up his mind first?—We made up our minds together. I said I should go the same way that he did.

20,971. You said you should go the same way as King did?—Yes.

20,972. How came you to place so much confidence in King?—I do not know, except that being fellow workmen we liked to join hand in hand together.

20,973. Had King promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I believe he had.

20,974. Had you told King before you promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden that you would go the same way as he did?—Yes, I had.

20,975. You promised that?—I did so.

20,976. You promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden because he had, and you promised to vote for the Liberal candidates because he had; is that it?—Yes, that is it.

20,977. In fact you had no mind of your own, but were entirely governed by the mind of King?—Not exactly in that way.

20,978. It must have been in that way. It seems that you had made up your minds, together. King made up his mind and you acted according to King's mind?—That is the same thing.

20,979. Will you undertake to swear that no money was given to you for your vote?—I do.

20,980. Not by any person?—Not by any person.

20,981. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was any promise made to you?—No, not at all.

20,982. Not by Mr. Goold?—No.

20,983. Nor by Mr. Niblett?—No.

20,984. No money passed, you say?—No money passed at all.

20,985. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was any money paid by King to you?—No; no money at all.

20,986. Or any promise of money?—No.

20,987. Did King tell you he had received any himself?—No.

20,988. Was any money promised you by Brewer Monk?—No.

20,989. Did you see him?—I did.

20,990. Was anything said about your being put upon the messenger list?—No, nothing at all.

20,991. Did King receive any money?—That I cannot tell; I never saw him do so.

20,992. Did he tell you he had received any?—No he never did.

20,993. Had you any conversation with King as to whether any money had been paid him at all?—No.

20,994. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he ever give you any reason for changing his mind?—No more than that he was afraid of getting discharged, the same as I was myself.

20,995. Were you afraid of getting discharged when you left your master's shop to go down to vote?—That was where I was afraid at the time.

20,996. You were afraid if you voted for Sir Robert Carden you would get discharged?—Yes.

20,997. Then how came you to be an hour about the house where the Liberal candidates assembled before you made up your mind upon the subject?—It was about that time.

20,998. Why did you not go and vote at once?—Because I had not made up my mind.

20,999. I thought you said you left your master's shop intending to vote for the Liberal candidates for fear of being discharged?—No, I did not.

21,000. Were you afraid of being discharged?—I was.

21,001. And being so afraid did you not go down the street with the intention of voting for the Liberal candidates?—No, I did not.

21,002. That you swear?—Yes. It was after I had been there; I made up my mind five or six minutes afterwards.

21,003. After you had been there an hour?—It may have been an hour, but I cannot recollect the time.

21,004. Had you made up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates because you were afraid of being discharged by Mr. Cook?—That is it.

21,005. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were going to vote against your own inclination, and took some time to make up your mind, is that it?—Yes.

21,006. Was anything said to you by any parties in the committee-room about what would happen to you if you voted against them?—No, nothing at all.

21,007. It was entirely your own idea that your employer would discharge you?—Yes; it was my own idea.

21,008. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you told you should-

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C. Jeremey.
24 Oct. 1859.

be served as other people; that you should have the same as others?—No; nothing at all of that kind.

21,009. Nor anything for loss of time or expenses?—No; nothing at all of the sort.

21,010. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you show any money to Stock when you came back?—No; I do not remember seeing Stock when I came back.

21,011. Did you see King show any money?—No, I did not.

21,012. Are you quite sure of it?—Quite sure of it.

21,013. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you been a voter for Gloucester long?—I was a voter in 1857 for the first time.

21,014. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You mean deliberately to swear that in the election of 1857 you received nothing at all for your vote?—I do.

21,015. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Price and Monk.

21,016. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

21,017. Were you in the same employment with King in 1859, at the last election?—Yes; just the same; only a fresh employer.

21,018. Not Mr. Reuben Cook?—No.

21,019. He is dead, is he not?—Yes.

S. King.

SAMUEL KING sworn and examined.

21,020. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Alvin Street.

21,021. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Price and Berkeley.

21,022. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

21,023. Was any money offered to you?—No.

21,024. You promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden, did you not?—No.

21,025. Were you in the employment of Mr. Reuben Cook?—Yes.

21,026. Were you in court just now when the last witness (Jeremey) was examined?—Yes.

21,027. You say you did not promise to vote for Carden?—No.

21,028. You never had promised, had you?—No.

21,029. Did you hear Jeremey say he had promised to vote for Carden because you had promised to vote for Carden?—I heard him say he promised his vote for Carden.

21,030. Did you not hear him say he had promised his vote for Carden because you had promised to vote for Carden?—No. He never said that, because I never promised to vote for Carden.

21,031. But did you hear Jeremey say that?—No, I did not. I heard him say that he had promised Mr. Carden.

21,032. Do you remember going to the polling?—Yes.

21,033. Going down the street to the hustings?—Yes.

21,034. Was that with Mr. Goold and Mr. Niblett?—Yes.

21,035. And was Jeremey with you?—He was not far off. He was there soon afterwards.

21,036. Did you go down the street with him?—Yes; the biggest part of the way.

21,037. Did you go to the committee-room together?—No.

21,038. Who went there first?—I went first.

21,039. Did you go into the committee-room?—Yes.

21,040. How long did you remain there?—I should say an hour and a half.

21,041. In the committee-room?—Quite that.

21,042. In the committee-room?—Yes. I could not say exactly to a quarter of an hour.

21,043. What time was it when you left your master's shop?—Ten minutes past twelve.

21,044. You say you had not promised to vote for Carden?—No.

21,045. Had you been canvassed on the Liberal side before the polling day?—Yes.

21,046. Had you been canvassed by Mr. Goold?—No.

21,047. Nor by Mr. Niblett?—No.

21,048. Do you know how it was they came to the place where you were?—No.

21,049. How did they come to you?—They came in at ten minutes past twelve, and I went with them down to the polling.

21,050. But how was it that Mr. Goold and Mr. Niblett came to find you out?—I cannot say; I had not voted, I suppose, and they came after me; I cannot say any other reason.

21,051. Did either of them offer you any money?—No.

21,052. Was any money given to you by any person for your vote?—No.

21,053. How long after you had been in the committee-room was it that Jeremey came in?—I cannot say; he was something after me; he was out in the street. I was like carried in; I did not walk in; I was pushed in, whether or no. I could not say how long he was after me.

21,054. How long after you did he come?—I should say a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes.

21,055. Did he come to you in the committee-room?—Yes; he came in the committee-room to me.

21,056. And did he stop with you in the committee-room?—Yes.

21,057. After Jeremey came in, did he stop with you the remainder of the time?—Yes.

21,058. Were you locked in the committee-room?—No.

21,059. Had you the power of getting out if you wished it?—Yes.

21,060. Did you make up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates?—Yes.

21,061. When?—On the day of the poll. Mr. Cook, they told me, had said that he hoped I knew where I got more than one day's work; that he was going to vote for Berkeley and Price in the old-fashioned way, and that he hoped I knew where I got more than one day's work.

21,062. That was the explanation in the street?—Yes. He mentioned it in the shop, and them that was in the shop brought it to me in the street.

21,063. Who brought it you in the street?—A man working at our place, Charles Webb, and Charles Stone. He said he voted for Berkeley and Price in the old-fashioned way, as usual, and he hoped I knew where I got more than one day's work.

21,064. They brought you word in the street that Reuben Cook had said that?—Yes.

21,065. Upon that message being brought to you by those men, did you make up your mind that you would go and vote for the Liberal candidates?—Yes; because I made up my mind I should be discharged if I did not do it.

21,066. Did you make up your mind when that message was brought to you in the street?—Yes.

21,067. If you made up your mind then, how came you to be an hour and a half in the committee-room before you went to vote?—I could not go out till they let me out; I could not vote before the place was open.

21,068. Until what place was open?—The committee-room.

21,069. But you said just now that you could leave at any time?—I was ready to vote as soon as I had my card.

21,070. You were an hour and half in the committee-room?—Yes. I could not say exactly how long I was in there; I should say an hour and a half.

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21,071. Why did you stop an hour and a half there, if you had made up your mind directly after you had left your master's shop?—I made up my mind then, and I went as soon as all that were in the place were ready to go up and poll.

21,072. Why did you not go up yourself?—I went as soon as the rest were ready.

21,073. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you wait for your card?—Yes.

21,074. And how long was your card made out before you went to vote?—I cannot say. As soon as I had the card I went and voted.

21,075. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were there an hour and a half?—I was in there only an hour and a half, but as soon as I got the card I went and polled.

21,076. Why did you not go to the poll immediately after you got to the committee-room, and got your card?—There were a great many there waiting for cards. I was in no hurry. I went when the rest did. As soon as I got the card I went and polled. The place was as full as it could hold when I went in there.

21,077. Did you see Jeremey there?—Yes; I saw him there.

21,078. When did you tell Jeremey that you were going to vote for the Liberal candidates?—I made up my mind that I would go the same way as him.

21,079. When did you tell him you had made up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates?—The master came into the bakehouse the night before the polling, and he said, "Have you seen any of the voters?" and he said, "I vote for Price and Berkeley, the old-fashioned way;" and I took it that he meant I must do the same.

21,080. I ask you when did you tell Jeremey that you had made up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates?—I made up my mind the day before to vote for the Liberals.

21,081. When did you tell Jeremey that you had made up your mind to vote for them?—I told him on the polling day.

21,082. What time on the polling day did you tell him that?—I could not say; towards the middle of the day; perhaps twelve or one o'clock.

21,083. Did you tell Jeremey before you left the shop that you were going to vote for the Liberal candidates?—I told him when I was down the street that I should vote for the Liberals. I did not see him at the shop; he was not there when I left the shop.

21,084. Did you tell him as you were going down the street?—Yes.

21,085. Is this what you say, "I told him as I was going down the street that I was going to vote for the Liberal candidates"?—Yes.

21,086. Did you not hear Jeremey swear just now that it was not until after you and he had been a long time in the committee-room together that you told him you were going to vote for the Liberal candidates?—No, I did not.

21,087. But he did swear that?—I did not hear him swear it.

21,088. If he swore that, is it true?—What?

21,089. I ask you whether you heard Jeremey swear that you told him you had made up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates sometime after you had gone down to the committee-room?—I made up my mind before, because I was told in the street that if I did not vote that way I should be discharged.

21,090. If Jeremey has sworn that it was not until after you had been nearly an hour in the committee-room that you told him you had made up your mind to vote for the Liberal candidates, is that true or false?—I made up my mind before I went to the committee-room that I should vote on the Liberal side.

21,091. Do you mean to swear that, having gone down there with your mind made up to vote for the Liberal candidates, you remained there an hour and a half waiting for your card before you went to poll?—I should say something like that.

21,092. Do you mean to swear that you were not bribed with any sum of money by any person to vote for the Liberal candidates?—I was not.

21,093. You mean to swear that?—I will.

21,094. Did you not come back from the polling place, and show some money to Stock, a fellow workman of yours, and say you had received that money for your vote?—I did not. I showed him no money at all.

21,095. Do you mean to swear that?—Yes.

21,096. Do you mean to swear that you did not show any money at all to Stock?—I did not.

21,097. Did you say you had received any money for your vote?—I chaffed him, and said I did, but I showed him no money. He chaffed me, and I chaffed him, but I showed him no money at all.

21,098. What did you tell him you had received?—I think I said 10*l.*; 5*l.* or 10*l.* I do not know exactly the words I said to him in chaff. It was election time, and we had had beer. I do not know exactly the words I told him.

21,099. You say you told him that you had received 5*l.* or 10*l.*, and you swear now that you did not show him any money?—Yes.

21,100. Do you swear that you had no money in your hand?—I might have had money in my hand or in my pocket at any time.

21,101. Will you swear that you had no money in your hand?—I showed him no money.

21,102. Do you swear you had no money in your hand at the time?—I had no money in my hand that I am aware of. I might have had money. He might have seen money in my hand any day in the year or in the week.

21,103. Do you mean to swear that you had no money in your hand at the time?—I had no money. I do not recollect that I had any money at all in my hand at the time.

21,104. Will you swear that you had not?—Yes.

21,105. Will you swear you had no money in your hand?—Yes; I will swear I had no money in my hand at the time.

21,106. You were examined before the committee of the House of Commons, were you not?—Yes.

21,107. I will just read to you the evidence you then gave. This question was put to you, "Did you let him see that money, whatever it was, in your hand?" and your answer was, "Yes; he did see some money in my hand."—He might have seen money in my hand.

21,108. Then the next question put to you was, "Was that when you said, 'I have 5*l.* or 10*l.* for my vote'?" and your answer is "Yes." The next question is, "Did you hold your hand out in *this* way, and let him see the money, and say, 'I had 5*l.* or 10*l.* for my vote'?" and your answer is, "Yes." Then you are asked, "Now what do you mean by telling the committee you did not show him the money?"—*A.* "He might have seen some money." *Q.* "You just now said you held your hand out, and said you had 5*l.* or 10*l.* for your vote."—*A.* "I might have held my hand out." *Q.* "Now, were there not sovereigns in your hand, upon your oath?"—*A.* "I might have had five or ten." *Q.* "In your hand?"—*A.* "Yes." Now, having read that to you, do you mean to swear that at the time you said you had received 5*l.* or 10*l.* for your vote you had not money in your hand, and that you did not show it to him?—I might have had money in my hand, but I had no money for my vote.

21,109. Had you money in your hand? You must answer that question.—I might have had money in my hand.

21,110. Had you money in your hand?—I had 5*l.* or 10*l.* in my pocket at the time.

21,111. Was it in your hand? You must know. Was it in your hand when you said that to Stock?—No; I had no money in my hand when I said that to Stock.

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S. King.
24 Oct. 1859.

21,112. Had you money in your hand when you came back from the poll?—No, I had not.

21,113. What did you mean then by saying in answer to the question put to you before the committee of the House of Commons that you had money in your hand at the time you said that?—I said he might have seen money, as we are taking money in our trade every day, but not money concerning the election.

21,114. The question is, "Were there not sovereigns in your hand, upon your oath?" and your answer is, "I might have had some five or ten." And then the next question is, "In your hand?" And your answer is, "Yes." You gave those answers before the committee of the House of Commons, and now you come here and make a different statement. Which is the true one?—I might have had money in my hand; I had no money for my vote.

21,115. Had you money in your hand?—I might have had.

21,116. Had you money in your hand?—I might have had money in my hand; I could not say.

21,117. Was that money which you say you might have had in your hand money which had been given you for your vote?—No, it was not.

21,118. Do you mean to swear that?—Yes.

21,119. Upon your solemn oath you mean to swear that?—Yes; I had no money for my vote.

21,120. You swear that, upon your solemn oath?—I do.

21,121. Upon your solemn oath, do you mean to swear that that money was not paid you for your vote?—It was not.

21,122. Do you swear that no money at all was paid you for your vote?—Yes.

21,123. What money was it that you had? How did you get the money which you say you had with you?—I had got money by me.

21,124. What money had you got by you?—It was my own money; I had 50*l.* left me.

21,125. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you carry it about in your pocket?—Sometimes I carried a few pounds, when I wanted it.

21,126. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you in the habit of carrying your money about in your hand?—Yes; I carry it in my pocket, and when I want it I pull it out of my pocket, and have it in my hand.

21,127. When was it that you showed the money to Stock?—I did not show him any money at all. He chaffed me, and I chaffed him.

21,128. Where was it?—It was in the passage, I believe.

21,129. In the passage where?—Between the bakehouse and the shop.

21,130. What occasion had you for money in your hand?—I have money which I pay away every day, and I receive money every day.

21,131. Do you carry your money in your hand when you are going between the passage and the shop?—I carry money in my hand when I want it, and in my pocket when I want it.

21,132. Had you money in your hand at that time?—I do not recollect that I had. He might have seen money in my hand, but no more that day than any other.

21,133. Are you in the habit of carrying money about in your hand?—Yes, and in my pocket.

21,134. Are you in the habit of carrying money about in your hand?—Yes, when I am going to pay bills.

21,135. Were you paying bills on that day?—I paid two or three.

21,136. (*Mr. Welford.*) On the day of the election?—Yes.

21,137. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Just mention the name of one person to whom you paid a bill on that day?—I paid Mr. Lea of Alvin Street for one.

21,138. How much did you pay him?—At least I did not pay him. My mistress paid him.

21,139. But you say you carried the money for the purpose of paying bills?—I carried the money with me.

21,140. I ask you what bill you yourself paid?—[*No answer.*]

21,141. Did you pay any bill?—Yes, I did.

21,142. What bill did you pay?—I paid Mr. Lea.

21,143. I thought you said your wife paid him?—I paid the bill.

21,144. You paid the bill?—I paid some money.

21,145. Did you pay the money to Mr. Lea?—Yes; I paid him some money on that day.

21,146. Yourself?—Yes.

21,147. To Mr. Lea?—Yes.

21,148. How much did you pay him?—I could not tell exactly what I paid him now.

21,149. But you paid Mr. Lea something?—Yes, a small amount.

21,150. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it between 5*l.* and 10*l.*?—No.

21,151. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you carry gold and silver in your hand for the purpose of paying Mr. Lea a small amount?—I had gold and silver in my hand that day the same as any other day; there is scarcely a day in the week that I have not got it.

21,152. Is there scarcely a day in the week that you do not carry gold and silver in your hand?—Yes. I am receiving money for my master.

21,153. You said you had money of your own?—Yes; I have money of my own, as well.

21,154. (*Mr. Welford.*) What money of your masters have you?—What I receive.

21,155. What money is it that you receive?—What I receive for bills.

21,156. Do you go about with the bread?—I take bread out, and receive the money.

21,157. And what do you do with the money when you have received it?—I give it to my master.

21,158. In the bakehouse?—No; in the shop.

21,159. Which is the nearest to the street, the bakehouse or the shop?—The shop is next the street.

21,160. When you go into the shop you pay your master the money you have received, and then go to the bakehouse?—Yes; and sometimes I go for an hour or an hour and a half and do not give him the money.

21,161. Was this your master's money that you showed to Jeremey?—Some of it was, and some was my own.

G. Ball.

GEORGE BALL called and further examined.

21,162. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been examined before as to the election of 1859?—Yes.

21,163. With regard to the election of 1857, you received some money, did you not, to give to a voter?—No.

21,164. Did you not?—No.

21,165. Was the money that you gave to John Gregory in 1859?—Yes; and I made a mistake in saying I gave him 5*l.*; instead of that it was 8*l.* I stated before that it was 5*l.*

21,166. Did you give Jeffs any money?—£2.

21,167. Was that also in 1859?—Yes.

21,168. Did you receive any money in 1857?—No. I never saw any money pass either on one side or the other in 1857.

21,169. Did you give no money to any person?—No.

21,170. (*Mr. Welford.*) What Jeffs was that you gave the 2*l.* to?—James Jeffs, a carver and gilder.

21,171. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who did you vote for in 1857?—Berkeley and Price.

21,172. Are you quite sure you did not receive or give any money to any person for his vote at that election?—I am.

21,173. Had you nothing to do with the payment of any expense?—No, nothing whatever.

21,174. You neither received anything nor paid anything?—Nothing whatever; I never saw a shilling pass on either side.

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GEORGE MORGAN sworn and examined. *G. Morgan.* 24 Oct. 1859.

21,175. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who did you vote for in 1859 ?—Mr. Price and Monk.

21,176. What did you receive for your vote ?—£3.

21,177. From whom ?—From Mrs. Davis of the Magdalen.

21,178. Was that from Winfield ?—I believe it was.

21,179. Did Winfield canvass you ?—Yes.

21,180. He promised to give you the money, did he ?—Yes.

21,181. And you got it from Mrs. Davis of the Magdalen ?—I received it of her.

21,182. Are you sure ?—Was it not 4*l.*, and not 3*l.* ?—It was 3*l.*

21,183. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Mr. Berkeley and Mr. Price.

21,184. What did you get for your vote then ?—Three half-crowns.

21,185. From whom ?—From Mr. Merritt of Columbia House, I think it was. He kept that house at that time ; a public house in Columbia Street.

21,186. Was it for your vote ?—Yes ; for my time. I do not know that it was for my vote in particular.

21,187. (*Mr. Welford.*) It was for the time you took in going to vote, I suppose ?—Yes.

21,188. You would not have had it if you had not onge to vote ?—No, that I should not.

CHARLES TOMBS sworn and examined. *C. Tombs.*

21,189. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Dockham.

21,190. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A freeman.

21,191. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

21,192. What did you get for your vote ?—£5.

21,193. Was that from Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

21,194. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

21,195. What did you get for your vote then ?—Nothing.

21,196. Are you quite sure that you did not receive 2*l.* for your vote in 1857 ?—I did not.

21,197. Are you certain of that ?—Yes.

21,198. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive anything for your time ?—No.

21,199. Or for your expenses ?—I received something for going to London.

21,200. That was after the election ?—Yes.

21,201. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) If Mr. Whithorn has said that he gave you 3*l.*, is that wrong ?—Yes.

21,202. It is not true ?—It is wrong.

21,203. What did you go to London to give evidence about ?—They came and offered me 10*l.* to prove whether I had any money or no.

21,204. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who offered that to you ?—Henry Hinton, who keeps a shop in Deacon Street. He said he would give me 10*l.* if I would tell whether I had any money of Sir Robert Carden's party to vote for him or no. I had two or three good tightenings of him, and suppers, and something or other.

21,205. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I suppose Mr. Hinton thought you had had money ?—Yes.

21,206. (*Mr. Welford.*) And you had only had some good suppers ?—I had some good suppers along with Henry Hinton as long as I could, and then I told him I knew nothing ; and he would not give me any more after.

21,207. Did you lead Hinton to believe that you had had money ?—He wanted to know. He fetched me out of my bed one night.

21,208. Did you give him to understand that you had had some money ?—No.

21,209. He was giving you these suppers to get it out of you ?—Yes.

21,210. And he kept you on, I suppose, in the expectation that you would disclose something ?—Yes.

21,211. Was that what you were taken to London for ?—No.

21,212. What were you taken to London for ?—I was taken to London about some money. I asked Mr. Withers the figure. He came and asked me for my vote on the Quay.

21,213. Is that William Withers ?—Yes.

21,214. He came and asked you about your vote ?—He asked me whether I had promised anybody, and I said no.

21,215. What did you say to him ?—I said "What would be about the figure ?" He said, "About a pound or two, or something like that ;" and he said he would see me another time, and he put me down on the card, but I never saw him after that.

21,216. Was that what you were taken to London for ?—Yes.

21,217. To say that ?—Yes.

21,218. You never saw anything more of him ?—No.

21,219. If Mr. Withers had given you that money should you have voted ?—No, I should not, if he had given me 20*l.* I had voted five or six times before. I voted for Henry Thomas Hope I think three times before.

21,220. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive anything in those days ?—No. I took my freedom up in 1844, and I have voted ever since.

21,221. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Though you would not take any money for your vote, you had your suppers ?—I had suppers, and had two or three shillings besides of him, and a drop of brandy and water now and then.

21,222. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who paid for taking up your freedom ?—Mr. Browne took it up for me. I did not pay anything for it.

JOHN BURGESS ALLOWAY sworn and examined. *J. B. Alloway.*

21,223. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Blackfriars.

21,224. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

21,225. And a householder also ?—Yes.

21,226. Who did you vote for at the last election ? Price and Monk.

21,227. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

21,228. Who paid it ?—Mr. Thomas Evans.

21,229. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Sir Robert Carden.

21,230. What did you receive then ?—£3 3*s.*

21,231. Who was that paid by ? — By Mr. Whithorn to my landlord, Mr. John Hanman ; it was one quarter's rent.

21,232. And your landlord relieved you from so much ?—Yes.

21,233. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you offered any money on the other side ?—Yes.

21,234. How much were you offered ?—I was to have one quarter's rent.

21,235. Was that by Mr. Hanman ?—Mr. Hanman did not promise me.

21,236. But he allowed it to you ?—In 1857.

21,237. In 1859 he offered you the same thing, but you got 5*l.* from the other side ?—Yes.

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F. Jellyman.

24 Oct. 1859.

FRANCIS JELLYMAN sworn and examined.

21,238. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A railway porter.

21,239. Are you a freeman of Gloucester ?—Yes.

21,240. Where do you live ?—At Stratford-on-Avon.

21,241. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

21,242. Who did you vote for ?—Price and Monk.

21,243. How much money did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

21,244. From whom ?—Mr. Lovèsey.

21,245. Where does he live ?—In Barton Street.

21,246. Do you know what he is ?—A publican.

21,247. Did you not get 5*l.* from Thomas Evans ?—I do not know the man, that I know of.

21,248. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

21,249. What did you get then ?—£5.

21,250. From whom ?—Mr. Ward.

21,251. John Ward ?—Yes.

21,252. For your vote ?—Yes.

21,253. Were you offered any money at the last election to vote for Carden ?—No.

C. Webb.

CHARLES WEBB sworn and examined.

21,254. (*Mr Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A publican.

21,255. Do you keep a beerhouse ?—Yes.

21,256. Where ?—In the Northgate Street.

21,257. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A householder.

21,258. Did you vote at the last election ?—No.

21,259. Were you canvassed for your vote ?—No ; I do not believe I was. Yes, I was.

21,260. Were you offered any money for your vote ?—I had no vote.

21,261. Had you a vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

21,262. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Berkeley and Price.

21,263. Did you receive anything for it ?—No.

21,264. Were you offered anything ?—Yes ; I was offered money by the Blue party, but I would not take it.

21,265. What were you offered ?—I was offered fifty shillings.

21,266. By whom ?—A man of the name of Snowsell.

21,267. What is Snowsell ?—He was a maltster then, the same as myself.

21,268. Were you at any time in the employment of Reuben Cook ?—Yes.

21,269. Was Snowsell the only person who offered you any money ?—Yes.

21,270. Had you promised to vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

21,271. You never promised, did you ?—No, never.

21,272. Did you go to the poll in company with King and Jeremey ?—Yes.

21,273. Do you remember what time it was that you went to the poll ?—I should say it was somewhere about two o'clock ; somewhere about that time.

21,274. Was it about two o'clock that you left Mr. Cook's shop ?—It may have been a little after ; I cannot tell whether it was or not ; or it may have have been a little before.

21,275. Did you leave Reuben Cook's shop in company with King and Jeremey to go down to the polling ?—Yes.

21,276. At what time did you leave Reuben Cook's shop to go ;—It might be between two and three ; I cannot tell to a quarter of an hour.

21,277. But, within a quarter of an hour, it was between two and three o'clock ?—Yes ; it may have been that.

21,278. Do you remember hearing Mr. Cook say anything about the voting ?—Nothing more after I came back from voting.

21,279. Did you hear him say anything about it before you went and voted ?—No ; not before I went and voted.

21,280. You did not hear Mr. Cook say anything ?—No ; not to me. He said, "If I was you I should go down in good time." That was all ; and with that I went down and voted at eleven o'clock.

21,281. You did not carry any message into the street to King, did you ? You did not say anything to King when you got into the street ?—No. I saw two or three of the Tory party about him. I was in the malthouse looking out, and I thought I would go along with him, as they seemed to be taking him away.

21,282. Who of the Tory party were there ?—There was a man named Panter, and Franklin, and another man or two.

21,283. Were they about King ?—Yes ; and John Smart of the Falcon was about him.

21,284. Were those the only people that you saw ?—There was another or two, but I cannot think of their names.

21,285. Did you see Mr. Goold there ?—Yes ; Mr. Goold was there ; he was walking up St. John's Lane.

21,286. Did you see Mr. Goold walking with King ?—No.

21,287. When King went down the street did Jeremey go with him ?—Yes ; down the Westgate Street.

21,288. You did not go with them ?—No ; they walked on in front some little distance.

21,289. You did not go with King and Jeremey ?—No.

21,290. You overtook them ?—Yes ; at the bottom of St. John's Lane, about ten or twenty yards from the shop.

21,291. Did you see Mr. Niblett there ?—Yes.

21,292. Where was he ?—Mr. Goold and he were walking together.

21,293. How far were Goold and Niblett from King and Jeremey ?—When I first went to them I should say they were about twenty yards from them.

21,294. Did you go down with King and Jeremey to the committee-room ?—Yes.

21,295. You all went into the committee-room together ?—Into the passage.

21,296. Did you go into the committee-room ?—I went into the first room, and they went right into the committee-room.

21,297. How long did you remain there before going to the poll ?—A smart time.

21,298. How long ?—I dare say an hour.

21,299. You remained down stairs ?—Yes. I was not with them.

21,300. You remained down stairs an hour ?—Yes.

21,301. And they were up stairs ?—I went up stairs once or twice, to know if they were coming down, and they said they could not get out. I went up to the room where they were.

21,302. And they said they could not get out ?—Yes.

21,303. Why could they not get out ?—Because there was such a mob. There were 200 or 300 of the Tory party about the door, and they would not let them come out.

21,304. Did you see that mob there ?—Yes. They were going to break the door in ; the front street door.

21,305. Were there a great number of voters at that time in the committee-room ?—Yes ; voters and committee men. I dare say there were a hundred there altogether. I do not know exactly how many there were.

21,306. When they got their cards did you go up with them to vote ?—Yes.

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C. Webb.
24 Oct. 1859.

21,307. Did you receive anything for your vote upon that occasion from anybody ?—No.

21,308. Had you any conversation at all with King upon the subject ?—No; nothing more than I said, "Come on, Sam; take and come on and vote, and "do not be bothered there."

21,309. Did you learn from King that he had received any money for his vote ?—No.

21,310. Did Jeremey say he had received anything ?—No.

21,311. Neither of them said so ?—No.

21,312. You are quite sure about that ?—I am sure of it.

21,313. Are you certain you had not made up your mind to vote for Carden ?—No. I promised Admiral Berkeley on the first onset when he came to me.

21,314. There was no change of mind on your part ?—No, there was not.

21,315. You went and voted according to your previous intention ?—I did.

21,316. Have you never said you had promised to vote for Carden ?—Never.

21,317. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were King and Jeremey considered to be Carden's men ?—No; not that I am aware of.

21,318. Did you consider them doubtful men, and look after them ?—I thought one of them was a rather easily led man, and that he might have been got off by others who over-persuaded him; that was King.

21,319. Did you keep near him in the committee-room ?—No; I was not with him, I suppose, a quarter of an hour all the while, for I did not go into the committee-room with them.

21,320. Did you take them to the poll and vote ?—I did.

21,321. Did you go back with him to the house ?—They went on before me, I think, some time.

21,322. You did not see them after they got in ?—No; not for half an hour, I dare say.

21,323. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you ever tell Snowsell that you had been offered money ?—No.

21,324. Did not Snowsell ask you if you had got 2*l.* ?—Yes.

21,325. He did ?—Yes.

21,326. What answer did you make to that ?—I told him, "No, I had not."

21,327. Then did he ask you if you had got 50*s.* ?—Yes.

21,328. What answer did you make to that ?—I said I may have had that.

21,329. Then when you said you may have had it did you not mean that you had had it ?—I meant that I had not had it; but I knew he was put on to me by the Blue party.

21,330. What did you mean by saying that you had had it if you never had it ?—I thought I might as well chaff him. He offered me 3*l.* if I would vote for Carden, and I said I would not take it. He walked with me to the committee-room, and when I came out he said, "What did you get; did you get 3*l.* there ?" I said, "No." He said "Did you get 50*s.* ?" and I said, "I might have had that."

21,331. Having stated that, do you mean to say that that was all a joke ?—I mean to say it was, because we had been drinking together. We went and had a glass before, when he offered me the money.

21,332. You were asked, when you were examined in London, "How came you to tell Snowsell that you had got 2*l.* 10*s.* ?" and your answer was, "Because Snowsell offered me three sovereigns to vote for Carden, and I would not do it." Is that the explanation that you give here to-day of it ?—I told him I should not sacrifice my principles for the sake of 3*l.*

21,333. But you do not seem to have said anything at all about principles when you were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons ?—Yes; I believe I mentioned that.

21,334. Yes, I see you did. You said, "He first offered me 50*s.*, and then 3*l.*; and I said I would not sacrifice my principles for it." Is that the explanation you have to give; that when you told Mr. Snowsell that you might have got 50*s.* it was intended simply as a jest ?—That was all.

21,335. It is very unfortunate to make such jests ?—He and I were rather companions at the time, and he had got a good situation, and I had too. He seemed rather free in treating, and I thought I would make myself as free as him. He made out that he could stand a lot for me to vote for Carden, and I thought I might as well chaff him a bit, and pretend that I had some too.

21,336. It was a sort of generous rivalry ?—Yes.

EMMA HANCOCK sworn and examined.

E. Hancock.

21,337. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is your husband's name ?—Henry Hancock.

21,338. Was some money paid to you at the last election ?—Mr. Ward gave me five shillings.

21,339. What for ?—I do not know what it was for. He said he would make me a present of that. He did not say anything about what it was for.

21,340. Was it for your husband's vote ?—I do not know; he did not say it was.

21,341. What did you understand it was for ?—He did not tell me anything that it was for.

21,342. Was it to induce you to persuade your husband to give his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—He did not say so.

21,343. Who did your husband vote for ?—For Monk and Price.

21,344. Mr. Ward gave you five shillings ?—Yes.

21,345. Did you receive any other money ?—No.

21,346. Did you not get 5*l.* ?—No, I did not.

21,347. You did not ?—No.

21,348. You know that your husband did, do you not ?—He got something, but I do not know what the amount was.

21,349. You do not know whether he got 5*l.* from James Williams, do you ?—No.

21,350. Has Mr. Ward given you any five shillings since that ?—No.

21,351. Was anything paid you in 1857 ?—No.

21,352. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Mr. Ward ask you about your husband's vote when he gave you the five shillings ?—No. He asked me where my husband was; and I forget whether I told him where he was, or whether he was there, or whether he was away; I do not know. He said, "This is to help you to get on for the week."

21,353. Did he say he had come to inquire about your husband's vote ?—No. He said he would call again.

JAMES DRINKWATER called and further examined.

J. Drinkwater.

21,354. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You said just now that your son had received five sovereigns ?—Five sovereigns this last election.

21,355. Five sovereigns at the election in 1857; that is what you said ?—The election before the last ?

21,356. Yes ?—No; 3*l.*; three sovereigns the election before the last, I said, and 5*l.* the last time.

21,357. You have been endeavouring to concoct your evidence since you have been away; you said you saw Collingburn ?—Yes. My son Thomas had five sovereigns; but I have two sons.

21,358. I was speaking about Thomas. You said your son Thomas received five sovereigns ?—Yes, he did.

21,359. What you said was that you saw Collingburn put his hand in his pocket, and pull out a farmer's purse, and give your son five sovereigns, in "The Fountain" yard ?—He did.

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J. Drinkwater.
24 Oct. 1859.

21,360. Have you always said the same thing?—I have always said it. I cannot say any more than what I have seen, and I do not wish to say any more.

21,361. That was at "The Fountain" you say?—At "The Fountain;" in "The Fountain" yard; the back yard.

21,362. Did you see the five sovereigns?—I did.

21,363. You saw them?—I saw them myself in his hand. In his left hand it was.

21,364. You were examined before the committee of the House of Commons, and this question was put to you, "Will you swear that you saw more than one sovereign?" Your answer was, "I will swear that I saw three in his hand." You were then asked, "That you will swear?" and you said, "Yes." Then you were asked, "If there were more there would you not have seen them?" and your answer was, "No."—I answered that I saw three sovereigns in his hand; but he came and told me that he had five, and five I saw.

21,365. You swore just now that you saw five sovereigns in his hand?—I saw five sovereigns in his hand; but I swore to three.

21,366. Just attend. The question which was put to you was, "If there were more than three sovereigns would you not have seen them?" and your answer was "No." Do you mean to swear that you saw five sovereigns in your son's hand?—I can swear that I saw five sovereigns in his hand when he came to me from Henry Collingburn.

21,367. And you swear that you saw Collingburn give your son five sovereigns?—He gave my son five sovereigns.

21,368. You saw him give him those five sovereigns?—I did.

21,369. Then how came you to swear that you saw three?—He showed me three. I said, "Is that all "you have got, Tom?" and he said, "Here is some "more," and he pulled it out. "Excuse me, father," (he said,) "you are a fool not to go and get more."

21,370. If you saw your son had got five sovereigns, how came you to ask him if he had got more when he showed you three?—He gave him five.

21,371. How came you to ask your son when he showed you three whether he had got any more?—Because I did not know whether he was going to tell me right or wrong.

21,372. But you saw the five sovereigns?—Yes; but he is a chap that is in the habit of having a drop of drink, and cheating his wife. I knew how much he had.

21,373. When you saw five sovereigns given to him, why did you ask him whether he had got any more when he showed you three?—He told me that Mr. Becks had given him some.

21,374. You say you saw Collingburn put his hand in his pocket, pull out a farmer's purse, and give your son five sovereigns in "The Fountain" yard?—I did see him.

21,375. How came you to ask your son, when he showed you three sovereigns, whether he had got more?—I wanted to know whether he would tell me the truth or not.

21,376. Is that your answer?—Yes.

21,377. What time did your son come to your house?—Do you mean the night before the election?

21,378. Yes?—He came to my house between eight and nine o'clock, the night before the election.

21,379. What time did he come back to your house to sleep?—He did not come there to sleep at night. He came about a quarter past six in the morning.

21,380. You had not seen him before that time?—No, I had not, but I sent his brother to know where he was. He was in the habit of going away and getting drunk, and I wanted to know where he was. I beg your pardon, but there are two James Drinkwaters.

21,380. (*Mr. Welford.*) One is your son?—Yes; but he was at work. I have sent a person after him. He will be at home this evening.

21,382. What was the name of your son that you sent with Thomas?—James; that is where the difference is in the 3*l.*

21,383. Thomas is the one who had the 5*l.*?—Yes; and he gave his evidence in London as to the 3*l.* that he received here at Gloucester to pay his expenses back to Worcester when he lost his time; that is where the difference is.

21,384. Was anything said by Collingburn to your son before this that you have mentioned?—To Thomas Drinkwater?

21,385. Yes?—Collingburn spoke to me first.

21,386. Was anything said to Thomas?—Yes. Collingburn came and spoke to me first, and then Collingburn asked me if I had voted; and I said, "I had;" and he asked me if my sons had; and I said, "No, not that I know of;" and he said, "Send one of them out to me," and I sent Thomas Henry to him.

21,387. Was it with reference to the five sovereigns that you heard Collingburn speak to your son?—He offered me five sovereigns first, and I would not take it, and after that he called my son, and my son went to him in William Preedy's.

21,388. Confine yourself to "The Fountain"?—Five sovereigns Collingburn gave to my son in "The Fountain" back yard.

21,389. Before he gave those five sovereigns to your son, had he said anything to your son about any other money?—Not that I am aware of.

21,390. Not to your son Thomas?—No.

21,391. That you swear?—I can swear that; not in my hearing.

21,392. About that there is no mistake?—None at all that I am aware of.

21,393. Just attend to this. You were examined before the committee of the House of Commons, and this question was put to you, "When you came back into the kitchen of 'The Fountain,' did you hear Collingburn say anything to Thomas?" and your answer was, "He said he would give him a sovereign first, and Tom said, 'Oh, that will not do; I have got to pay my expenses up and down.'" Did you say that?—No; I never mentioned that.

21,394. He said he would give a sovereign, and Thomas said that would not do?—No; I did not mention that.

21,395. This is the evidence you gave before the committee of the House of Commons?—No. I never mentioned a sovereign in my life. I am on my oath.

21,396. You swear that you did not say that?—I did not say anything at all about a sovereign.

21,397. You swore just now it was in the "Fountain" yard?—Yes.

21,398. Did you not swear before the committee of the House that it was in the kitchen?—I said I was in the kitchen, and I went out of the kitchen, and met Collingburn as I went to make water.

21,399. You said here to-day, "It was in 'The Fountain' yard. I saw Collingburn put his hand in his pocket, and pull out a farmer's purse, and give my son five sovereigns."—In "The Fountain" yard, and then he came into the kitchen afterwards.

21,400. I will read to you this evidence which you gave in London. *Q.* "You say that Collingburn offered the sovereign. Thomas said that would not do, because he must pay his expenses?—*A.* Yes." *Q.* "What did Collingburn say upon that?—*A.* He called him to the back of the settle." *Q.* "In the kitchen?—*A.* In the kitchen, and he gave him some more, and told him not to be long." *Q.* "He gave him something?—*A.* Yes; more money; and then he came and showed it to me." *Q.* "Did Thomas then come back from the settle into the kitchen?—*A.* Yes." *Q.* "Had he anything in his hand?—*A.* Yes." *Q.* "What?—*A.* I saw three sovereigns, but he had more; how much I could not tell." Is that the evidence you gave before the committee of the

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House of Commons?—I stated that Collingburn gave the money to my son, and then he came into the kitchen; he gave him some first, and then gave him some afterwards.

21,401. In the settle in the kitchen?—In the kitchen.

21,402. What made you swear just now that he, Collingburn, pulled a farmer's purse out of his pocket in the "Fountain" yard, and gave him five sovereigns?—He gave him five sovereigns in the yard, and called him to the back of the settle, and gave him some money to pay for some beer.

J. Drinkwater.
24 Oct. 1859.

Adjourned to To-morrow 10 o'clock.

Twenty-first Day.—26th October 1859.

THOMAS BREWER MONK called and further examined.

T. B. Monk.
26 Oct. 1859.

21,403. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We have now to examine you with regard to the election of 1857. Did you take upon yourself, in the election of 1857, the management and control of the messengers?—I did.

21,404. In the Liberal committee room?—I did.

21,405. How many messengers were appointed by you?—I cannot tell now; I have not a list of them; I had a list, but I did not copy it.

21,406. Have you endeavoured to furnish yourself with information as to the number that were appointed?—I have as far as I can, but I cannot give you the positive number. I produced the list before the committee in London, and I have never had it from that hour to this.

21,407. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were there more messengers employed than appeared in the auditor's account?—No one; if you have the auditor's account you have a list of the messengers; that I positively swear.

21,408. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The amount stated to have been expended was 68*l.* 16*s.*; that is the amount in the auditor's account?—That is the correct amount.

21,409. And the money for clerks, 28*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*?—That is right, I believe.

21,410. Are you quite sure that there were no other persons appointed as messengers, and paid by you as messengers, than were put into that list?—Not one.

21,411. Were the persons who were so employed voters?—A portion of them were voters and a portion non-voters.

21,412. Could you tell me who were voters and who were not voters, if I called the names over to you?—Yes, I think I could.

21,413. John Baldwin, was he a voter?—He was a voter.

21,414. C. Evans?—He was a voter.

21,415. H. Wingate?—He was a voter.

21,416. C. Wilkes?—He was a voter.

21,417. J. Evans?—He was a voter.

21,418. J. Hastings?—He was a non-voter.

21,419. J. Davis?—That is rather a common name.

21,420. J. Davis, ten days?—I would not be positive as to him, whether he was a voter or not.

21,421. H. Dix?—He was a voter.

21,422. A. Halton?—That was no voter.

21,423. C. Brown?—He was a voter.

21,424. J. Wingate?—Yes, that was a voter.

21,425. J. Ford?—Yes, that was a voter.

21,426. J. Wingate?—He was not a voter at that time.

21,427. J. Pinnell?—That was not a voter.

21,428. J. Allaway?—That was a voter.

21,429. C. Haines?—I do not recollect whether he was a voter or not.

21,430. J. Webb?—Yes, he was a voter then.

21,431. F. Wilkins?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,432. James Hawkins?—No, he was not a voter.

21,433. H. Ford?—He was not a voter.

21,434. E. Smart?—He was a voter.

21,435. L. Pearce?—He was not a voter.

21,436. G. Caldicott?—He was not a voter.

21,437. G. Bishop.—I have no knowledge of that name.

21,438. D. Spencer?—Yes, he was a voter.

31,439. Joseph Evans?—Yes, that was a voter.

21,440. J. Dyer?—No, that was not a voter.

21,441. J. Hyett?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,442. G. Millard?—That was not a voter.

21,443. J. Jones?—He was a voter.

21,444. J. Smith?—I do not think that was a voter; that was not a voter.

21,445. J. Bretherton?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,446. C. Crutchley?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,447. W. Davis?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,448. J. Woodward?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,449. H. Hancock?—Yes, he was voter.

21,450. J. Baddams?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,451. W. Watts?—Watts was not a voter.

21,452. E. W. Cox?—No, nor Cox was not a voter.

21,453. W. Prosser?—Yes, Prosser was a voter.

21,454. F. Lapington?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,455. J. Meek?—No, he was not a voter.

21,456. W. Brown?—I have no recollection of that name.

21,457. J. Ireland?—Nor Ireland was not.

21,458. And W. Young?—Yes, he was a voter.

21,459. Were those persons who were employed as messengers, if not voters, the relatives of voters?—In some cases they may have been, in one or two cases, but in others they were not.

21,460. Will you undertake to swear that, besides that list, there were no messengers employed at that election?—I do.

21,461. Do you remember making an application for money on the polling day to any parties?—Yes, I do recollect doing so; there were men who we had been in correspondence with in different parts of the country, to come to poll, and when the morning came, our agent, Mr. Ellis, had left the room somewhat mysteriously, and left us without funds to pay these persons their expenses or anything else; and knowing Mr. Hughes and Mr. Jones very well, I applied to them for money for the purpose of paying those voters.

21,462. How many voters had you been in correspondence with in different parts of the country?—I cannot tell the number, but I know there were several; some of them were in Staffordshire and some in Bath; I cannot possibly charge my memory with all of them, but I know ever so many came from distances.

21,463. You have mentioned Staffordshire and Bath; do you remember any other places at a distance from which voters have come?—No, I cannot charge my memory with any others at this time.

21,464. How much money did you obtain from Mr. Hughes?—£10.

21,465. And how much money did you obtain from Mr. Jones?—I had 10*l.* from him.

21,466. What time in the day was it that you got that money from them, do you know?—From Mr. Hughes, I should think I got the money about twelve o'clock, or between twelve and one.

21,467. And when did you get it from Mr. Jones?

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—I should think it was nearly two o'clock when I had the money from Mr. Jones.

21,468. Did you keep a list of the payments that you made ?—No, I did not.

21,469. You made an application to some one else, did you not ?—I may have spoken in general terms to parties who were present, and said I was in want of money for different purposes ; that I could not go on for want or money ; but I made no secret application or private communication to any gentleman, that I am aware of.

21,470. What did you say ?—I said I wanted cash to go on with ; that I could not go on without having money to pay persons who had come from a distance, what I considered then to be their legitimate expenses.

21,471. You received some money from Mr. Potter, did you not ?—I did.

21,472. How much money did you receive from him ?—I do not know ; I never counted it. He came and gave me a sum of money about half-past two o'clock. I see that in his evidence he says it was 94*l.* I have no wish to contradict him ; I was not aware till now that it was nearly as much as he says it was.

21,473. Was it in gold ?—Yes.

21,474. It was all in gold ?—Yes, all in gold, I believe ; I am sure it was.

21,475. What had you said to Mr. Potter which induced him to give you that 94*l.* in gold ?—I do not remember making any personal application to him. I do not recollect a word that passed between us.

21,476. Had he been in the committee room the best portion of the day ?—Yes, I saw him moving about in the course of the day, the same as other gentlemen.

21,477. And he could have heard as well as the others what you said with regard to the requirements of money for the purpose of paying travelling expenses ?—Exactly so.

21,478. To whom did you give the money which you received from the three parties you have named, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Potter, amounting together to 114*l.* ?—I have no memorandum to go by, and nothing to refer to to refresh my memory, but as far as I have been able I have endeavoured within the last few days to make out what I could, but I do not swear positively to the people nor to the different amounts.

21,479. Have you gone through the register of 1857 ?—I have.

21,480. And have you endeavoured to refresh your memory as to the persons to whom you gave money upon that occasion ?—I have been doing nothing else for the last two or three days ; in fact, I have been compiling the register, as I was requested.

21,481. By whom were you requested to do that ?—Mr. Wilton requested me to make an analysis of the register, and I have been doing it.

21,482. Now, just give the names of the persons to whom you recollect to have given any of the money you received from Mr. Hughes, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Potter ?—Out of Mr. Hughes's money I believe I gave William Probert, junior, about 9*l.* or 10*l.*; he says it was 9*l.*, and I think it was.

21,483. What did you give that money to him for ?—He came to me and said he wanted some money for election purposes.

21,484. Did he say for what particular purpose he wanted it ?—No ; I had the greatest faith in William Probert, and I should not have hesitated to give him anything he required.

21,485. He did not come to you and say he wanted money to pay travelling expenses ?—No, he did not say that ; I will admit that if he had said he wanted it for any other expenses, I should not have hesitated to give him the money.

21,486. Did you not suppose it was for the purpose of buying votes ?—It was a small sum to buy votes with, for one thing ; and I did not think there were any votes that he could buy, at that time of the day, for another.

21,487. Did you not give him the money to buy votes with ?—I have no doubt that he did what he could to buy votes, and I thought he would do so ; I gave him the money to do what he liked with.

21,488. Now the next ?—I think I gave George Allen about 8*l.*

21,489. Who is George Allen ?—A builder, in Gloucester.

21,490. Where does he live ?—In Hampden Terrace, I think.

21,491. Was that to buy votes ?—It was for him to do anything he could with, for the purpose of winning the election.

21,492. Did he tell you what he wanted it for ?—No ; I did not ask him. I said, "Here, Allen, is "some money ; it is late ; go and do what you can "with it."

21,493. What made you give it to him ?—Because he was always a man who had worked with us, and assisted us in election times.

21,494. You thought that the 8*l.* in his hands would be well employed in some way to win the election ?—Yes, I did.

21,495. Who was the next person to whom you gave money ?—I gave Thomas Evans about 12*l.*, as nearly as I can recollect.

21,496. Is that Thomas Evans a shoemaker ?—Yes. I gave him 12*l.* ; I believe that was the sum ; I would not swear to a pound more or less.

21,497. You gave him that with the same object ?—Yes.

21,498. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you offer it to him, or did he apply to you for it ?—I almost forget in this case whether I offered it, or whether he applied to me for it ; but I rather think he applied to me.

21,499. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Go on ?—To William Wingate I gave, I think, 2*l.*

21,500. Is he a voter ?—Yes, he is a voter ; all these parties had voted at the time when I gave them the money.

21,501. What did you give William Wingate that 2*l.* for ?—I do not recollect : he came to me and said he wanted 2*l.*, and I gave it to him. I did not stop to inquire what he wanted it for.

21,502. He is a voter ?—Yes ; but I knew he had voted previously.

21,503. Did he come to you at the committee ?—Yes, I think he called me out of the committee.

21,504. Did you not give it to him for his vote ?—No, certainly not. I think he went and gave it to another party for his vote. I do not believe that William Wingate ever had a penny for his vote in his life, directly or indirectly.

21,505. And you did not give him that money for his vote ?—Decidedly not.

21,506. What is William Wingate ?—A carpenter.

21,507. Where does he live ?—In Hampden Place. William Henry Wingate, I think, is his name.

21,508. Now the next ?—I gave to a person named Henry Merritt 2*l.*, I think ; he lives at Norton now : he lived at that time in Columbia Street.

21,509. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he keep a public-house there ?—I think he did at that time.

21,510. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you give him that money for ?—He came to me the same as the rest, and said he wanted 2*l.*, and I gave it to him.

21,511. Who did he say he wanted it for ?—I do not think that any conversation passed as to any parties: these were men that I should not think of putting questions to.

21,512. You knew he had voted ?—No ; that man had not a vote.

21,513. (*Mr. Welford.*) You understood he wanted the money for some one else ?—Yes, I thought that was what he wanted it for.

21,514. He did not tell you what he wanted it for ?—No ; he asked me for 2*l.*, and I gave it to him.

21,515. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You knew pretty well

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what his object was, I suppose?—Yes, I had no doubt about it.

21,516. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did not Wingate, when he came to you, say that he wanted 30*s.* for Michael Jennings?—He may have said so; if he did, I have forgotten it. I have not the slightest recollection of any such conversation occurring; in fact, I forgot that I had ever given him any money at all till he stated what he did in this court.

21,517. You do not remember his telling you that he wanted the money to settle a bill?—No; I do not recollect anything of the sort.

21,518. That is what he has told us?—It is very likely to be correct; I do not say it is not.

21,519. Who else?—I gave Mr. Thomas Billingham about 12*l.* in the course of the day.

21,520. Where does he live?—He is dead now; he used to live in Eastgate Street.

21,521. You gave him that money also for the purchase of votes, I suppose?—No; he was a very respectable man, and a man of substance, and he wanted some money. There was no arrangement between him and me as to what it was for.

21,522. Who was the next person to whom you gave money?—I paid Edwin Dalby, I think, 2*l.* I recollect paying him that for coming out of Staffordshire; that was for his travelling expenses. I think 2*l.* was the amount. Mr. Wait came from Bath, and I gave him 1*l.* or 30*s.*, I think. I considered that very moderate at the time.

21,523. Who was the next?—That is all I can recollect.

21,524. You do not account for half the money?—No, I did not spend half the money; I had not the opportunity to do so.

21,525. What did you do with the balance?—I had a considerable sum left—I do not know how much—which I thought of handing back to Mr. Potter the day after the election.

21,526. Did you hand it back to him?—No, I did not. I found that a petition was determined on, and I thought I could not do better than conciliate my own honest voters, who had voted for nothing, and I consequently gave them gratuities; and I paid a few men who had assisted me during the election week. I can give you some of the names of people who I paid for services in assisting me in canvassing and different things; and I paid some little scores that occurred on the day of polling, without orders from any one. I had no doubt about unseating Sir Robert Carden, and I thought the best thing I could do would be to conciliate the voters.

21,527. You spent the balance in paying some scores that were incurred on the day of the polling, and in giving gratuities to conciliate voters?—Yes, I gave some little gratuities to men who had gone and voted without being promised a shilling. As I had a little money left, I thought the best thing I could do with it (expecting another election) was to give them a gratuity for their services, such as 10*s.* or 1*l.* I paid a little bill or two. In fact, we had a supper among the canvassers, which I consider cost about 2*l.* That was among all the canvassers. It was a supper that we had on the Monday following the election, when we were arranging about evidence for the petition. I paid a little bill to Mrs. Moss at the Crown; that was incurred on the polling day.

21,528. Can you name any other persons to whom you gave money?—No; I can give you the names of persons that I paid for assisting me, and who I considered had worked for me during the week, helping me in my individual capacity.

21,529. Were they voters?—Some of them were, and some were not, but these men you understand worked without any authority from me, and without any expectation of a penny piece. After the election was over I had this sum of money over, and I considered it my duty to pay them, as they were all working men, some little remuneration for their services.

21,530. They were working under your inspection, were they not?—No, they did as they liked entirely among their own immediate neighbours, without any orders or authority from me, or any stipulation as to payment.

21,531. And did you rely entirely on their statements to you that they had rendered you services?—No, I knew that they had, and I said to them, "You have come up to vote without having been "promised a shilling, and I will make you a present "of a sovereign if you will accept it." There is another name I think I omitted to mention; that was a payment after the polling. I paid to James Pembrell Jeffs 3*l.*, which he said he had expended on a man named French; and I paid a person named James Orpin an old municipal account. I paid Mrs. Moss, of the Crown public-house, for treating, 1*l.* 10*s.*

21,532. Was that for treating voters?—Yes, she had voters there all night. She did so without any orders or authority from anybody. That was about 30*s.*; it may have been a shilling or two more or less; it did not exceed 2*l.* I paid Mr. William Jeynes, for his trouble and expenses during the election in 1857, 2*l.*

21,533. What was that for?—It was for assistance during the election; he had no expectation of the money. I made him a present of it after the election was over.

21,534. Was he a voter?—Yes. I paid Mr. William Prosser 3*l.* for expenses he had paid out of his pocket.

21,535. Who is he?—He is dead now; he used to live in Barton Street.

21,536. Was he a voter?—Yes, he was.

21,537. Who was the next?—There is another man in my list, a man named James Williams, who had 5*l.* of me on the day before the polling.

21,538. Is that the James Williams who is Mr. Price's foreman?—Yes, he works for Mr. Price; he has been examined here, and said he had received no money from me, that he knew of. I called his attention to the fact when I saw him, and told him I recollected the fact of his having it, and he at once said, "If I did, what had I better do?" I said, "You had better go to the Commissioners, and set "yourself right;" and I believe he is prepared to do so. I do not believe the man had any intention of telling a lie; I do not think he would do so; and besides that, it would not be worth his while to do it.

21,539. Now the next?—I also gave Williams a sovereign for his services after the election was over.

21,540. But you gave that money to Williams before the day of the election?—Yes, I did.

21,541. On the nomination day?—No, after two o'clock on the polling day. I had not a shilling of money to give away till I had it of Mr. Jones.

21,542. You gave it to him on the day before the election?—I meant before the polling day was over. My list is with reference to before and after the polling.

21,543. (*Mr. Welford.*) These which you have been giving us are sums which you paid the day after the election?—Yes, and a week, and weeks after, in some cases. These men, Dalby, William Wingate, Allen, Williams, Evans, Merrett, and Billingham, were on the day of the polling, between the hours of one and four; the other men were all after.

21,544. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You said you paid James Billingham the day before, but you mean now to say that that was a mistake, and that you mean it was paid on the polling day?—I think you misunderstood me. I could not possibly have said I paid him the day before, because I had not a shilling then. I meant the day before what I was reading to you, which was the list of the men I paid the day after.

21,545. Go on?—I gave Frederick Simpson, I think it was 2*l.*; I believe it was 2*l.*, for his services and costs out of pocket.

21,546. Is he a voter also?—Yes. I gave Robert Crook 1*l.* for money that he had spent, and was out of pocket.

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21,547. Was he a voter ?—Yes.

21,548. That was for money which he said he had spent ?—Yes, and for his services ; he said he was that out of pocket.

21,549. Who is Frederick Simpson ; where does he live ?—They both live in Barton Street ; both Crook and Simpson. I paid a little bill at the Berkeley Arms ; Benjamin Bennett's, about 1*l.* ; that was about the amount within 5*s.* either way ; I think he was the landlord of the house at that time, and he said that during the polling day a few friends had gone in there, and that this bill was incurred ; he did it on his own responsibility ; I had no need to have paid it.

21,550. How much was it ?—About 1*l.* ; I do not think it was as much ; I think it was a few shillings under.

21,551. Now the next ?—In the week subsequent to the election I gave a supper to the canvassers for their services, that cost about 2*l.* ; the rest of the money I had left I gave away in gratuities to voters who had gone and polled, but whose names I cannot supply.

21,552. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much does the money you have given us amount to ?—At a rough guess, I should say it would leave about 26*l.* to give away to parties in gratuities.

21,553. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) More than that, I think ? —I do not know how much it would be ; there is a small account at my own house, 2*l.* 10*s.*

21,554. I make it that you have rather better than 40*l.* to account for ; about 44*l.* ; you say you paid that away in small gratuities ?—Yes.

21,555. (*Mr. Welford.*) Gratuities that you have not mentioned ?—Yes.

21,556. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What was the amount of the gratuities ?—They never exceeded a sovereign to anybody.

21,557. Were the parties to whom those gratuities were given voters ?—Yes, I gave them to voters. I considered that men who had gone and polled without the expectation of a shilling deserved it if I had any money ; I should not have hesitated in giving them that money before they polled if I had had it to give, but I had no money ; the other parties had purchased all the purchaseable commodity.

21,558. The sums of money that you gave away in these small gratuities to voters were paid, I suppose, in consideration of their having given their votes ?—In consideration of their having given their votes ; they were not given to influence them at all, because the parties had voted already without expecting to receive a shilling.

21,559. You gave the money to them as a reward for having given their votes ?—Yes.

21,560. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had most of these men to whom you gave these gratuities voted after it was known that money was forthcoming ?—No ; there were very few of those men unpolled at the time I received the money.

21,561. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give any money at that election to Edwin Butler ?—No, none whatever.

21,562. Do you know of Edwin Butler having received any money ?—No.

21,563. You know the man I mean ?—Very well ; I have known the man for many years.

21,564. Did you give any money to Enoch Cox ?—No, not a shilling in my life.

21,565. Do you know of his having received any money from any one ?—No, I do not ; he never had any of me, and never asked me for any.

21,566. Do you know of any person who did ask you for money to give to Enoch Cox ?—No, I never knew anything of any money being given to Enoch Cox in my life.

21,567. Did you give any money to James B. Gardner ?—No ; I should like to see the man who dare offer him any.

21,568. Do you know a person named Benjamin Harrison ?—I did know there was such a man ; I do not know that I ever exchanged a word with him in my life ; he was a baker in the Westgate Street.

21,569. Did you give him anything ?—Not a penny in my life, or offered him anything.

21,570. Do you know of his having received any money ?—No, I do not ; I do not believe he did in 1857.

21,571. I asked you about Michael Jennings ; you say you do not recollect being asked for money for Jennings ?—No.

21,572. You yourself gave no money to him ?—No, nor never saw him personally.

21,573. Did you give any money to Charles Jeremey ?—No, I do not believe Charles Jeremey wanted any, for Mr. Reuben Cook told me that Jeremey and King and Webb had all three promised him to vote for the two Liberal candidates, and that they would do so.

21,574. Mr. Reuben Cook is dead, is he not ?—Yes.

21,575. Did Mr. Reuben Cook say that to you when any other person was present ?—He did not say it to me, he said it to other persons when I was present.

21,576. Who were they ?—I forget ; it was the canvassing party ; I cannot say who was present.

21,577. Can you give us the name of any person who was present when Mr. Cook said that to you ?—No, I cannot; I know one person, young Mr. Charles Berkeley was one of them, though he may not recollect the circumstance.

21,578. Try and recollect, after you leave this court the names of any persons who were present at that time ?—I will do so ; but it is a long time ago, and we have had many stirring events passing since then.

21,579. You did not offer any money to Charles Jeremey ?—No.

21,580. Do you know any person who did ?—No, I do not.

21,581. To William Jeynes you gave 2*l.* ?— I made him a present of 2*l.* after the election for money spent out of his pocket ; he is in a position above asking for any money for his vote.

21,582. What did you give him the money for ?—He said he was cash out of pocket, that he had spent on neighbours and friends.

21,583. That was given as a present ?—Yes, I considered that the man was fairly entitled to it ; I thought that he had spent the money and that he ought to be reimbursed.

21,584. Who is Mr. Jeynes ?—A cabinet maker.

21,585. Did you give any money to James Jones ? —No, not a shilling ; I think he was one of my messengers that you read the name of just now.

21,586. Did you give him what is stated in the list ? —Yes, not a shilling more.

21,587. Did you give any money to Samuel King ? —No, none whatever.

21,588. Do you remember seeing Samuel King in the committee room ?—I did not know the man at the time ; I had never spoken to him or seen him before in my life, that I know of, and I do not know that I saw him then.

21,589. Do you know Jeremey by sight ?—No.

21,590. Or Webb ?—Yes, I remember seeing him in the committee room.

21,591. What time did you see him there ?—I cannot exactly say, I should think it was between one and two, it may be ; I saw them running about up and down stairs or something of the sort ; I did not take any particular notice of them.

21,592. Was there any reason at all why persons who were in the committee room between one and two o'clock on that day, should have been unable to go to the poll if they wished to go ?—Yes, these men it appears (I only know it from hearsay, but I have no doubt it is true) were seized hold of by a lot of roughs. I do not like to say a word against the dead, but a person named Guest employed a lot of roughs at the election. I think Mr. Niblett will tell you that the men would have gone and polled without coming to the committee room at all.

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21,593. Was it Mr. Niblett who told you what you are now telling us ?—Yes ; he said that the men would have polled without coming to the committee room at all, had it not been for the way they were used.

21,594. Do you know a person of the name of Henry Rees ?—Yes, I know him.

21,595. Did you give him any money ?—No, I never saw him the whole election, and I did not know he had polled till after the election.

21,596. Do you know any person who did give him any money ?—No ; I do not believe he had a shilling ; I would not swear that he had not, but I do not believe he had.

21,597. Did you give any money to James Salabank ?—No.

21,598. Do you know whether he received any money at all from anybody ?—No, I do not.

21,599. Richard Trueman ?—No, I never gave him a penny piece ; I never gave him or offered him anything for his vote in my life.

21,600. Did you give anything to Charles Webb ?—No.

21,601. You saw him in the committee room ?—Yes, but we had no conversation.

21,602. Were you the person who gave out the cards ?—No, I merely introduced the men to the table where the clerks were ; that was my principal business.

21,603. I suppose voters could get their cards the moment they made application for them ?—Yes ; I do not know that they could at one time ; there was a crowd in the room, and I know that some of the men remained there some time.

21,604. Ten minutes perhaps ?—It was according to whether the men persevered or not ; if a man did not persevere he could not get his card so soon.

21,605. Did you give anything to Daniel Windo ?—No.

21,606. You gave nothing to him ?—I never saw him.

21,607. Could any money have been given to persons in the committee room without your knowledge ?—It may have been given without my knowledge, but it is very unlikely, for this reason, that I do not believe that any person had any money to give.

21,608. Were you there the greater portion of the time ?—I was.

21,609. Did you see any money given away by any person to any voters or other persons ?—I never did.

21,610. Are you quite sure that the balance of 40*l.*, of which you are unable to give us any account, was paid in gratuities to voters after the election ?—In answer to that question, I would say that I cannot make up my mind that I had as much as 40*l.* left ; either my calculation or yours is wrong ; I cannot make out that I had 40*l.* left.

21,611. I have taken down the various figures you have given me ?—Perhaps you have missed something I have told you ; I do not make it out to be 40*l.*

21,612. Whatever the balance was, that balance was spent in giving gratuities to voters after the election ?—Yes.

21,613. In small sums ?—Yes.

21,614. Will you swear that you gave no portion of that balance to voters on the day of the election to vote for the liberal candidates ?—No, not a shilling ; there was no voters to give it to but those who had polled. I did not get this money till past two, and the rule is not to let venal voters walk the streets at that time of day in Gloucester.

21,615. You did not get the money till half-past two o'clock ?—No ; and if I had been inclined to do ever so much bribery, there was no one left to bribe.

21,616. Then if that was the case, what did you want the money for ?—When I asked for the money I wanted it, and if I had had it then it might have been of use, but it was of no use to me when I did get it ; I asked for it at ten o'clock, and I did not get it till late in the day, when it was of no use.

21,617. Are you sure there was no observation made by you to Mr. Potter at a later period of the day, as late as two o'clock ?—No ; the general application that I made for money was at ten o'clock.

21,618. Did you not make any application to Mr. Potter for the supply of a sum of money as late as between one and two o'clock on the polling day ?—No, I could not have done anything of the sort, for I got Mr. Jones's sum about that time ; that was enough for all the purposes that I wanted money for at that time ; when I got Mr. Potter's money there was no one left to bribe.

21,619. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it only to pay travelling expenses that you wanted money ?—Yes, at the time I had it, because I had received strict directions from Mr. Wilton and Mr. Ellis not to spend one shilling in bribery or treating ; that was under the impression that the other party was going to do the same ; but when I discovered that they were acting differently, I should have done the same if I had had the money.

21,620. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How soon did you discover that the other party were doing it ?—The night before. When I heard it I went to the committee room and called Mr. Wilton and Mr. Ellis out, and told them my suspicions, and what I knew was going on. They said, "If they do it they must do it ; we "will not have anything to do with that matter ; mind "you do not spend a shilling." I said I had not an opportunity of spending it, for I had not a shilling to spend. I had not a penny piece more than is stated in the auditor's account ; that I swear. I should have been quite as well without the money I had, as it was of no use to me.

21,621. Do you know how it was that Mr. Potter came to let you have this money ?—No doubt it was from the application I had made in the morning. He saw that the election was going the wrong way, and he thought, I suppose, that if he gave me the money, I could save it.

21,622. If you did not want the money, and if you felt it would be of no use, why did you not say to Mr. Potter, "I do not want this money ?"—I do not know that I did not say so.

21,623. But you had the money ?—I believe to the best of my recollection I said, though I do not know whether Mr. Potter heard me or not, "This money is "no good to me." I am under an impression that I did say that.

21,624. Were there a number of voters who had made application to you in the course of the day for money for their votes ?—No, there were not ; the day previous to the election there were a great many ; ever so many men applied to me.

21,625. But not on the day of the election ?—They may have done so on the day of the election. I think there were two or three who did, but I kept out of the way as much as possible, not having anything in that way to do ; but I know there were some applications for money on the day of the election. I recollect a man named Bowers came to me and said he knew I had money, and I told him I had not a shilling.

21,626. There were many applications made to you by voters for money ?—Yes.

21,627. What did they say ?—They asked if there was anything to be had, and I said, "Not a shilling."

21,628. Did they say they would vote for the Liberal candidates if you had money to give them ?—Yes; and they offered to vote at almost any price. I recollect one man, named George Brown, a tailor, who would have voted for almost anything; he voted for Carden, and has voted for Carden ever since. He followed me all down the street, and said he would vote for the Liberal candidates for almost anything; but I told him I had nothing to give him.

21,629. Where does he live ?—At Wotton ; he has been examined here. He said he must have some money, or something of that sort.

21,630. Did you understand from those persons who applied to you for money, that if you did not give them money they would have money from the

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other side?—No; they came to me and said they should have some money.

21,631. Did they say they could have any?—Yes; several of them said they could.

21,632. Can you tell us the names of any voters who said that?—I did not take notice who said it, because it is a usual thing for men to say it when they want money.

21,633. You do not place much reliance on such statements?—No; I do not place much reliance upon them, because it is a usual thing for men to say it when they want money.

21,634. Did you not receive from Mr. Ellis, on the 31st of March, 68*l.* 16*s.*?—Yes; that was money for the messengers; I believe that was the amount.

21,635. Did you receive also for clerks, 28*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes, I think that was the amount. If that is the amount stated in the auditor's account it is correct.

21 636. If you received those sums of money for payments which you were to make to messengers and clerks, why was it that you did not say at that time to Mr. Ellis that you did not require so much money, because you had still money in your hands, left out of money you had received from Mr. Potter?—If I had repaid what was left out of that money, I should have repaid it to Mr. Potter, and not to Mr. Ellis.

21,637. Mr. Ellis, you know, was Mr. Price's agent?—I am quite aware of that.

21,638. Why did you not say to him then, "I have "still money in hand out of the sum I received from Mr. Potter?"—I should not have liked Mr. Ellis to know that I had had money from Mr. Potter, or any one else, after the strict injunctions I had received from him and Mr. Wilton; and I never did tell him.

21,639. That was your reason?—That was my reason.

21,640. At the time you received that money from Mr. Potter, had the strength of the two parties been polled?—Oh, yes; the election was virtually over; there were very few left to poll.

21,641. Were there a number of persons at that time hanging off, and hesitating to vote?—No, for this reason; the other side were paying sums of money for votes, and we could hold out no prospect of their having anything from us, so that they had but one course to pursue, and that was to poll as soon as they could. If we had given them to understand that we should have some money eventually, they might have held back, but we never held out to them any prospect that there would be any money, and we gave them no inducement to hold back.

21,642. Do you swear that the money you received from Mr. Potter and from Mr. Hughes was not spent in payments made to voters directly, as bribes for their votes?—I will swear that I paid different sums of money to different parties, and what they did with the money they will be able to explain to you. They may have paid the money away for bribes, but I did not.

21,643. You swear that you gave no money to any voter at that election as a bribe for his vote?—As a bribe directly for his vote.

21,644. Have you ever examined into the state of the register since 1852?—Yes, I have. I am not prepared with the results. I have some parties now finishing them.

21,645. You are not prepared to give evidence on that subject now?—No, I am not. To-morrow, I think, I shall be prepared to do so.

21,646. Do you know of any moneys having been expended, during the election of 1857, for the purchase of votes, or in treating, excepting the money of which you have given us an account to-day?—I do not; in fact, to the best of knowledge, all that was done, I did myself.

21,647. Besides the expenditure of the three sums of money you have mentioned, 10*l.* from Mr. Hughes, 10*l.* from Mr. Jones, and 94*l.* from Mr. Potter, you are not aware that any money was spent by any person on behalf of the Liberal candidates, in the election of 1857, about which there could be any suspicion that it was spent for improper purposes?—Not a shilling; I am convinced there was not.

21,648. (*Mr. Welford.*) When you had the first 10*l.*, on the morning of the election, to what purpose did you intend it should be applied?—It is the custom, with what we call honest voters, when they have been up to poll, to come back to the committee room and say, "I have polled," and then we generally give them a shilling, or half a crown, to get something to drink. I generally have done that sort of thing, thinking there was no harm in it. There are men who live four or five miles out in the country, and it is very hard upon them to pay for their own refreshments. I know one man, 70 years of age, who walked in and out, and never had a glass of ale at all.

21,649. The men to whom you gave these small sums were men you had been in communication with before, I suppose?—Yes.

21,650. Had they polled?—Yes, they had all polled.

21,651. At that time I understood you to say that if the election was to be won by an improper expenditure of money you were not in a position to win it?—No, I could not have won the election then if I had had as much money as I could carry. No sort of money could possibly have won it.

21,652. At eleven o'clock could you have won the election if you had had money?—I do not know that I could have then. Venal voters will poll before that.

21,653. But when you received the 94*l.* from Mr. Potter, you understood it was to be applied for purposes other than proper purposes, did you not?—I thought I would do the best I could with it. I did not do anything improper myself with it, but I gave it to other parties.

21,654. You applied that money in a way that Mr. Ellis would not have approved of?—Of course not; I should not have done so, and never had the least intention of doing so, if the other party had kept faith and it was all purity, because we should have won so easily.

21,655. But you were aware, were you not, the night before, that the other parties had not kept faith?—Yes, I was aware of it.

21,656. So that at that time you must have been aware that the election was lost?—I thought we must be in a very good position indeed if we could save it. I told Mr. Ellis that I considered the election would be lost, and that we might win it easily with a little money. He said, "Have you altered "your mind?" I said, "I have only altered my "mind on finding out what the other parties are "doing."

21,657. Mr. Ellis, you say, would not allow anything to be expended?—Not a shilling or a penny piece. His words were, "I would sooner lose the "election than spend one shilling," and Mr. Wilton said the same to me.

21,658. Still you considered it consistent with your duty to take money when it was offered to you, and to use it as far as you could?—Yes; I did not like to see the election lost, because I considered we were being sold or victimized, after the professions of purity that were being made.

21,659. Have you anything to do with municipal elections for the liberal party?—Yes, I have been mixed up with them some considerable time, for years past.

21,660. You pay money to voters in the municipal elections, do you not?—Yes; I should like to make a few observations upon that subject. Some years ago, previous to 1854, men usually came, and were content with half a crown for their day's work, and they never exceeded 3*s.* or 4*s.* At that time a tremendous rush was made to oust the liberal party from the corporation; almost fabulous sums were given, and parties had 10*s.*, a sovereign, five sovereigns, and sometimes as high as ten sovereigns given to them; the other party followed suit, and tried to keep their

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position, but they could not succeed ; they were bought out.

21,661. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did that begin ?—In 1854 ; I think that was when it began, as nearly as I can recollect.

21,662. (*Mr. Welford.*) And was the result of that effort that the blue party gained the ascendancy in the town council ?—Yes, that ascendancy being entirely purchased.

21,663. Have you paid any money for taking up freedoms for any parties ?—Never but once in my life ; I did then take up a few freedoms. It was not exactly paid ; we lent the cash. It was a colourable lending, no doubt. I do not suppose we shall ever get it back.

21,664. When was that ?—In 1858.

21,665. Do you know how many freedoms you took up ?—No ; I think I could tell by referring to the register.

21,666. A dozen or twenty?—No, perhaps six or seven, or four or five.

21,667. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that in 1858 ?—I think it was in 1858.

21,668. (*Mr. Welford.*) How came you to commence that system of taking up freedoms ?—It has been the custom for years and years for each party to take up their friends' freedoms.

21,669. From whom did you get the money for taking up the freedoms which you paid for ?—We have a registration fund, a subscription fund, that it was paid out of.

21,670. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say it had been the practice for many years to take up freedoms ?—Yes.

21,671. Who paid you the money to take them up ?—We have a registration fund.

21,672. How much do you pay ?—13*s.* 6*d.* for each individual, I think, is the sum.

21,673. (*Mr. Welford.*) That registration fund is formed by subscription ?—Yes, it is.

21,674. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are those six or seven that you mention the only freedoms that you have taken up, as far as you recollect ?—They are the only ones that I recollect.

21,675. Are they the only ones that have been taken up by the Liberal party?—No ; there were other freedoms taken up.

21,676. Who do you think would be able to give us information about them ?—I think Mr. Henley was present when the last were taken up.

21,677. Who can tell us what freedoms have been taken up within the last five or six years ?—I think I could manage it myself for the last four years.

21,678. During four years you have only taken up six or seven freedoms ?—Myself ; more have been taken up by the party.

21,679. By whom have they been taken up ?—I think Mr. Henley was present at the time when the last were taken up.

21,680. Have you a registration clerk ?—Yes, William Probert, junior, is the clerk. I am agent for the party.

21,681. On taking up freedoms, is there an understanding usually existing between you and the persons whose freedom you take up, that they shall vote for your party ?—There is no understanding entered into; but if a young man's father and family have always supported our side, we take it for granted that he will do the same.

21,682. You take up the freedom of any man whose father has been a supporter of your party ?—Yes, we suppose he will follow the antecedents of his father and family.

21,683. Do you do that because the Conservative party do the same thing ?—Yes ; it is done by both parties. If we do not do it they will go to the Conservative party, and if the Conservative party will not do it they will come to us.

21,684. Is a desire manifested by the sons of freemen to have their freedom taken up ?—Yes, they do not lose much time.

21,685. Do you consider that that desire is attributable to the practice of paying money for votes ?—I should not like to say that much. There are some young men who have freedoms taken up who would not take money for their votes ; they consider it a sort of right they have to have their freedom taken up for them, and those men will poll for nothing. I know several men who have never had a penny for their votes, but who still have had their freedoms taken up by the party.

21,686. Do you not think that a knowledge that they may get 2*l.* or 3*l.* for their votes stimulates their desire to have their freedom taken up when they come of age ?—In some cases it may.

21,687. Supposing a person had his freedom taken up and paid for by the Blue party, should you hesitate to offer him a bribe ?—I recollect taking up two men's freedoms for them in 1858, and they both voted for Carden, and received 10*l.* each.

21,688. That is not my question. Supposing you had taken up a man's freedom yourself, or supposing you knew it had been paid for by the other side, should you hesitate to offer that man a bribe ?—Not a bit ; the man would be as likely to be my man as theirs if I had the money to give him.

21,689. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There is no contract that a man whose freedom you take up shall vote for your party ?—No ; I never heard of it on either side.

21,690. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, and you were asked several questions which you have been asked here to-day, and among other questions you were asked these which I will read to you : "Did "you pay the messengers 68*l.* 16*s.* ?" "I believe I "did. I could tell if I had my accounts, (*a paper "was shown to the witness*) ; yes, 68*l.* 16*s.*" "Did "you receive 28*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* for the clerks ?" "I did." "Were those the only sums of money you received ?" "Yes." "Were those the only sums of money you "received on account of the election ?" "Yes, they "were the only sums I received on account of "that election." "Had you received any sums of "money on any other account ?" "That is a curious "question ; what do you mean ? on account of the "election ?"—I thought the question was asked, whether I had received more than this sum of Mr. Ellis on account of the election.

21,691. You were asked, "Were those the only "sums of money you received on account of the "election ?"—I recollect being asked that question, but I thought it was meant in connexion with sums of money for messengers and clerks.

21,692. Then you were asked the other question, "Had you received any sums of money on any other "account ?" and you then turn the question off, and your answer is, "That is a curious question ; what "do you mean ? on account of the election ?" Then the question which follows is, "You said that election. "On a previous election, did you ?" and your answer is, "No, I never was mixed up with a previous elec"tion ?"—That is right.

21,693. And the question is not repeated by the counsel again ?—No ; that is right.

21,694. (*Mr. Welford.*) You did not think it necessary to communicate to them the fact of your having received 94*l.* from Mr. Potter ?—No, not by any means.

21,695. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was a general broad question. You were asked whether you had received any more money on account of the election, which would have comprehended the money you received from Mr. Hughes, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Potter ?—I did not understand the question in that light ; I understood it as connected with messengers and clerks.

21,696. You do not mean to represent that the money you received from Mr. Potter was not money received from him on account of that election ?—I did not consider it was, for I did not expend it on that election.

21,697. Do you represent that the money received by you from Mr. Potter was not money received by

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you on account of the election?—It was, though it was not spent on the election.

21,698. Was it money received by you on account of the election; can you say it was not?—I do not know that I could say it was not.

21,699. Then why, when you were asked that question, did you not say you had received other money on account of the election?—I understood the question to refer to messengers and clerks, as I have already stated.

21,700. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I suppose your ideas with regard to what is and what is not bribery are considerably enlarged since this Commission has sat?—Yes.

21,701. You were asked before the Committee, "Did you give them any money?" and your answer was "I solemnly swear I never gave them a shilling"?—Yes, I did say that.

21,702. Then you are asked, "Did you ever bribe "any voters?" "No." "In any way?" "No." "Directly or indirectly?" "No." "Or make any "offer or promise?" "No, never; I know my busi- "ness too well"?—Yes.

21,703. Did you not know that the payment of money to voters after they have voted is bribery?—No, I did not; I had no idea that it was bribery, and I do not think it is now; I do not indeed.

21,704. Did you never read the Act of 5th and 6th Victoria, chapter 102?—But would it apply to this case? If I say to a man, "I will give you so much "money after you have voted," that is bribery; but if a man without any arrangement votes, and a week afterwards I say, "You are a very good fellow, here "is a gratuity of half a sovereign for you," that, I think, is not bribery.

21,705. I suppose you are aware that every subject of this realm is bound to know the law?—He is supposed to know it.

21,706. And does not that particularly apply to those who take an active part in election matters?—Yes, I suppose it would.

21,707. Was it not your duty then to have made yourself acquainted with the Act of Parliament so far as it related to bribery?—First of all, I never interfered with the management of any election till that of 1857; and, in the next place, never believing that there was any bribery about to take place, I never took the trouble to look at the Act of Parliament.

21,708. Are you aware now what the provisions of the Act of Parliament are?—I have read it since.

21,709. But you had not read it before?—No, I had not.

21,710. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You may now be disposed to come to a different conclusion as to what bribery is?—It may be legally right, but I think it is morally wrong. I think that if a man does not bribe, or does not promise any money, or if he has not any intention to bribe, but afterwards gives a man a gratuity because he thinks him a honest man, the spirit of the Act is lost if that is considered bribery. I do not think there is anything to catch hold of where that is all that is done. I do not think I am morally, though I may be legally responsible.

21,711. At all events it is a satisfaction to you to think so?—It is a great one, I can assure you.

J. Clark.

JOSEPH CLARK sworn and examined.

21,712. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I was a pilot when I had my sight.

21,713. Did you vote at the election of 1857?—I did.

21,714. For whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden.

21,715. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all. I ask your pardon; I thought you said 1857.

21,716. I am speaking of the election of 1857?—I received nothing at all for my vote at that election.

21,717. In 1859 did you receive 5*l.*?—Yes.

21,718. Of whom?—Of John Ward.

21,719. You voted for Sir Robert Carden at that election?—I did.

21,720. Were you offered any money at all by Mr. Whithorn at the election of 1857?—I was not.

21,721. Were you at the King's Head tap on the polling day of the election of 1857?—I was.

21,722. Do you remember seeing Captain Bradley there?—I did.

21,723. Do you remember seeing Mr. Whithorn there?—No.

21,724. Do you know Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

21,725. Did you know him before the election of 1857?—Oh, yes.

21,726. Were there many persons in the tap?—I suppose there might be a dozen people, or more than that, for what I know.

21,727. Was there another pilot there?—No.

21,728. Were there more voters in the room?—Yes, there were more voters.

21,729. Do you remember any one there speaking to Captain Bradley, and asking Captain Bradley to appoint him to a vacancy, if there was a vacancy in the pilots?—No, I never heard or saw anything of that.

21,730. What time was it when you saw Captain Bradley there?—It was about one o'clock when Captain Bradley came there.

21,731. At that time, when Captain Bradley was there, if anybody had said anything to him in a loud voice, with respect to a vacancy in the pilots, should you have heard it?—I should, I suppose; I was in the room; there was no noise in the room, but I did not hear anything of the sort.

21,732. Have you a brother-in-law of the name of Cruise?—Yes.

21,733. What is his Christian name?—Samuel Cruise.

21,734. Was he there at that time?—He came down about eleven; at that time he was employed as a constable.

21,735. Was Samuel Cruise there at the time Captain Bradley was there?—No.

21,736. Had he left some time before Captain Bradley came in?—Yes; he left about half-past eleven; he came about eleven, and left about half-past, as nigh as I can tell you.

21,737. Did you remain at the tap from half-past eleven till one, when you say Captain Bradley was there?—I did.

21,738. Did Cruise come back during that time?—No.

21,739. If he had come back, must you have seen him?—Yes, I should have seen him.

21,740. Do you remember going out into the street from the King's Head tap with Captain Bradley?—No; I did not go with Captain Bradley.

21,741. Did you go by yourself?—Yes.

21,742. Did Captain Bradley go before you or after you?—He went before me.

21,743. How long before you?—Not above five or six or seven minutes, or it might be ten minutes.

21,744. About ten minutes before you left Captain Bradley left?—Yes, as nigh as I can recollect.

21,745. When you got into the street was it the Westgate Street or Three Cocks Lane?—Westgate Street.

21,746. You went from the King's Head tap into the Westgate Street?—Yes; I was going to poll.

21,747. Does the door of the King's Head tap open into Westgate Street?—Yes.

21,748. Let there be no mistake about that. Do you go out of the King's Head tap into the street?—You go into Three Cocks Lane, and then that leads into the Westgate Street.

21,749. The door of the King's Head tap opens into Three Cocks Lane?—Yes.

21,750. And you go from Three Cocks Lane into Westgate Street?—That is right.

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21,751. When you went out from the King's Head tap, you were going to the poll, you say ?—Yes.

21,752. Did you see Captain Bradley outside ?—No.

21,753. Who did you see ?—Mr. Brimmell I saw.

21,754. Where'? - In the Westgate Street.

21,755. Did you see any person in the Three Cocks Lane before you got to the Westgate Street ?—When I came out of the King's Head tap, Mr. Brimmell, Mr. Curtis, and Captain Bradley were just turned at the top of Three Cocks Lane into the Westgate Street, and I followed them into the Westgate Street. Mr. Brimmell went to the poll, and I polled for Sir Robert Carden.

21,756. I thought you said you did not see Captain Bradley when you came out of the tap ?—Not when I came out of the tap ; I saw him in Westgate Street.

21,757. Did you see him when you got to the junction of the Three Cocks Lane and Westgate Street ?—Yes ; when I got to the top of Three Cocks Lane.

21,758. Did you then see Captain Bradley ?—Yes, just below the hustings.

21,759. How far was Captain Bradley from where you were standing when you saw him ?—I suppose about fifty yards, or more than that.

21,760. Was Brimmell with Captain Bradley ?—Yes.

21,761. And Mr. Curtis ?—Yes.

21,762. Those two were together with him ?—Yes.

21,763. They were all standing together by the hustings ?—Yes.

21,764. Is that Mr. George Curtis ?—No, not George Curtis, William Curtis.

21,765. Did you see Cruise when you got into the street ?—No, I did not.

21,766. Were you by yourself at that time when you went down Three Cocks Lane into the Westgate Street ?—I was by myself.

21,767. No person went out of the King's Head tap with you ?—No.

21,768. Did you see Mr. Whithorn ?—No, not then.

21,769. Did you see Mr. Whithorn before you got to the hustings ?—No.

21,770. Did you see Mr. Whithorn from the time you left the King's Head tap till you got to the hustings ?—No.

21,771. Did you see him when you got to the hustings ?—No.

21,772. Did you see him that day after you had been to the hustings ?—Yes.

21,773. How soon after did you see him ?—I think about half-past three o'clock, to the best of my recollection.

21,774. Had you voted before that ?—Yes, I voted about half-past one.

21,775. Where did you see Mr. Whithorn ?—In the Westgate Street.

21,776. What part of Westgate Street ?—Just below the Shire Hall here.

21,777. Would that be near to the King's Head ?—No, it would be close to the Booth Hall.

21,778. On the same side of the street ?—No, on the opposite side to what the King's Head is.

21,779. On which side of the street were you ?—On the far side from here, and Mr. Whithorn was on this side.

21,780. You were on the King's Head side ?—Yes.

21,781. On the pavement ?—Yes, I was.

21,782. Opposite the Booth Hall ?—Yes.

21,783. Is that right ?—Yes, and I believe Mr. Whithorn went into the Booth Hall, to the best of my recollection.

21,784. You think he went into the Booth Hall ?—Yes.

21,785. Did you follow Mr. Whithorn ?—No.

21,786. Did you speak to him at all ?—No.

21,787. Had you any conversation with or did you see Mr. Whithorn after that time ?—No, I did not.

21,788. You saw nothing of Mr. Whithorn after the time when you say you saw him by the Booth Hall ?—No, I did not.

21,789. Had you seen Mr. Whithorn in the morning part of the day?—No, I did not see him to have any conversation with him at all, not during the day.

21,790. Do I understand the effect of your evidence to be this, that the only time you saw Mr. Whithorn on the day of the election was when you saw him by the Booth Hall about half-past three o'clock, on the day when you were on the other side of the street ?—That is correct.

21,791. You never spoke to him, and he never spoke to you ?—No.

21,792. Did Mr. Whithorn at any time give you any money for your vote at that election ?—No.

21,793. At no time ?—At no time, not at that election.

21,794. Not at the election in 1857 ?—No.

21,795. Did you receive any money at all at that election ?—No, I did not.

21,796. Have you ever said that you did ?—Never.

21,797. Do you know a person of the name of Clegram ?—Yes, I know Captain Clegram, and his son, William Clegram.

21,798. Is he a captain at the docks ?—He is captain of the Gloucester and Berkeley Canal ; that is the old gentleman ; that is Mr. Clegram, the old gentleman.

21,799. Did you ever tell Captain Clegram that you received 50*s.* for your vote ?—Never in my life, to the best of my knowledge. I am certain of it ; quite certain I never told him that in my life.

21,800. Did you ever tell his son you had received 50*s.* for your vote ?—Never.

21,801. Did you ever receive any money from your wife on the occasion of the election in 1857 ?—No, I did not.

21,802. Has your wife a nephew of the name of Brayne ?—Yes, she has.

21,803. Do you know whether Brayne ever gave your wife a sum of 5*l.*, as coming from Mr. Whithorn ?—No, that is quite false.

21,804. You swear you received nothing whatever for your vote at the election of 1857 ?—I will swear it.

HARRIET CLARK sworn and examined.

H. Clark.

21,805. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are the wife of Joseph Clark ?—Yes.

21,806. Did you receive any money on account of your husband's vote at the election in 1857 ?—No, I did not.

21,807. Did your nephew Brayne give you any money at that time ?—No, he did not.

21,808. Did he give you a sum of 5*l.* as coming from Mr. Whithorn ?—No, he never gave me a farthing in his life from Mr. Whithorn, nor any other person.

21,809. As to the election of 1859, did you receive any money for your husband for his vote ?—No.

21,810. Not a farthing ?—No, not a farthing from anyone.

21,811. Did you ever hear from your husband that he had received money for his vote ?—No, I never did.

21,812. Does he generally tell you when he receives money ?—Yes, we never keep anything from each other.

21,813. Did he tell you he had received 5*l.* at the last election ?—No, he did not receive anything at all.

21,814. I ask you did he tell you he had received 5*l.* at the last election ?—Yes ; I beg your pardon, he told me that, and gave it to me.

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R. Dowers.

26 Oct. 1859.

ROBERT DOWERS sworn and examined.

21,815. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?— A labourer.

21,816. A labourer where?—I work along with a bricklayer and plasterer.

21,817. Who did you vote for in 1859?—For Mr. Price.

21,818. At the last election?—Yes, Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

21,819. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

21,820. Who paid it you?—Young William Probert.

21,821. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

21,822. What did you receive for your vote then?—Two sovereigns.

21,823. From whom?—From Mr. Whithorn.

21,824. Were you offered money at the election in 1859 for your vote on the other side?—No.

21,825. All you were offered was what you received from Probert, junior, 5*l.*?—Yes.

21,826. Where was it that Mr. Whithorn paid you the two sovereigns?—In the committee room; a small room at the committee rooms.

21,827. The committee room in the Westgate Street?—Yes.

21,828. Was that a room upstairs or downstairs?—Upstairs.

21,829. How came you to go there?—Why, I went there the same as the rest of them on the polling day.

21,830. Who told you to go there?—Nobody did not tell me to go.

21,831. What time in the day was it that you went there?—Between nine and ten o'clock.

21,832. Did you see any other persons in the room at the time?—Where I had the money?

21,833. Yes?—No, nobody but Mr. Whithorn and me.

21,834. Did you see any person in the passage leading to the room?—Yes, there was a good many people up on the top of the stairs.

21,835. Can you tell who they were?—No.

21,836. Cannot you name any of them?—I cannot name any that was at the top of the stairs that I know.

21,837. Did you see any person as you went from the street into the committee room, where Mr. Whithorn, you say, was?—There was a good many people downstairs.

21,838. Can you give me the name of any person you saw from the time you entered the room where the committee room was till you got to the room where you saw Mr. Whithorn?—I cannot say, because I did not stop in the committee room any time.

21,839. Give the name of any person you saw from the time you left the street and went to the house till you got to the committee room, where you saw Mr. Whithorn?—There was a man of the name of Mr. Grimmett; I saw him there I recollect.

21,840. Where was he?—Down in the committee room.

21,841. In the same committee room that Mr. Whithorn was in?—Yes, downstairs on the first floor.

21,842. Attend to the question; was Grimmett in the same room that Mr. Whithorn was in?—No, not in the same room; in the same house.

21,843. Was he in a room downstairs?—Yes, Mr. Grimmett was.

21,844. Did you go into the room where Grimmett was?—I went through the room where Grimmett was.

21,845. Were there other persons there?—There were a good many people there.

21,846. In the room?—Yes, in the room that I went through.

21,847. Did Grimmett see you?—I believe he did.

21,848. Did you speak to him?—No.

21,849. When you got into that room where you say Grimmett was, you walked through?—Yes, I went upstairs.

21,850. Who told you to go upstairs?—Nobody told me to go up.

21,851. What did you go upstairs for?—To have something for voting.

21,852. Who did you go to see when you went upstairs?—I went to see whether Mr. Whithorn was there.

21,853. Did you ask any person whether Mr. Whithorn was upstairs?—When I got up to the top.

21,854. Before you left the bottom part of the house did you ask anyone whether Mr. Whithorn was upstairs?—Not to my recollection I did not.

21,855. You did not?—No.

21,856. Did you ask if there was another committee room upstairs?—Yes, I did.

21,857. Who did you ask?—Somebody at the bottom of the stairs, but I do not know who it was now.

21,858. You asked somebody at the bottom of the stairs, you do not know who, where the other committee room was?—Yes.

21,859. You did not ask if Mr. Whithorn was upstairs?—I did not, not till I got to the top of the stairs.

21,860. What made you think that Mr. Whithorn was upstairs?—Because there was a good many people going in and out, and I thought that was the committee room to go and get the money.

21,861. What should make you think, because there were people going in and out, that Mr. Whithorn was upstairs?—I did not think anything about that.

21,862. Just consider. You say you inquired of somebody if there was another committee room, and that somebody told you there was; and then I ask you what made you think Mr. Whithorn was upstairs, if you did not inquire?—I thought he was upstairs if there was a committee room upstairs, and there was nobody else giving money out, unless it was him.

21,683. Who told you money was being given out?—Several persons out in the street.

21,684. Several persons out in the street told you money was being given?—Yes.

21,865. Were there many people in the street outside the house?—Yes, they stood out in the street.

21,866. Did they tell you who it was that was giving the money?—They did.

21,867. Who did they say?—They said it was Mr. Whithorn.

21,868. They said it was Mr. Whithorn who was giving the money?—Yes.

21,869. Do you remember the names of any one of the persons who told you that?—No, I do not.

21,870. You cannot remember the name of anyone who told you so?—No.

21,871. Was there any person outside the door of the room in which Mr. Whithorn was?—Yes, there were a good many people upon the top of the stairs.

21,872. Was there any person who was keeping the door?—No.

21,873. Do you mean that any person might go into the room who liked?—Not into this room where Mr. Whithorn gave the money.

21,874. That is what I am asking you about?—Only two went into that at a time.

21,875. When you got to the top of the stairs, there were a good many people there?—Yes, on the landing.

21,876. Did you go into the room where Mr. Whithorn was?—There was a door where the committee was, but we were not allowed to go in there.

21,877. You do not understand my question; when you got to the landing on the top of the stairs, how did you get into the room where Mr. Whithorn was?—Mr. Whithorn was in the room where the other gentlemen were, and then he would come out and go into this little room.

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21,878. Did you go from the landing direct into the room where he was ?—Yes.

21,879. He came out of the committee room and came to you and took you into this other little room ?—Yes.

21,880. Did he go from one room into the committee room ?—No, from the committee room into an ante-room.

21,881. You first went into the committee room ?—No, I did not; I stood on the landing.

21,882. He came out to the landing ?—He came out of the room where the gentlemen were; out of the committee room at the top of the landing.

21,883. And then he took you through the committee room ?—No, into a little room at the side.

21,884. You did not go into the committee room ?—No.

21,885. He took you into a little room at the side ?—Yes.

21,886. How long were you on the landing before Mr. Whithorn took you into that little room ?—I might be there ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

21,887. Did you see Mr. Whithorn come out many times on to the landing ?—Two or three times before he spoke to me.

21,888. Did he come out two or three times and leave other people in the room ?—I did not see him take any person into the room till he took me in.

21,889. And you stood there from ten minutes to a quarter of an hour ?—Yes.

21,890. He came out two or three times to the landing, but you did not see him take any other person into that little room ?—I did not.

21,891. When Mr. Whithorn came out of the committee room did he come straight up to you at once ?—Yes.

21,892. Had you told any person there for what purpose you had come ?—No, I had not.

21,893. You had not told any one at all why you had come to that landing ?—No, I had not.

21,894. Upon the door of the committee room being opened, from which Mr. Whithorn came to the landing, had you an opportunity of looking in to see who was inside ?—No, because I was not against that door.

21,895. Did you see whether there were other persons in the committee room when Mr. Whithorn came out of it ?—I saw a good many people going in and out of the committee room that Mr. Whithorn came out of.

21,896. When Mr. Whithorn came to you, did he speak to you on the landing ?—Yes.

21,897. What did he say to you ?—He said, "Come "along with me."

21,898. What did you say to him ?—I followed him; I did not say anything.

21,899. You followed him into the little room ?—Yes, into the little room.

21,900. Was that a room opposite the committee room, or at the side ?—At the side, the same as the committee room may be *there*, and the door was *there* (*describing the position*).

21,901. On the same side of the landing ?—Yes.

21,902. When you followed him into the room, what then took place ?—He put his hand into his pocket, and offered me four half-crowns.

21,903. Was that the first thing that was done ?—Yes.

21,904. There was nothing said ?—He asked me what I wanted; he showed me four half-crowns, and I said I would not have that.

21,905. He showed you four half-crowns; that was the first thing ?—Yes.

21,906. Before he offered you the four half-crowns he did not say anything to you ?—No, he did not.

21,907. What did you do upon that ?—I told him that it would not do, that it was not enough; he asked me what I wanted, and I told him 2*l.*

21,908. Well ?—He put his hand in his other pocket, and gave it to me.

21,909. His trowsers pocket ?—Yes.

21,910. He gave you two sovereigns ?—Yes.

21,911. After you got the two sovereigns, what did you do ?—I went and voted.

21,912. Did anyone go with you ?—No.

21,913. Did you go and vote directly ?—Directly.

21,914. There is no mistake about the time, is there ?—No, there is not.

21,915. You are quite sure it was between nine and ten ?—Yes.

21,916. Had you been offered any money upon the other side to vote at that election ?—In 1857 ?

21,917. Yes ?—Yes, I had.

21,918. By whom ?—Young William Probert.

21,919. When ?—I think it was on a Friday night, to the best of my recollection.

21,920. How long before the election ?—I think it was three or four days; I am not justly sure now.

21,921. How much were you offered ?—£3.

21,922. To vote for Price and Berkeley ?—For Mr. Berkeley.

21,923. Where did he offer you the money ?—Outside the door.

21,924. Outside what door ?—Of his father's house, the Queen's Head, in Catherine Street.

21,925. Was it in the daytime ?—No, at night.

21,926. What time ?—Between 10 and 11 o'clock.

21,927. He said he would give you 3*l.* ?—He said he would give me 3*l.*

21,928. Why did you not take the 3*l.* ?—Because I had promised the other party.

21,929. Had you promised the other party before ?—I had.

21,930. Who did you promise ?—Mr. Whithorn.

21,931. When ?—It might be two or three days before that.

21,932. Two or three days before you saw Probert ?—Yes.

21,933. Had Mr. Whithorn told you that he would give you any money ?—Mr. Whithorn told me he would satisfy me for my time, in our house.

21,934. Had Mr. Whithorn told you what he would give you ?—He did not tell me what he would give me then.

21,935. Had you ever received any money from Mr. Whithorn before ?—Never.

21,936. Did you tell Probert that Mr. Whithorn had canvassed you, and that you had told Mr. Whithorn you would vote for Carden, and that Mr. Whithorn had said he would satisfy you for your time ?—No, I did not; I told him I should vote on the other side.

21,937. When Mr. Whithorn asked you what you wanted, and you told him you wanted two sovereigns, did it not occur to you that you could have got 3*l.* from Probert ?—I could have got it, I suppose, from him.

21,938. Did you tell Mr. Whithorn that ?—No; I saw Mr. Whithorn before I saw Mr. William Probert.

21,939. But I mean at the election time ?—I told him that when he offered me the 10*s.*; I told him then I could have a good deal more than that of the Yellow party.

21,940. You did not tell us that before when I asked you what took place; why did you not tell us that before ? Why did you not say you told him you could have had more money of the Liberal party ?—Because I did not think of it.

21,941. Will you swear you told Mr. Whithorn that ?—Yes.

21,942. Will you swear you said you could have 3*l.* from Mr. Probert ?—I did not say what I could have.

21,943. As it is clear you were going to sell your vote, why did you take two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn and not 3*l.* from Mr. Probert ?—Because I had promised the party.

21,944. Do you mean to say you regarded your promise as so sacred, that having promised to vote for Carden, you were willing to vote for him for 2*l.* rather than for the Liberal candidates for 3*l.* ?—I would, when I had promised it.

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R. Dowers.
26 Oct. 1859.

21,945. That is your explanation ?—Yes: when I promises a man I never turns from it.

21,946. Have you never said it is not true that you received two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn ?—I never did say so.

21,947. Do you remember being at the Three Cocks public-house ?—I have been there several times.

21,948. Since the election of 1857 ?—I have.

21,949. Do you remember seeing Jonah Dyer there ?—Yes.

21,950. And William Grimmett ?—Yes; Charles Grimmett.

21,951. Is that the same man that you saw at the committee room ?—Yes, that is the man.

21,952. In Westgate Street ?—Yes, that is the same man.

21,953. Have you never said to them that it was not true that you received two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn ?—No, it is not true; I never said so to them.

21,954. Not at any time ?—Not at any time.

21,955. Do you mean to swear that ?—I do.

21,956 If they swear that you did, that is false ?—Yes, it is false.

21,957. You say you never made a statement of that sort to Dyer or to Grimmett; was there a man of the name of Harris there also ?—Yes, he was at the Three Cocks one night.

21,958. Do you remember to have met Jonah Dyer, Grimmett, and Harris at the Three Cocks ?—Yes, I do.

21,959. How soon was that after the election ?—I cannot justly say how soon it was after the election; I think it was some time in the next week after the election, but I cannot say now.

21,960. It was some time in the week following the election ?—I think it was.

21,961. What time was it that you were there; was it in the day or in the evening ?—In the evening.

21,962. What did you say to them about the election or the money ?—I do not believe I said anything about the election, not then.

21,963. Did you say anything at all to them about being offered money by Probert ?—I did.

21,964. You said that you had been offered money by Probert ?—I did.

21,965. Did you say it was 3*l.* ?—I did.

21,966. Did you say upon that occasion to them, in the same conversation, that you had not been offered or paid any money by Mr. Whithorn ?—No, I did not.

21,967. You swear that ?—I could not say that when I had the money.

21,968. Did you not say to them at that time that you had not been paid any money by Mr. Whithorn ?—I did not; I met Mr. Whithorn the second day after the election—the second night after the election—just opposite the Three Cocks; and I put my hand to my hat to him; and he said "Dowers, is that "you?" and I said, "Yes;" and he said, "Tell your "son to come up and have his money;" he was on the committee as a messenger.

21,969. That was two nights after the election ?—Yes, after I had left work, as I was going home.

21,970. You met Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

21,971. Opposite the Three Cocks ?—Yes, right opposite.

21,972. In the Three Cocks Lane ?—Yes.

21,973. Was your son employed as a messenger ?—He was.

21,974. Was any person with you when you met Mr. Whithorn ?—No; I was just going home from work.

21,975. What time was it ?—About six o'clock, I believe; very handy that, I know.

21,976. Did you tell Grimmett or Dyer or Harris that you had not received money from the Blue party ?—No, I never did; I told them I had received 2*l.* from Mr. Whithorn.

21,977. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you tell that to ?—To Grimmett and Harris.

21,978. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That you swear ?—I will. When I met Mr. Whithorn, he spoke to me about my son, and I said, "Is not there any more for me ?" and he said, "No you have had all that you will have."

21,979. How came you to say that, because 2*l.* was the sum that you wanted ?—Yes.

21,980. He asked you how much you wanted, and you said 2*l.* ?—Yes; but he said he would put me on the committee as well, but he did not do it.

21,981. That is fresh again; why did you not tell me that before ? You say now he stated he would put you on the Blue committee as well ?—Yes.

21,982. You said he asked you what you wanted, and you said 2*l.*, and he gave it you; why did you not state that which you have just now added, that he said he would put you on the Blue committee ?—I did not know that I was not put on the Blue committee till I saw him in Three Cocks Lane.

21,983. Why did you not state before that he had promised to put you on the Blue committee ? What was your reason for not telling us that before ?—(*No answer.*)

21,984. When I asked you just now what took place, you said Mr. Whithorn showed you four half-crowns, and you told him that was not enough; he then asked you what you wanted, and you said 2*l.*, and he gave it to you; why did you not say that Mr. Whithorn told you that he would put you on the Blue committee as well ?—I did not think of it.

21,985. Did you not go to Mr. Lovegrove's office on the day after you had been at the Three Cocks ?—I did.

21,986. What day was that ?—I think it was on a Saturday; Saturday morning.

21,987. Was it the day following the day on which you had seen Grimmett, Dyer, and Harris at the Three Cocks ?—It was.

21,988. What time did you go to Mr. Lovegrove's office ?—About ten o'clock, I think; between 10 and 11.

21,989. Were you sober ?—Yes.

21,990. Who went with you ?—Grimmett and Harris.

21,991. When you got to the office who did you see there ?—I saw a gentleman there in the office by himself.

21,992. Was it Mr. Taynton ?—I cannot say.

21,993. What did you say to him ?—I do not know what I said to him now.

21,994. What did you go there for ?—About the 3*l.*

21,995. Was it about the offer of 3*l.* made to you by Probert ?—Yes.

21,996. How came you to go there ?—Grimmett and Harris took me there.

21,997. What for ?—It was to sign a paper something about what I had said the over-night; I do not know what it was.

21,998. Was there a paper produced to you ?—There was, when I got into the office.

21,999. Did you make a statement there ?—I believe I did.

22,000. At the office ?—Yes.

22,001. Was what you said taken down in writing ?—Yes.

22,002. Was it read over to you ?—It was.

22,003. Did you sign it ? You made a mark to it, I suppose ?—A cross.

22,004. I see in that paper there is nothing said respecting any payment of money by Mr. Whithorn to you; were you asked any question about that ?—I do not think I was, at the office.

22,005. You were taken to Mr. Lovegrove's office for the purpose of making a statement as to what took place between yourself and Probert ?—Yes.

22,006. Did you vote a plumper for Sir Robert Carden ?—I did.

22,007. I see you state in this paper that Probert said to you, "I will volunteer and give you 3*l.* if you

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"will give us half a vote;" is that true?—I do not believe there was anything about half a vote; he said if I would poll for Mr. Berkeley.

22,008. Not for Price?—He did not say anything about Price.

22,009. He said if you would poll for Mr. Berkeley, but he said nothing to you about Mr. Price. You said, "'No, I shan't;' I've promised to vote for Carden, and "shall do as I have said.' He then left me. About "a quarter to two o'clock on the Friday I had met "William Probert, junior, and Mr. Price, the candidate, "in the Dean's Walk, and Probert brought Mr. Price "to me, and Mr. Price asked me for my vote. I told "Mr. Price in Probert's hearing that I should vote for "Sir Robert Carden, and Mr. Price asked me to do so. "While we were talking, Mr. Samuel Herbert, solici-"tor, came up, and said to Mr. Price, 'Oh, Dowers is "all right; we shall be sure of him.' I went away "and left Mr. Price and William Probert, junior, and "Mr. Herbert together. Mr. Pleydell Wilton was "with them and several others, the others stood a "little way off while we were talking together. Pro-"bert fetched Mr. Price from them to me." Is that correct?—It is.

22,010. Was your son with you at the time when you went to Mr. Whithorn?—He was in a room downstairs.

22,011. Is that your son who was the messenger?—Yes.

22,012. What is his name?—William Dowers.

22,013. Do you know a person of the name of Cherrington?—I do.

22,014. Was Cherrington there?—Cherrington was not there then.

22,015. Not when, do you mean?—Not when I came out to vote. I went and voted, and went back home, and went into William Probert's, and called for a pint of beer, and Cherrington was sitting there without any beer or anything before him; and I asked him if he had nothing to drink; and he said "No," and I gave him a pint, and asked him if he had voted; and he said "No;" and I then said, says I, "You come "along with me," and I took him from Mr. Probert's, and took him up into the committee room, and took him to Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Whithorn came to him and took him into that same room where I had been, and I stood at the door when Cherrington went in.

22,016. Was that after he had voted?—Before he voted.

22,017. What did Cherrington receive, do you know?—I cannot say what he received, but as soon as we came out of the committee room he gave my son a sovereign to go and get change.

22,018. Who did?—Cherrington did.

22,019. He gave your son a sovereign?—Yes.

22,020. Did you remain there till your son came back with the change?—We did.

22,021. What did Cherrington do with it?—Put it in his pocket.

22,022. The whole of it?—Yes.

22,023. And went away with you?—He went away to poll, and then we went to the Bull, and had some beer.

22,024. What time was that?—Very handy 11 o'clock it must have been, I know.

22,025. What is that man Cherrington's Christian name?—John.

22,026. Do you say you stood at the door of the room while Cherrington and Mr. Whithorn were in the room?—Yes; he was on the committee at the same time too.

22,027. Who was on the committee?—Cherrington was.

22,028. Did you know that?—Yes.

22,029. Had he been on before?—Yes.

22,030. If that was the case, what necessity was there for you to take him to the room where Mr. Whithorn was?—I asked him when I went into Mr. Probert's, if he had no money, and nothing to drink; and he said "No;" and I said, "Come along "with me, and you can have some."

22,031. But you say he was on the Blue committee?—So he was.

22,032. Did he not know where to go and get money as well as you?—I do not know about that.

22,033. Do you mean seriously to swear here, that you received those two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn?—I do.

22,034. Upon your solemn oath?—I do.

22,035. And you deny, upon your oath, that you ever told either of those persons, Grimmett, Harris, or Jonah Dyer, that you had not received two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn?—I did not.

22,036. You never told either of those persons that you had not received two sovereigns from Mr. Whithorn?—No, I never did.

22,037. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you any conversation with Grimmett or Harris about these two sovereigns?—No, I had not.

22,038. How came you to be summoned as a witness? Did Harris or Grimmitt ask you whether you had ever received anything from the Blue party?—Yes.

22,039. They did ask you?—Yes.

22,040. When?—They knowed it before that night.

22,041. They knew you had received it?—Yes; Grimmett did himself.

22,042. Grimmett knew you had received the money from the Blue party before this conversation to which you have alluded?—Yes.

22,043. That was a week after the election?—Yes.

22,044. How did they know it?—Because Grimmett and I were always together; we were together ever so many times, and I told Grimmett.

22,045. You told Grimmett a week before the election?—No; after the election.

22,046. Between the election and this conversation at the Three Cocks?—Yes.

22,047. You told Grimmett so?—Yes.

22,048. Have you ever stated that you did not tell anyone?—No.

22,049. Do you recollect being examined before the committee of the House of Commons?—I do.

22,050. Do you recollect being asked when you first mentioned the circumstance to anyone?—No, I do not now.

22,051. I understand you distinctly to swear now that you told Grimmett shortly after the election?—I did.

22,052. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that within a week, do you say?—Yes.

22,053. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is Grimmett?—A sawyer.

22,054. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Just attend to this; were you asked before the Committee of the House of Commons this question, "When did you tell this, my "man?" and did you answer, "I do not know if ever I "did tell it." Did you make that answer?—I do not believe I did.

22,055. Were you asked, "When did you first tell "it?" and answer, "I do not know." "Oh! yes, "you do; who did you tell first that you had had "2*l.* for your vote?"—"I cannot say when I did "tell it, if ever I did tell it." "Did you tell it "first of all up here to the Yellows?"—"No." "Have you told it anybody before?"—"Not "that I know of." "The first time you told it "was when you were up here?"—"I never told "it when I was up here." "Is this the first time "you have mentioned anything about receiving 2*l.* "for your vote?"—"It is to my recollection. I "cannot recollect that ever I did." "Do you "mean to adhere to that? Come, Mr. Dowers, do "you mean to adhere to that, that now is the first "time you ever told anybody about having 2*l.* for "your vote?"—"I do." "Did you never tell "it to any gentleman, and have it taken down in "writing?" No answer is given to that. Are you prepared to say now you did tell it to Grimmett,

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R. Dowers.

26 Oct. 1859.

having sworn before the Committee of the House of Commons that you never told anyone?—Grimmett and I were talking together, and I told him I had had two sovereigns.

22,056. How came you to tell the Committee of the House of Commons that you never told it to anyone before?—I do not know.

22,057. Did you tell it to anyone else?—No.

22,058. Never?—No.

22,059. Not at any time?—No.

22,060. You never mentioned the circumstance of having received these two sovereigns at any time but to Grimmett?—Not to my recollection; never.

22,061. When did you receive the Speaker's warrant to attend before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I do not know justly when it was.

22,062. When were you first told by the Yellow party that you were to go as a witness before the Committee?—I do not know how long it was; I cannot say when it was.

22,063. Who told you you were to go before the Committee of the House of Commons on the part of the Yellow party?—Mr. Betheridge.

22,064. Is he a solicitor?—No, Mr. Wilton's clerk; he brought the paper up to me.

22,065. Did you tell him of the circumstance, or did he tell you what he wanted you in London for?—He gave me a paper, and told me I was to go up to London.

22,066. Did he tell you what you were wanted for?—No.

22,067. Did you know what you were wanted for?—I judged what I was wanted for when I had the paper served upon me.

22,068. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you judge it to be?—I judged I had to go to London.

22,069. For which side?—The Yellow party.

22,070. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How did Mr. Wilton know what evidence you could give?—I do not know how he knowed that; I never was in the office.

22,071. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who served the warrant upon you for the Blue party?—Mr. Maysey.

22,072. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Which did you receive first?—From the Blue party, I believe.

22,073. Did you ever go to the office of any solicitor on the part of the Yellow party and have your statement taken down?—I did not.

22,074. Can you imagine how they became acquainted with the fact that you had received 2*l.* from Mr. Whithorn?—All I can remember is being in the Shire Hall here cleaning the windows, and they were talking with Dick Williams, that is the plumber, he was talking about it, and I said I had two sovereigns of Mr. Whithorn.

22,075. When was that?—About three or four days, I believe, after the election.

22,076. That is not the same occasion on which you told Grimmett?—No.

22,077. Are you certain it was three or four days after the election?—It must have been as much as that.

22,078. The election was in March, I think?—I do not know when it was.

22,079. What were you doing at the Shire Hall then?—Window cleaning.

22,080. Have you ever stated that that occurrence took place in July?—In July?

22,081. Yes, in July, which is long after the election?—No.

22,082. You never have?—No, not to my recollection.

22,083. Did you not tell the Committee that you were cleaning windows in preparation for the sessions in July?—That was the time.

22,084. The election was in March, and you just now swore it was two or three days after the election?—I said I thought it was two or three days after the election, but I did not know when it was; I know I was cleaning windows in the Shire Hall when I spoke about it.

22,085. Then, with the exception of what you said to Grimmett and in the Shire Hall, did you never tell anybody else about this transaction?—I did not.

22,086. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say Grimmett knew very well you had received that money?—Yes.

22,087. Had you had many talks with him about it?—Yes, when we had been having a pint of beer together.

22,088. At the Three Cocks did you ever talk to him about it?—I do not know whether we talked about it there or no.

22,089. Do you and Grimmett work at the same place?—No, we do not.

22,090. Do you live near each other?—We do not work at the same place, but we live handy each other.

22,091. And you had many talks about your having received two sovereigns soon after the election?—Yes.

22,092. Within a week after the election?—Yes.

22,093. Did you not talk about it when you were with Grimmett at the Three Cocks?—No; I do not believe we did about that.

22,094. You were talking of the offer of 3*l.* by Probert?—Yes.

22,095. Did not you or Grimmett say you had received two sovereigns from the Blue party?—No, I cannot recollect it.

22,096. You talked to Grimmett several times about it?—Yes.

22,097. Do you swear that when you were at the Three Cocks you did not or Grimmett did not say you were offered 3*l.* by Probert, and got 2*l.* from Mr. Whithorn; was not that said?—It might be said then; we were drinking.

22,098. Was it said?—I cannot say whether it was or no.

22,099. Will you undertake to swear there was no talk at all about those two sovereigns?—No, I cannot swear that.

22,100. As you had so much talk with Grimmett about this, how came you not to say, when you were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, that you had mentioned to Grimmett that you had received these two sovereigns? You were asked point blank whether you had mentioned the matter to anybody. How came you not to say you had talked to Grimmett about it?—(*No answer*).

22,101. What is your answer?—I do not know; I cannot answer that at all.

22,102. You were in the habit of talking to Grimmett; he was a near neighbour of yours. You were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons, and question after question was put to you as to whether you had mentioned it to anybody, and you swore positively that you had not. How do you explain that contradiction?—(*No answer*).

22,103. Can you give me any answer?—No.

22,104. What did you do with the two sovereigns?—I took it home and gave it to my wife.

22,105. Do you swear that?—Yes.

22,106. Is your wife alive?—Yes.

22,107. Where do you live?—In St. Catherine Street.

22,108. What time in the day did you give it to her?—About 10 o'clock.

22,109. On that day?—Yes.

22,110. The day of the election?—Yes.

22,111. You are sure of that?—Yes.

22,112. You are quite certain you gave those two sovereigns to your wife about 10 o'clock on the day of the election?—Yes.

22,113. After you had polled?—After I had polled.

22,114. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you give it to her before you saw Cherrington?—Yes.

22,115. You are sure of that?—Yes.

22,116. What did you say to Maysey when he served you with a similar warrant for the Blue party?

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R. Dowers.

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—I asked him what it was for, and he said it was to go to London.

22,117. What did you say?—I do not know that I said anything.

22,118. Did you say to him you had nothing to go to London for; that you had had no money from either side, and had not been promised any?—No.

22,119. Did you say that to Maysey?—No, I did not.

22,120. Was the warrant served upon you before you made the statement or afterwards?—Afterwards.

22,121. Did you not know then what you were going to London for?—I thought it was about the 3*l.*

22,122. Did you say to Maysey you had nothing to go to London for?—No.

22,123. You are sure you did not say that to Maysey?—Yes.

22,124. Do I understand you rightly, that you said that the money that Mr. Whithorn gave you—this 2*l.*—was for your vote, and not for your expenses?—For my vote.

22,125. Nothing was said about expenses?—No.

22,126. Will you now swear that nothing was said about expenses?—I do not believe anything was said about expenses.

22,127. Have you never made a different statement from that?—Not that I know of.

22,128. You were asked before the Committee of the House of Commons, "You say you asked Whithorn "for 2*l.* for your expenses?" and your answer was, "Yes, I did." You were then asked, "What were "those expenses that you wanted the 2*l.* to pay?" and your answer was, "For the time I lost in the "election." How do you reconcile that with the statement you have made to-day, that you received it for your vote, and not for your expenses?—I do not recollect that there was anything said about expenses before Mr. Whithorn.

W. Stephens.

WILLIAM STEPHENS called and further examined.

22,129. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you vote at the election in 1857?—No, I did not; I was canvassed on the 25th March, by Sir Robert Carden, and a gentleman I saw in the box last Saturday afternoon, John Michael Butt.

22,130. On what day was it that you were canvassed?—On the 25th March 1857. They asked me for my vote. I told Sir Robert Walter Carden that I should not give it him so long as he had such a damned rogue as Joe Lovegrove as his agent, for he was a great liar.

22,131. I will not allow such language to be made use of here?—That is what I said. I told him——

22,132. I shall consider it a great contempt of the court if you persist in using such language. You refused to give your vote?—Yes, I did.

22,133. Had you the opportunity of voting?—I had not; I was arrested that same evening for debt, for 14*l.*

22,134. You were arrested on a judgment?—Yes, a judgment debt, 14*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*

22,135. At whose suit was that?—At the suit of Charles Lander Compton.

22,136. Was he a person to whom you owed money?—Yes.

22,137. Were you taken to prison?—I was.

22,138. In prison was any offer made to you for your release if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes, on the morning of the election.

22,139. By whom?—By my father; my late father.

22,140. Was your father a supporter of Sir Robert Carden?—He was a great partisan.

22,141. Did he make you the offer himself?—No, he said he had seen Mr. Lovegrove and that Mr. Lovegrove would arrange with my detaining creditor if I would vote for Sir Robert Walter Carden. He said that in the presence of the governor, one of the turnkeys, and William Greening, a fellow debtor. I think the turnkey's name was James Alder; I am sure it was, however. I told my father that I would sooner have my tongue drawn from my body.

22,142. You refused to vote?—I did; and my father said I had better remain where I was. I said I was content to do so.

22,143. Was Mr. Lovegrove the solicitor of your creditor?—No, Mr. Burrup, one of the same party; John Burrup.

22,144. Had you previously requested your father to see Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject?—No, not upon this subject; with regard to a debt which I deny altogether.

22,145. You requested your father to see Mr. Lovegrove on another subject?—I never requested my father to do anything of the kind, neither did I know that my father had seen Mr. Lovegrove till he came and told me in gaol. I had fully made up my mind not to vote for Sir Robert Carden; if I voted at all I should vote for Berkeley and Price.

22,146. It was previous to your being taken to prison that you made up your mind?—Yes, I had.

22,147. As you were in prison you know nothing more of the election of 1857?—No; I know of previous elections; I was agent to parties previous to the election of 1857. I do not think Mr. Helps has stated exactly the truth with regard to the expenses, with regard to Mr. Hope never exceeding 1,000*l*, for I have seen books in Mr. Helps's office, when I have been signing notices of objection, which would quite refute it, as to the years preceding 1857; and I could state that Mr. Helps had the lion's share, and Mr. Lovegrove had 100*l.*, Mr. Edward Washbourne 100*l.*, and Mr. Matthews 100*l.*, which I saw entered.

22,148. Are you prepared to state from your own knowledge, and from evidence you have that the statement made by Mr. Helps, that no election of Mr. Hope's that he was connected with cost more than 1,000*l.*, is incorrect?—I have not the statement in my own possession; Mr. Helps has it; I have seen it entered in the cash-books: the return was made up day by day as the bills came in, and I was in the office and had an opportunity of seeing it.

22,149. Are you prepared to say that that statement of Mr. Helps's is an incorrect one?—I mean to say it is.

22,150. From what you saw, what was the amount that was spent by Mr. Hope at one election?—I say it exceeded 1,000*l.*

22,151. You do not say by what amount?—No, I do not, for I could not keep it in my head.

22,152. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When was this?—When I was signing notices of objection, which I did for several years.

22,153. On the part of the conservatives?—Yes.

22,154. How long ago?—I had been a Conservative agent for several years previous to 1857; eight or ten.

22,155. Was 1857 the first time you gave up being agent?—Yes, that was the first time I did not take any active part whatever; it was through his coercion that I did not.

22,156. How many years before that did you act as agent?—Ten or twelve years.

22,157. What books did you see at Mr. Helps's?—The books in which the clerk was entering the amount of accounts, and which books were on a desk in Mr. Helps's office.

22,158. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The cash accounts?—Yes.

22,159. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The cash accounts of the election?—Yes, the expenditure.

22,160. What election do you particularly refer to?—I could not state exactly the election. I did not think I should be called on to give it, but I give it free now; and from conversation I have had with Mr. Hope since that time he has satisfied me upon

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W. Stephens. 26 Oct. 1859.

that. It was upstairs in the first office that I saw the books.

22,161. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you not state what the elections were?—I cannot tell the years.

22,162. Was the election to which you allude before the election in 1857?—Yes, it was prior to it. I think it was the last before that of 1857.

22,163. In 1852?—Yes, or it might be in 1847, or somewhere about that. I could not tell the precise year, but the precise book I can tell, for I made a mark in it, which I shall know; and if any other book is brought before me I shall be able to tell whether it is the right book.

22,164. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did the mode in which Mr. Helps employed you give you access to the books of accounts?—No; but as I was sitting next the clerk (*I was sitting on one side and the clerk was on my left hand*), I had the opportunity of seeing it.

22,165. What were you doing?—Signing notices of objection to the Liberals.

22,166. What do you mean by notices of objection?—Notices of objections to their votes at the registration.

22,167. How did your presence at a registration inquiry assist you to a knowledge of the election accounts?—I was there signing the notices of objections at the office.

22,168. At Mr. Helps's office?—Yes.

22,169. That was the opportunity you had of looking over the accounts of the election?—Yes.

22,170. I suppose Mr. Helps was not aware that you were looking over his books?—No, he would not like me to do so, I know; I know there was a correspondence with Mr. William Matthews; they did not pay him enough, but I believe he was eventually paid the 100*l.*

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined.

22,171. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to make some statement with reference to the evidence which has just been given?—I do; unfortunately I have had some differences with the last witness. At the time he speaks of, in 1857, he owed me upwards of 150*l.* on a judgment recovered in one of the superior courts at Westminster. I see by a letter which I have in my hand, that I was offered on the 7th of March, by Mr. Wilkes, his solicitor, 6*s.* 8*d.* in the pound upon that judgment, which would be equal to somewhere about 50*l.*, or something more; his father was very anxious to settle the matter, and made me an increased offer upon that, which I declined altogether to accept. The son became, some short time after this, incarcerated in the city gaol; with that I had nothing whatever to do, but he was very anxious to know whether I would take Mr. Wilkes's offer, and I see on the 17th of April (a fortnight after the election), I wrote to the witness himself, in answer to his own application whether I would take the offer made by Mr. Wilkes or his father, this letter:—"Sir, I see "no reason to alter my determination as expressed "in my letter to Mr. Wilkes. Yours obediently, "JOSEPH LOVEGROVE." I do not believe that the father ever made such an offer, or such an intimation to the son as he has just told you in his evidence; if he did it was done without my knowledge, without my sanction, and without any communication with me whatever; and I believe that his only object in getting into this box now has been to give expression to that language with regard to me which you prevented him from indulging in any further.

22,172. He was summoned here in consequence of his having stated on his previous examination that he would be able to afford further information with regard to the election of 1857; but now that you are here I will ask you this question: did you see Stephens's father about the time of the election in 1857 with reference to the debt due to Compton?—Both before and after; he was very anxious to settle the matter, but the determination of the son much interfered with any amicable arrangement being come to.

22,173. Did you tell Stephens's father that you would settle with the detaining creditor, or arrange with him, if his son would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Most decidedly not; I made no offer of any kind.

22,174. Did you see his father upon the subject of a settlement with his son's detaining creditor?—Not at all, and the father did not see me upon the subject.

22,175. The son does not appear to have been taken in execution on your judgment?—No.

22,176. But on a judgment for 14*l.* odd?—Yes.

22,177. Did you see his father with regard to the release of Stephens from prison at the election in 1857?—Never; and I may say this, that it is a great relief to our party not to have the services of any such person.

22,178. Did you tell the father that if his son would vote for Sir Robert Carden you would arrange with the detaining creditor?—Never.

22,179. Nothing of the sort?—No; and the father never suggested such a course; no conversation ever took place between me and the father as to the son's release from prison on this debt.

22,180. If the father did come to the gaol and make a statement of that sort, that statement is not true?—No; but I do not believe that such a statement was ever made by the father.

22,181. It seems to have been made, according to the account of the son, in the presence of the governor and turnkey, and a person named Greening?—I do not believe it ever was made.

22,182. Is the father a man on whom reliance can be placed?—I have always had the greatest faith in the father's statements.

22,183. If it should appear that the father did make such a statement, should you then be disposed to think your memory has deceived you?—No, I am quite satisfied about it, my memory is very strong upon that point, because we never relied upon the son's support; from the outrageous way in which he has always behaved towards me and those connected with me, we have always discarded any notion of his support.

22,184. But he was canvassed, was he not?—No, it was this; he happened to be in a public-house where Sir Robert Carden, myself, and the canvassing party called, and then he voluntarily called Sir Robert Carden aside and kept him for a quarter of an hour traducing and applying most violent epithets to me.

22,185. However, he was canvassed for his vote?—Probably Sir Robert Carden may have asked him for his vote; I do not think he was canvassed. I may say that I have opposed the man in the Bankruptcy Court since, and I have now a suit in Chancery against him.

22,186. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) After he was arrested at the suit of this other person, did you put in a detainer against him?—No, I did not.

22,187. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you see the father after the son was arrested, about the time of the election?—I saw him both before and after; the father was very anxious to arrange my matter after the son came out of gaol, and before he made himself a bankrupt.

22,188. I am referring to a period before the election?—Not with a view to the election.

22,189. Did his vote form the subject of conversation between you and his father?—Not on any occasion; so badly did he behave, and so violent was his conduct towards one of my clerks, Mr. Taynton, who is now a solicitor, that he was bound over to keep the peace.

22,190. You did not put in a detainer?—No.

22,191. You had nothing to do as attorney on either side in the other action?—No.

22,192. Had you any conversation with Mr. Burrup on the matter?—Never.

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ENOCH COX sworn and examined. *E. Cox.* 26 Oct. 1859.

22,193. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A householder.

22,194. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,195. What did you receive for your vote ?—I had my money on this condition, which I will tell you : I asked my master for money ; he owed me money at the time, and the morrow morning he came and gave me 5*l.* He never mentioned Mr. Monk's name, nor Mr. Price's, nor asked me to go to poll.

22,196. Who was your master ?—Thomas Haviland.

22,197. What is he ?—A builder. I work for him a great deal. I have had 50*l.* from him the last eighteen months.

22,198. You say he owed you money ?—Yes.

22,199. Did he owe you more than 5*l.* or less ?—Somewhere thereabouts, as near as could be.

22,200. You asked him for the money ?—I did the day before.

22,201. The day before the election ?—Yes.

22,202. Had that request any reference to the election ?—All the reference it had to it was this : he said, "I will give you 5*l.*, and perhaps I shall "never have a halfpenny again." This is the truth, and nothing but the truth.

22,203. Then it was with a view to the election that you asked for the money ?—No ; I do not know that it was. But when he paid me the money, he said perhaps he should never have a halfpenny again, and I did consider that I did have the 5*l.* for the voting.

22,204. I suppose he has paid you money since, independently of this 5*l.* ?—Yes ; I have had 30*l.* from him since.

22,205. Then, in fact, you did have 5*l.* for the election ?—I consider I did.

22,206. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—Price and Berkeley.

22,207. Did you receive anything for your vote then ?—No ; I had four days as what they call a runner, or something of that sort.

ELIZABETH DOWERS sworn and examined. *E. Dowers.*

22,208. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know what you come here for ?—No, I do not, not exactly.

22,209. Do you know what question you are to be asked ?—I am not aware what I was called for. It is far from my wish.

22,210. Are you the wife of Robert Dowers ?—Yes.

22,211. He is a bricklayers' labourer ?—Yes.

22,212. And you live in Catherine Street ?—Yes.

22,213. Do you remember the election of 1857 ?—Yes.

22,214. Do you remember the polling day ?—Yes.

22,215. Did you receive any money at all from your husband on that day ?—One sovereign and a half, and my husband kept the other half-sovereign.

22,216. On the polling day ?—Yes.

22,217. What time ?—The fore part of the day ; I could not say the hour exact. It was before twelve o'clock in the day.

22,218. You say your husband kept half a sovereign ?—He kept half a sovereign for his own purposes ; he put it in his pocket.

22,219. Then you knew from him that he had two sovereigns ?—He received two sovereigns.

22,220. Did he tell you how he became possessed of those two sovereigns ?—Yes.

22,221. What did he say about them ?—He said that Mr. Whithorn had given them to him for his vote. He promised him twice in my house, when he canvassed him before the voting day, that he would satisfy him for his trouble; and I says, "Then this is "what Mr. Whithorn has given you."

22,222. Did you know that Mr. Whithorn had canvassed your husband ?—He had canvassed him twice in my house.

22,223. In your presence ?—Yes.

22,224. How long before the election ?—I cannot exactly say ; it might have been a fortnight, perhaps.

22,225. In your presence?—Yes.

22,226. When he canvassed your husband, what was it that Mr. Whithorn said to your husband?—He asked him if he would oblige his party by giving them his vote.

22,227. Well ?—He said he was not compelled to vote for either party, but whoever he voted for he should be satisfied, paid for his trouble.

22,228. Your husband said so ?—Yes.

22,229. What did Mr. Whithorn say ?—He said, "You see me on the polling day, and I will satisfy "you for your vote."

22,230. Was that what Mr. Whithorn said ?—Yes.

22,231. When your husband showed you this money and gave you a sovereign and a half, and kept the other half-sovereign, what did you say to him about that money ?—I asked him where he had it from, and he said Mr. Whithorn had given it him in the committee room before he went to vote.

22,232. Did you say anything upon that, or did he say anything further ?—No, not that I recollect ; nothing more to the purpose.

22,233. Do you remember your husband saying anything to you about any other person having offered him money at that election ?—He might have said so, but I did not keep it in my head.

22,234. Do you remember your husband telling you at any time that any other person had offered him money ?—No ; I thought you meant another voter. No, he did not.

22,235. Did he not say to you anything about Probert having offered him 3*l.*?—Yes ; now I recollect a second time, I think he did ; that he offered it to him when he was tipsy. I recollect that well now ; he did say so.

22,236. He told you Probert had offered him 3*l.* ?—Yes; he was very tipsy at the time he told me, and it was in the night-time, between night and morning: it was very late.

22,237. He told you in the night-time, when he was very tipsy, that Probert had offered him 3*l.* ?—Yes, he did, now I recollect.

22,238. Did you not say to him at any time that it was a pity he had not taken the 3*l.* ?—I could not say ; it is some time back, and my memory is not very good ; he might have said so or he might not, I cannot exactly say.

22,239. When he told you he had been offered 3*l.*, did you not express any surprise to him that he had taken 2*l.* ?—No.

22,240. You did not ?—No.

22,241. I suppose you know the value of money, do you not ?—Yes, I should think I do.

22,242. If a person is going to sell his vote, it is better to get 3*l.* than 2*l.* ?—He did not do so.

22,243. Did you make no observation about that ?—No ; to the best of my recollection I did not. If I had, my husband is a man who always pleases his own mind in such cases as that.

22,244. He does not consult you then ?—Not in those cases.

22,245. Do you remember your husband going to Mr. Lovegrove's ?—Yes.

22,246. Were you very angry about his going there ?—Very much indeed.

22,247. Did you know he was going ?—No, I did not.

22,248. How did you know he was there ?—A person came and told me that he was gone into Mr. Lovegrove's office, and I went up to him.

22,249. Why should you go to Mr. Lovegrove's office because you heard he was gone there ?—I

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udged he was going for something of the electioneering system, and I went to try to prevent it if I could.

22,250. But he had voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

22,251. And Mr. Lovegrove was his agent?—I was aware of that.

22,252. Why should you have gone up to the office on finding he had gone to Mr. Lovegrove's?—I thought he had gone up on something of the electioneering system, though I did not know what he was gone for.

22,253. Were you not much displeased and angry at his going there?—Yes.

22,254. Very angry?—Yes, I was indeed.

22,255. Do you mean to swear that you did not know what it was that your husband had gone to the office for?—I did not know.

22,256. What made you angry?—Because I judged it was to give some information concerning the electioneering.

22,257. Information about what?—About receiving money.

22,258. Was it to give information about this business of Probert's?—I did not know what. I went up to inquire, but they did not tell me what he stated.

22,259. As your husband had voted for Sir Robert Carden, did you consider it extraordinary that he should go to Mr. Lovegrove's office, Mr. Lovegrove being Sir Robert Carden's agent?—I did not know what he was gone about; I went to inquire, and they would not tell me.

22,260. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When did you ever mention this circumstance before?—I cannot exactly say; when electioneering has been talked about I have named it to people; when we have been talking about electioneering.

22,261. To whom have you named it?—I do not know anyone in particular. I have mentioned it in my own house when we have been talking about electioneering.

22,262. When did you first mention it?—I could not tell, it is too long ago.

22,263. You say your husband told you he had received 2*l.* on the day of the voting?—Yes.

22,264. When did you first mention that fact to anybody else?—I do not know; it is a long time ago. I am certain I did not mention it then, not myself; I had nothing at all to say about it.

22,265. Do you recollect your husband being served with a Speaker's warrant?—Yes.

22,266. When was that?—I do not know.

22,267. Did you know what it was for?—Yes.

22,268. What was it for?—He was summoned to London to swear that he had received bribery money.

22,269. Which side summoned him?—I could not tell.

22,270. Was it with reference to this 2*l.* which he had received from Mr. Whithorn?—I think he had two summonses, one from each party.

22,271. I suppose your husband made no secret of having received the 2*l.*?—He did not say anything about it at the time, that I am aware of.

22,272. But he must have told it to somebody?—Very likely; I do not know anything about that. He told me, and gave me part of the money.

22,273. Did he tell you not to mention it again?—He said, "Do not say anything about it;" and I said, "Very well."

22,274. And you never did say anything about it?—Not till there was a stir about it, and he was summoned.

22,275. When was that?—I cannot say, it is so long ago.

22,276. Was that some time after?—Yes, I think it was.

22,277. Do you know a man named Grimmett?—Very well, he is a neighbour of mine.

22,278. Did Grimmett ever talk to you about this 2*l.*?—Yes; Grimmitt knew that he had it. Grimmett knew that my husband received 2*l.* I told Grimmett myself some time afterwards.

22,279. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that before or after your husband went to London?—Before my husband went to London; I told him of it in my own house.

22,280. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did Grimmett know it before you told him?—I do not think he did.

22,281. Why do you not think he did?—I do not think he did; I cannot say for why, but I do not think he did; we were talking about the electioneering.

22,282. Do you happen to know how it got abroad that your husband had received 2*l.*?—Well, I cannot say; it was not me.

22,283. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you mention it to anybody besides Grimmett before your husband went to London?—Not that I am aware of; I do not believe I did.

22,284. After he came back you mentioned it?—Yes.

22,285. You talked about it to many people?—People talked about it currently one to the other.

22,286. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I want to know how it became public?—I cannot tell that.

22,287. Do you know of your husband having told it to anybody?—No; that is best known to himself.

22,288. (*Mr. Welford.*) As far as you are concerned, you told it to nobody except Grimmett before your husband went to London?—I might have named it, or I might not, I cannot say; it is some time back.

22,289. Can you recollect anybody to whom you mentioned it?—No, I cannot.

22,290. When you went to Mr. Lovegrove's office to inquire about your husband, I suppose you were not desirous that he should be mixed up with the Blue party, was that so?—I was very sorry that he should have anything at all to do either with the Blue party or with the other. I wished him to have nothing at all to say or to do with electioneering; it was far from my wish, and I was very angry indeed with him for so doing.

22,291. Were you angry with him for receiving the money?—No; I consider that a man who goes to serve a gentleman ought to be satisfied for his trouble.

22,292. Having received money for the election, surely you must expect he would interfere afterwards?—It appears he did do so; it was far from my wish.

22,293. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did anybody else besides Mr. Whithorn canvass your husband for his vote?—Several gentlemen came in with Mr. Carden; Mr. Carden solicited him, and several gentlemen came into the house, but Mr. Whithorn stopped after the rest were gone, and held a conversation with me and my husband; that was the time when he told him he would satisfy him for his trouble if he would vote for Mr. Carden.

22,294. Mr. Whithorn came with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

22,295. When was that?—I cannot tell; it might have been a fortnight or so before the election, or more or less; I cannot exactly say.

22,296. Were you ever canvassed by Mr. Ward?—No, I do not know that ever we was; I never recollect seeing the man in my house at all.

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ENOCH COX called and further examined. *E. Cox.*

26 Oct, 1859.

22,297. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for in 1857?—Price and Berkeley.

22,298. Did you receive anything for your vote then?—No; I received nothing for my vote. I was three or four days errand man.

22,299. A messenger at the committee room?—Yes; that was all I received, to the best of my knowledge.

22,300. What did you receive for that?—I think it was about 1*l.* or 24*s.*, or something of that kind.

22,301. How many days were you employed?—I think about five or six.

22,302. Did you do anything for that?—Yes; I ran about with messages, and went anywhere where they wanted me to run an errand.

22,303. Did you stay at the committee room all day?—About there.

HENRY KEAR WHITHORN called and further examined. *H.K. Whithorn.*

22,304. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On the election day in 1857 where were you?—I was most of the day in the committee room. I should think that altogether I was but a few minutes out of it.

22,305. You were in the committee room in the Westgate Street?—In Westgate Street.

22,306. What time did you go to the committee room in the morning?—I think as early as the poll opened, or rather before I should think; I have no doubt it was rather before.

22,307. Did you remain there until the close of the poll at four o'clock?—Nearly so; I think I was out of it a little before four.

22,308. A few minutes before four?—It might have been between three and four. I did not remain all the while in the committee room up to that time, because I went to poll; but except going to poll and going over to the Booth Hall to have a glass of soda-water and brandy, as I stated in my evidence before, I was in the committee room the whole time.

22,309. You know the King's Head tap?—Perfectly well.

22,310. Do you know a man of the name of Joseph Clark?—Very well.

22,311. Did you give any money, or did you offer any money to Joseph Clark on the election day?—Certainly not.

22,312. Were you at the King's Head tap on that day?—I was not.

22,313. Were you in Three Cocks Lane on that day?—I do not think I was. I had some little doubt in my own mind afterwards whether I did not go late in the day to a voter who had been in the police, and I thought that I had gone there about half-past three or four with Mr. Josiah Castree, and I asked him afterwards, and he told me I did not, and I concluded that I certainly did not.

22,314. Excepting for the impression that you may have gone about half-past three or four o'clock with Josiah Castree to Three Cocks Lane, are you satisfied that you did not go?—I can swear it most positively.

22,315. Were you in the Westgate Street, near to Three Cocks Lane, about the hour of one on the polling day?—No, I do not think I was; I may have been; I cannot tell the precise time when I went to the Booth Hall for the glass of soda-water and brandy, or when I went to poll; those were the only two occasions on which I went out.

22,316. Were those the only occasions on which you left the committee room on that day?—Except just going outside the door of the committee room in the street.

22,317. (*Mr. Welford.*) There were several rooms, were there not?—Yes, half a dozen, or more.

22,318. When you speak of the committee room, you mean the house altogether?—The house altogether; I was in all parts of it.

22,319. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not at the King's Head tap, nor were you in Three Cocks Lane, nor were you in that portion of Westgate Street that is near to the King's Head tap, at any time between twelve and two o'clock on that day?—I should think not; I can speak most positively to not being in Three Cocks Lane. I would not (particularly so long back) state at what time it was that I went to have the soda-water and brandy, but that was the only time I was out of the house.

22,320. When you went to take that soda and brandy you went to the Booth Hall?—I did.

22,321. The Booth Hall is on the opposite side of the street to Three Cocks Lane, is it not?—Yes.

22,322. If you went to the Booth Hall to obtain the soda-water and brandy you would not require to be near the King's Head?—Certainly not.

22,323. That being so, are you clear in your own mind that you were not at the King's Head?—I do not believe I was there at all.

22,324. Nor at the King's Head tap?—I can speak positively as to the King's Head tap.

22,325. Nor in Three Cocks Lane?—Certainly not. If these questions had been put to me within a fortnight after the time, I have no doubt I could have produced twenty witnesses who would have shown that I was in the committee room all the time.

22,326. Did you know Joseph Clark before that time?—A long while before.

22,327. Was he a person that you had canvassed previously?—No, I never troubled the least about him; Captain Bradley had canvassed him, and made his report about him, and I never thought him worth while looking after, and never took the slightest trouble about his vote.

22,328. No communication was made to you by Captain Bradley as to whether he required money for his vote?—No; I spoke to Captain Bradley once or twice in the early part of the canvass, and he said, "He has promised me his vote, and I have no doubt "he will perform his promise."

22,329. Did you see Captain Bradley on that day?—I cannot say; very likely I may have seen him; I do not recollect whether he was in the committee room or not; the room was thronged with people; it is very likely I may have seen him.

22,330. Do you know a person of the name of Cruise?—I never knew him till after the election.

22,331. Clark's brother-in-law?—I never knew him till he came to be paid as a constable for two days; he said he had been employed by us, when, in fact, we never had employed him, and he was at the same time employed as a constable by the magistrate.

22,332. Until that time you did not know him?—I did not know him before.

22,333. Did you, after the election and before the petition was heard in London, go to see Cruise anywhere in Gloucester?—Yes, I did.

22,334. Did you go by yourself or with Mr. Taynton?—With Mr. Taynton.

22,335. Did you ever go to see Cruise by yourself?—Never, for I studiously avoided that.

22,336. Was it at the Three Cocks inn that you saw him?—It was.

22,337. How long after the election was that?—Some considerable time; I would not pretend to say how long; probably a month; I would not state precisely.

22,338. Why did you go to see him?—Some one came and said he wanted to see me, and make a communication to me.

22,339. Did Cruise send to you?—He did; he sent some one, I forget who, to say he was at the Three Cocks inn.

22,340. Did you see that person?—I think I did.

22,341. Who was it?—I forget who came to me.

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H.K. Whithorn. 26 Oct. 1859.

but I did go to him from the communication I had received, and Mr. Taynton went with me.

22,342. Cruise sent to you a month after the election to say he wished to see you at the Three Cocks inn?—Yes, I should think it was about a month after the election.

22,343. What did the person who brought the message to you say Cruise wanted to see you for?—I forget who brought the communication; I had had two or three communications previous to that, to say he wished to see me with reference to some statement he had made to Mr. Wilton.

22,344. Was that communicated to you?—It was, no doubt.

22,345. Was it a communication which he had made to Mr. Robert Wilton?—Yes, to Mr. Robert Wilton.

22,346. Did you know that he had made any statement to Mr. Robert Wilton?—I had heard that he had stated that he saw me bribe Clark, or that I had bribed Clark.

22,347. You had heard that stated?—I had heard that stated.

22,348. Did you upon hearing that stated seek to see Cruise before he sought you?—I never sought him at all.

22,349. You heard the rumour that Cruise had said that you had bribed Clark?—Yes.

22,350. You did not seek to meet with Cruise to ask him how he came to make such a statement, but Cruise sent to you, and you went to see Cruise in consequence?—That was it.

22,351. When you saw Cruise, what was it that Cruise said to you?—He wished that all parties should leave the room, and I believe that all did, except him and me; and he then said that he would state nothing to me unless I would send him out of Gloucester.

22,352. Did Mr. Taynton leave the room also?—I think he did.

22,353. (*Mr. Welford.*) He said that when you and he were in the room alone?—Yes, when we were alone.

22,354. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you say to that?—I do not know whether he told me then that he was drunk when he made the statement.

22,355. Did you say you would send him out of Gloucester?—I refused to send him.

22,356. You having refused to send him out of Gloucester, did he make a statement to you?—No, nothing passed at all, except that I am not certain whether upon that occasion or a little while afterwards he said he was drunk when he made the statement, and was sorry for it.

22,357. Did he say that to you?—No, not at that time, but he came again to my office afterwards.

22,358. Do you say that when you refused to send him out of Gloucester nothing further passed?—No, I think not; he made no communication to me whatever, except that I am not certain he did not say he was drunk when he made the statement, and that he was sorry for it.

22,359. Had you spoken to him about his statement?—No, I had not. He told me that he wished to state something, that he would not do it in Gloucester, but that if I would send him out of Gloucester he would tell me what it was. I believe that was pretty well the substance of all that took place.

22,360. Did he say he wanted to make a statement to you?—Yes.

22,361. But that he would not make it unless you would send him out of Gloucester?—Yes.

22,362. And you refused, and then nothing further passed?—Nothing further passed.

22,363. Did you say nothing to him about this rumour?—No, I do not recollect that I did.

22,364. Did you not say to him, "I have heard "that you have made a statement to Mr. Wilton that "I bribed so-and-so?"—I may have done so, but I really do not recollect at this moment that I did. I know nothing resulted from the meeting.

22,365. Did you see him afterwards in Gloucester?—He left Gloucester; he was conveyed from Gloucester by Mr. Price's foreman, I understood; but the day before he left he came to me at my office and wanted me to send him away from Gloucester; he told me he was going to be sent away by the other party.

22,366. How soon was that after this meeting?—Some few days, I should think, not many.

22,367. A few days afterwards he came to your office?—Yes.

22,368. And said he was going to be sent away by the Liberal party?—I think he told me he was going to be sent away by the other party.

22,369. And did he wish you to send him away?—He said he would go then if I would send him.

22,370. How was it that he came to your office to say that to you?—I do not know; I did not send for him.

22,371. You did not send for him?—Certainly not.

22,372. Did you not ask him why it was that he came to you?—I think when he came to my office I told him that if he had anything to say to me he had better say it there; he adhered to what he had said before, that he would make no statement unless he was sent out of Gloucester, and that then he would tell me.

22,373. Did he say why he wished you to send him out of Gloucester?—No, he did not tell me that at all.

22,374. Then did you again refuse to send him out of Gloucester?—I did; I told him that I would not send him.

22,375. Was that all that took place then?—He left, and I saw no more of him till some time afterwards.

22,376. You saw no more of him in Gloucester?—No; and I heard a day or two after that that he had gone; somebody said he had gone, I do not know who, but I heard no more of him.

22,377. Did you not on that occasion ask him why he came to you, and why he wished you to send him out of Gloucester?—I thought he was come to make a statement to me, and I told him that if he had any statement to make he had better make it there, and he said he would not unless he was sent out of Gloucester.

22,378. You saw him on two occasions, and I gather from your evidence that you never said, "How "came you to utter such a falsehood about me?"—I do not know that I may not have asked him that, but I do not remember it.

22,379. I am asking you what conversation took place. I understand you to say you did not say anything about it?—I think I said, "If you have any "statement to make to me you had better make it "now."

22,380. But did you say, "How came you to utter "such an abominable falsehood as to say that I had "bribed Clark?"—I may even have done so; I do not recollect at this distance of time whether I did so or not then, but I did afterwards.

22,381. Would not that have been the natural thing for you to do when you saw a man who had put such a slander against you in circulation?—I think it very probable that I did say that, but I would not undertake to swear positively that I did; it is probable that I might have asked him that question.

22,382. After that you saw Cruise again, did you not?—I saw him at Henley-on-Avon.

22,383. When was that?—I could not tell, but it was before the petition came on for hearing in London.

22,384. How came you to go there to see him?—His sister communicated with me, and showed me a letter.

22,385. What did she say?—That he was in Henley-on-Avon, and that I might there see him if I would go to him; that he wished to see me.

22,386. Did you go to see him there?—Yes.

22,387. Why did you go to see him there?—I think I was told by his sister that he wished to make

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a statement to me, and I was anxious, if I could, to know what his statement was.

22,388. His sister had heard from him?—She showed me a letter from him.

22,389. Did you say to his sister that he might write a statement to you?—No, I did not.

22,390. Did it not occur to you that he might have done so?—He might if he had chosen.

22,391. If the sister told you that her brother wished to make a statement to you, did it not occur to you that he might write it?—But I preferred hearing his statement, and taking Mr. Taynton with me.

22,392. What better witness could you have had than the man's own writing?—The writing would have done, but I did not suggest anything of the sort.

22,393. Can you conceive any better evidence in the way of a statement than the man's own writing?—No doubt it would be very good evidence.

22,394. You went to Henley so see him?—Yes.

22,395. You saw him there?—I did.

22,396. What took place then?—After we had been some little time with him, he told us he had made this statement when he was drunk; that he was very sorry for it, but that he should not have made it if he had not been drunk.

22,397. He told you and Mr. Taynton that?—Yes.

22,398. Mr. Taynton was with you?—He was. He said he was very sorry for having done it, and that he was drunk when he made it.

22,399. Do you remember what it was that introduced the conversation about this statement?—I think I asked him what he had been stating to Mr. Wilton.

22,400. But you had heard that before, had you not?—Yes, of course I had; but that was the question I put to him then, I think.

22,401. You said, "What statement have you "been making to Mr. Wilton?"—Yes.

22,402. What did he say?—His reply to that, I think, was, that he was drunk when he made it, and that he was sorry for what he had done.

22,403. Did he not tell you what statement he had been making?—That I will not be positive about; but Mr. Taynton heard the conversation, and he can tell you.

22,404. I wish to ask you about it?—I do not think he did at that time say anything about what he had stated.

22,405. Do you mean to say that when you said, "What statement have you been making to Mr. "Wilton?" he only said he was drunk, and did not tell you what his statement was?—No, he did not say what his statement was.

22,406. Did you tell him what statement you understood he had made?—That I forget; I would not say.

22,407. You were examined about this before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I recollect it.

22,408. And at great length?—Yes; and I gave a true version of what took place there, that is certain.

22,409. You say he did not tell you what his statement was?—I do not think he did.

22,410. When he said that at the time he made the statement to Mr. Wilton he was drunk, and that he was sorry for it; was that the upshot of the conversation between you?—He said that if I would remove him next Friday altogether, I should not see him again.

22,411. "He said if I would remove him next "Friday, I should not see him again?"—I think he said he wished his sister to come up also for him.

22,412. Did you remove him?—I did not.

22,413. He remained at Henley, did he?—I suppose he did; I took no further trouble with him.

22,414. Did you give him any money?—I did not.

22,415. Did Mr. Taynton?—I believe he gave him a glass of gin and water when they parted.

22,416. Did he give him any coin?—No; I never saw Mr. Taynton give him any, and I do not believe he did.

22,417. Did you request Mr. Taynton to give him any?—I do not think he did give him any.

22,418. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he ask for any money?—I do not recollect. I think he told me he was receiving half-a-crown a day, to do nothing but what he pleased, and he had a new suit of clothes on, which he said was given to him.

22,419. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said he received half-a-crown a day from whom?—From Mr. Eassie, his employer, I think. I think Mr. Eassie had some railway contract.

22,420. (*Mr. Welford.*) He was at work there, was he?—He did what he pleased, he said; he either worked or played.

22,421. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How come you to be so anxious about this alleged rumour that you had bribed Clark, when you seem to have bribed so extensively?—Because I knew I had not bribed Clark, and I was anxious to know why this man should have stated that I had.

22,422. It was not from any virtuous indignation that you felt at the charge being made against you that you did bribe Clark?—I did not like the charge, as you may suppose, very naturally, when I knew I was not guilty of it.

22,423. Did you think that the other acts of bribery you had committed had been kept quiet and secret, and that there was a chance of this oozing out and coming to the knowledge of the public?—I do not know that I did commit many direct acts of bribery on that day at all. The money I dispensed was principally given to the parties who brought voters to me; I supplied them with the money.

22,424. We have gathered from your evidence that at the election in 1857, there were a good many people brought to you, to whom you gave money yourself?—Yes, there were.

22,425. That is direct bribery. You then having bribed a good many persons at the election in 1857, why was it that you were so particularly anxious about that man Clark?—Because I knew it was not true. If it had been true I should not have taken any trouble about it; I should have submitted to it. I knew from beginning to end it was completely got up against me; I was satisfied of that, and I was anxious to get rid of it. I felt positive about it.

22,426. Were you afraid, looking to the fact that a petition was going to be heard before the House of Commons, that if Cruise came to give evidence upon the subject his evidence might possibly be fatal to the cause of your party?—No, that was not my motive in it; certainly not; because if a true case had been brought against me I should not have defended myself from it; certainly not. If they had brought a true case of direct bribery against me I would not have shrunk from it at all.

22,427. You were anxious, at all events, that a statement which you say was false should not remain in circulation against you without your taking some steps for the purpose of setting yourself right about it; that was your object?—That was my object, and no other.

22,428. That being your object, how was it that you did not say to Cruise, when you saw him on these three different occasions, "This is a gross falsehood that you "have put in circulation. I never did bribe Clark; "it is a foul charge that you have made against "me, and I will have nothing to do with you"?—I might have said so to him; but I knew him to be so vilely bad in making that charge against me, that I did not want to have more than I possibly could to do with him.

22,429. You saw him twice; he did not on either occasion make any statement to you; you knew what statement was in circulation against you, and you went to Henley for the purpose of obliging him on receiving a communication from him?—I thought probably, as he wished to communicate to me, he might have told me the truth, that he had been stating falsehoods against me; I thought that quite possible.

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H.K. Whithorn.

26 Oct. 1859.

22,430. Do you know where Cruise is now ?—I do not.

22,431. He was examined before the Committee of the House of Commons ?—Yes, he was.

22,432. Have you known what has become of him since then ?—I have not indeed.

22,433. You know Robert Dowers, do you not ?—I do know him. I did not know much of him till latterly.

22,434. You do know him now ?—Oh dear, yes.

22,435. Had you canvassed Robert Dowers before the election ?—In 1857 ?

22,436. Yes ?—I do not think I did.

22,437. Do you know where he lives ?—Yes.

22,438. Did you know at that time ?—Yes ; I know he lives in St. Catherine's Street. I could not find out his house without I were to inquire.

22,439. You say you think you did not canvass him ?—I do not remember canvassing him at all.

22,440. Were you in court when his wife was examined ?—Yes.

22,441. Did you hear her say that you had canvassed him ?—Yes.

22,442. And that you had been there twice ?—Yes.

22,443. Is that true ?—No ; I think, if my memory serves me right, when Sir Robert Carden canvassed in 1857, I did go there, and I do not think he was at home.

22,444. You think you went there ?—I think I did with them, but he was not at home.

22,445. You do not remember to have had any conversation with him there ?—No ; I do not remember to have had any conversation with him at all.

22,446. Do you remember going there and asking Dowers to oblige your party by giving a vote ?—No, I never put such a question to him, certainly.

22,447. Will you swear you did not say it ?—I will; to the best of my belief, when we called he was not at home.

22,448. Do you remember Dowers saying he was not prepared to vote for either side, but that whichever he voted for he would be satisfied for his vote ?—He never said that to me.

22,449. That you swear ?—I do.

22,450. Did you say to him, "You see me on the "polling day, and I will satisfy you for your vote"?—I did not ; and, as I stated before the Committee in the House of Commons, I do not think I had seen him, till I saw him in the lobby of the House of Commons, for months before that time.

22,451. You heard the evidence that was given by his wife, who was brought here without any communication with any person ?—I heard every word she said, but I most positively deny what she stated.

22,452. You deny that you ever said to Dowers that you would satisfy him for his vote ?—I do.

22,453. Was there a room upstairs at the committee room in Westgate Street, in which you were in the habit of going that day ?—There were several rooms. I was in no particular room in the house.

22,454. Was there a small room, into which you would go from the landing, and on the same side as the committee room ?—There were three or four rooms on the same landing. They were striking off the list of voters in one or two of them.

22,455. Were you in different rooms ; sometimes in one committee room and sometimes in another ?—I do not think I was in any one room for more than two or three minutes at a time. I was continually, almost all day long, down with Mr. Helps, who was checking off the slips from the poll : there were a very few minutes that I was not with Mr. Helps.

22,456. Where ?—In those rooms in the committee room ; he took the state of the poll.

22,457. Where was Mr. Helps ?—Downstairs.

22,458. In the room downstairs ?—In the room downstairs.

22,459. Were you with Mr. Helps in the room downstairs nearly all day ?—No ; but I was there backwards and forwards almost all day, perhaps every ten minutes or quarter of an hour ; I was backwards and forwards to know what the state of the poll was.

22,460. You were about the committee room from time to time, sometimes downstairs and sometimes in the smaller rooms ?—That was so.

22,461. Were there a number of voters outside the committee room door on the landing ?—I dare say there were ; the place was crammed.

22,462. When you saw a man who you knew to be a voter, and who you thought you could bribe, did you then take him into the little room ?—No ; I did not go into that room for that purpose but a very little.

22,463. Did you go into the little room ?—I did in the course of the day.

22,464. Did you take anybody into that little room?—I think I did take one or two.

22,465. You went in by yourself with the voters ?—I may have been in by myself or with others. I do not think I did go into the room by myself, for almost every voter that I gave money to was brought to me. I do not recollect an instance of going into the room by myself.

22,466. Do you think you did not take any voter into one of those rooms by yourself ?—No, I think not.

22,467. Will you swear that no person went into the room with you when no other person was present except yourself and that one individual ?—I do not recollect an instance of it.

22,468. You knew Robert Dowers before the election, did you not ?—Yes, I did know him.

22,469. Did you see him upon the landing of the staircase that day ?—I did not see him all day.

22,470. You are quite sure about that ?—Quite positive ; I do not think I had seen him for months before I saw him in the lobby of the House of Commons.

22,471. If you did not see him all day, of course you could not have taken him into one of the small rooms ?—Certainly not.

22,472. And you swear you did not take him into one of the small rooms ?—I will, most positively and solemnly.

22,473. I suppose you will not go so far as to say that he was not there ?—That would be going a long way, considering the multitude of people that there were there ; I should not like to do that, but I did not see him there, and I have inquired of several persons who know him, and none of them saw him there.

22,474. At all events, you yourself did not go up to him and say to him, "Come along" ?—Certainly not.

22,475. You swear you did not say so ?—I will swear it.

22,476. Or anything to that effect ?—I did not.

22,477. And you swear you did not go with him into a small room on the same side as the committee room ?—I do.

22,478. And do you swear you did not give him any money ?—I did not ; and furthermore he has told parties that I did not.

22,479. We have had his evidence ?—He swears he did not take it ; that I did not give him a farthing; at least, he has stated that to them.

22,480. His evidence is the contrary ?—He swears that I did pay him.

22,481. And you swear that you did not ?—I do, most solemnly.

22,482. You gave him nothing ?—Certainly not.

22,483. His statement is, that you took him into a small room ; that you showed him four half-crowns ; that he said, "That will not do, that is not "enough ;" that you asked him what he wanted ; that he said, "2*l.* ;" and that thereupon you put your hand into your trousers pocket and pulled out two sovereigns and gave them to him ?—I deny that, most solemnly.

22,484. You deny that that statement is true from beginning to end ?—I do.

22,485. You say it is false from beginning to end ?—I do; I have sworn it before, and I again swear it.

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22,486. Do you know a person of the name of Cherrington?—I cannot say I do know him; probably if the man were pointed out to me I should know him, but I do not know him myself; there is a man of that name I know in Saint Catherine's parish; I believe there is such a man, but I do not know him.

22,487. Do you remember John Cherrington coming to the committee room at the election in 1857?—No, I do not; if he had come in I should not have known him by name, I am sure.

22,488. Do you swear that Dowers did not bring John Cherrington to the committee room on that day?—I never saw him; Dowers brought nobody to me.

22,489. Do you know John Cherrington so as to be able to say you did not see him on that day?—I have said to you before that I should not know John Cherrington. I know there is such a man; and a Robert Cherrington, I believe, there is too; but I do not know either of them.

22,490. You, at that time, were not sufficiently acquainted with Cherrington to be able to say whether it is true that Dowers did bring Cherrington to you?—I am certain that Dowers brought nobody to me; I am certain of that.

22,491. Whether you paid any money to Cherrington on that day or not, you are not able to state?—I do not believe I paid Cherrington anything that day.

22,492. If you did you are not able to say that you did, because you do not know the man?—I do not know the man; I know there is such a man, and I know he is a voter for the west ward, or was.

22,493. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was there a son of Robert Dowers who was a messenger at your committee room?—That I cannot tell.

22,494. Were you acquainted with the names of the messengers that were employed?—None of them; I do not think I could tell you the name of one.

22,495. Do you think you could yourself, within a few days after the election, have specified any particular person as messenger?—Perhaps I might have told you two or three, but I could not many, for I had nothing to do with them.

22,496. Have you any knowledge that a son of Robert Dowers was employed as a messenger?—That I cannot tell you; he may have been, but I have not the slightest notion whether he was or not.

22,497. Do you remember seeing Robert Dowers at all in Three Cocks Lane a few nights after the election?—No, I am certain I did not; I have not the slightest recollection of it.

22,498. You do not remember meeting him, that he touched his hat, and that you told his son to come and have his money?—No; I think it very improbable that I should tell him that, because I had nothing whatever to do with the messengers. It is very improbable that I should say that to him.

22,499. You deny, both in the case of Clark and in the case of Dowers, that you gave them any money on the day of the election?—Most solemnly.

22,500. Or on any other day?—Or on any other day. I never gave either of them a farthing.

22,501. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you remember canvassing Dowers?—No, I do not.

22,502. Do you think that, in the confusion of the election day, it is possible you may have paid Dowers without now recollecting it?—No, I do not think that is possible.

22,503. I think that when you gave us an account of the mode in which you had expended the money that came to your hands, you said you had made some payments which you could not define?—Yes, but still I recollect this circumstance perfectly well, that I was charged with giving this money, and I knew that I had not done it, for I knew Dowers sufficiently well to be able to say that I did not do it.

22,504. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) When you paid voters in the committee room did you always pay the money into their hands, or did you ever give it to the persons who brought them to you?—In almost every instance I gave the money to the persons who brought them.

22,505. Do you think it possible for Dowers to have had the money from the person who brought him, and to whom you gave it, without your being aware who it was for?—Then he would not have had it from me. I do not think it would be possible; if it had been so, I should have known of the circumstance of his having it.

22,506. In every case in which a voter was brought to you did you know to whom the money was to go?—No, not always.

22,507. Then I should think it very possible that you might have given the money to somebody who brought Dowers, and which he gave to Dowers without you knowing it?—I myself have sworn, and I still believe that I did not.

22,508. But if that were the case, your evidence would be quite consistent with the evidence of Dowers. Dowers may safely swear that he got the 2*l.*?—I tell you there were many persons I gave money to, and I cannot tell who the parties were.

22,509. You have heard Mrs. Dowers give her evidence; that her husband brought her 30*s.*, and kept 10*s.* for himself?—But then I did not believe it.

22,510. I was only asking you whether you think it possible that somebody may have brought Dowers to you, and that you did not see Dowers, but that 2*l.* may have passed into his hands?—It is possible. I will not say it is not possible; I will not say that that is not possible.

22,511. Do you recollect who was with you when you canvassed Dowers, or rather when you went with Sir Robert Carden to canvass Dowers?—I think Mr. Lovegrove, Sir Robert Carden, and myself. There were others, I think, outside the door. It was the only time I made any canvass at all. I did little or nothing upon the canvass. I think there was one other occasion on which I canvassed.

22,512. Was it the custom on the canvass for Sir Robert Carden to go in first?—Generally speaking, Mr. Lovegrove and Sir Robert Carden went first. I think they generally did, or somebody with Sir Robert Carden, if it was not Mr. Lovegrove.

22,513. Did you always go into the house when he did?—No, not always; I did on some occasions, not always.

22,514. If you had stayed behind when Sir Robert Carden, and Mr. Lovegrove had gone on, I suppose they would have known it?—Yes, I should think they would, or they might not. I should think it is possible that they would.

22,515. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was there any arrangement made between the liberals and the Conservatives as to the amounts that should be paid to the messengers in 1857?—I cannot speak to that; I had nothing to do with it.

22,516. Was there any arrangement that you should pay any extra sum to the messengers beyond that which Mr. Lovegrove put down for them?—No, I think not. I did pay some men who called themselves messengers, or rather committee men, who I believe did nothing for what they were paid.

22,517. Did you pay them anything extra after they had been paid something by Mr. Lovegrove?—I think it is possible that I may have done so.

22,518. Was there any arrangement of that kind made?—No, I did that of my own act.

22,519. So that a given sum might appear on the regular account, and a larger sum be actually paid by you?—No; if I gave anything extra it was entirely my own act. There was no arrangement whatever.

22,520. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you aware of the proceedings with regard to getting up the petition before the committee?—Do you mean on the part of Sir Robert Carden?

22,521. Yes; were you a party to Mr. Lovegrove's investigations previous to the petition being presented?—I do not quite comprehend your question.

22,522. Mr. Lovegrove made some investigations, I suppose, before the petition was presented against Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley?—Yes.

22,523. Were you a party to all those investiga-

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tions?—No, not to all. I dare say I was to some portion of them.

22,524. Before the petition was presented, were you aware of the fact that Dowers was to be a witness?—Yes.

22,525. Were you aware of what took place in Mr. Lovegrove's office when Dowers was there?—I was.

22,526. Were you present?—No, I was not present; I merely knew that he had made that statement.

22,527. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you aware at that time that he charged you with having bribed him?—I had heard so.

22,528. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) At that time?—Yes, I think so;—no, I think not; at that time he had not; it was immediately after that that he charged me. I think it was afterwards. I think I have a recollection that it was after that.

25,529. When did you first hear that Dowers had said he was bribed by you?—I think it was not long before the inquiry came on. I knew I had been charged with having bribed Clark, but I did not know of Dowers.

22,530. When were you summoned to attend before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I was not summoned at all; I went without any summons.

22,531. Did you go up to London previous to the case coming on, or did you go up in consequence of something that was communicated to you during the progress of the petition?—I went up generally to assist in the petition. I did not go up for any special purpose.

22,532. How long before the petition against Sir Robert Carden was heard, were you aware that one of the cases was to be a charge of Dowers against you?—I think it might be, perhaps, a month before; I will not be positive as to that.

22,533. Was Mr. Lovegrove aware that Dowers was going to charge you with bribery before the petition was heard?—Possibly he might have known it, and I might not have heard of it.

22,534. Was not Dowers a witness on his side?—No, not on Mr. Lovegrove's side; he was not called.

22,535. Was not Dowers called as a witness against Mr. Price and Admiral Berkeley?—I think not.

22,536. I think you are mistaken?—I had quite forgotten it; I thought he was only called in one case.

22,537. Surely, then, Mr. Lovegrove could not have been aware at that time that he was going to make the charge against you?—That I cannot say, I am sure.

22,538. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understood you to say, just now, that most of the persons to whom you paid money were brought to you by others?—The great bulk of them were; I do not say that all of them were.

22,539. On looking over the statement which you made here before, it appears to me that a great number came by themselves, and were not brought by any other person?—I did not intend to state that, because most of the money that I paid was paid by others. I think you are referring to what I did in 1859; in 1859 it was so.

22,540. There were Drinkwater, Davis, and Grimmett, and several others?—Those I paid afterwards; if you look at my list you will see that all those payments were made afterwards.

22,541. There were a number of persons to whom you paid small sums on the day of the election in 1857?—That is very likely.

22,542. (*Mr. Welford.*) There was a balance of about 120*l.*, which you could not account for, and I think you said, you had no doubt you disposed of it in some way for the purposes of the election. I should think a good many of those must have been illegal payments?—I have no doubt about that.

22,543. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) That being so, did you not pay a considerable number of small sums to individual voters who came by themselves?—I have no doubt that a good deal of that money went to Maysey, Clutterbuck, and others. I did not keep any account of how it went.

22,544. Was there any agreement at all come to between you and any parties as to the amount of money that should be paid to voters upon that occasion?—No, there was never an instance of it.

22,545. No such agreement was come to between you and any members of your party?—No; in fact, there was no one of the party that ever named the subject to me; I do not believe that anybody knew anything as to the disposal of the money besides myself and the men who had it.

J. Brown.

JAMES BROWN sworn and examined.

22,546. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

22,547. What are you?—A butcher.

22,548. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

22,549. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.

22,550. From whom did you receive it?—From Obadiah Clutterbuck.

22,551. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

22,552. What did you receive for your vote then?—Nothing at all.

22,553. Were you offered anything?—No.

W. Bookett.

WILLIAM BOOKETT sworn and examined.

22,554. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A labourer.

22,555. Where do you live?—At the gasworks.

22,556. You are a labourer?—Yes.

22,557. Are you a freeman?—No, a householder.

22,558. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

22,559. What did you receive for your vote?—£2.

22,560. From whom?—From Thomas Evans.

22,561. Thomas Evans, the shoemaker?—Yes.

22,562. Did you vote in 1857?—No.

22,563. Was 1859 the first time that you voted?—Yes.

J. Goodrich.

JAMES GOODRICH sworn and examined.

22,564. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Maisemoore, near here?—Yes.

22,565. You are the owner of considerable property in Gloucester?—Yes.

22,566. House property?—Yes, it is all house property in Gloucester.

22,567. Is a considerable portion of that property occupied by tenants in humble circumstances of life?—Yes, the larger portion of it.

22,568. You are a supporter of the Conservative party?—Yes.

22,569. Did you, at the last election, exercise any influence as a landlord over your tenants to induce them to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, I merely canvassed them.

22,570. Did you give any tenant who was in arrear for rent to understand that if he did not vote for Sir Robert Carden you would distrain upon him for rent?—No.

22,571. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

22,572. Did you give any one to understand that he

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should quit your house if he did not vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

22,573. Did you do so in the election of 1857 ?—No ; I do not think I was present at the election in 1857 ; I was in Wales.

22,574. Have you given to any one of your tenants a notice to quit in consequence of his having voted contrary to your wishes ?—No.

22,575. Had you a tenant of the name of Fletcher ?—Yes, for a great many years ; but he has been off the estate I think a long time ; I could give you the exact date.

22,576. I am speaking now of the two last elections in 1859 and 1857 ?—I should say he certainly was not my tenant in 1859, and I do not think he was in 1857.

22,577. And you do not remember at either election exercising any undue influence over him for the purpose of obtaining his vote ?—No.

22,578. Can you say generally with regard to all your tenants, that you never did adopt any improper course to constrain them to vote according to your wishes ?—No, I did not.

22,579. Have you a tenant of the name of Beard, or had you ?—I had ; I think he has been off the estate for some time.

22,580. Was he a tenant of yours at the election of 1857 ?—I think it is possible he may have been, but my agent can tell you in a minute. I have so many of them that I cannot carry the names of all the tenants in my head, and in that small property the tenants change so often that I do not know who they are ; I know he was a tenant at one time.

22,581. Do you remember offering to him a receipt for rent due to you if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

22,582. You never did ?—No, certainly not.

22,583. I gather from your evidence that you have never made use of any improper influence to constrain a voter to vote against his wishes and according to your wishes, and that you never offered any of your tenants any inducement in the shape of a remission of rent or a receipt for rent due to you ?—That is true.

22,584. And you never gave to any tenant a notice to quit in consequence of his having voted contrary to your wishes ?—No, I never have. (*The witness after leaving the box returns.*) I beg to say, that on leaving the Court this moment, I met the man Thomas Beard outside, and I find from him that he is a tenant now, and has been a tenant for twenty-four years ; there are so many of them that I cannot recollect them all.

22,585. I put the question to you in a general form ?—Yes, I have some three or four hundred tenants, and they change so constantly that I do not know them ; I could not tell you the names of one third of them.

22,586. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What you have said of yourself is also applicable, I suppose, to your agent. Has your agent any authority from you to influence your tenants in any way ?—No.

22,587. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) But can you say that he does not ?—I think I can.

22,588. What is his name ?—Mr. Goodman is my agent at present, and a man named Arkell was my agent before him. Mr. Goodman is the one I have had for the last year and a half.

22,589. He was not your agent at the time of the election in 1857 ?—No, Mr. Arkell.

22,590. Is that Henry Arkell ?—Yes.

22,591. He was your agent at the election in 1857 ?—Yes.

22,592. If your agents have used any undue influence it has been contrary to your orders and without your authority ?—Yes.

HENRY TOWNSEND sworn and examined. *H. Townsend.*

22,593. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—A porter.

22,594. Where ?—At Mr. Clark's.

22,595. In what street ?—Southgate Street.

22,596. Are you a freeman ?—No.

22,597. A householder ?—Yes.

22,598. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,599. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5.

22,600. From whom ?—Thomas Evans.

22,601. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

22,602. For whom ?—Price and Berkeley.

22,603. What did you receive for your vote then ?—I had 2*l.* after ; I do not know where it came from.

22,604. You received 2*l.* after the election ?—Yes, and this last time I had it afterwards.

22,605. From whom did you receive 2*l.* in 1857 ?—I think Evans had brought it to our house but he did not say anything to me or see me before ; I believe he was the man that brought it.

22,606. Did he give it to you ?—I could not say whether he did or not.

22,607. Or did he give it to your wife ?—I do not know which it was.

22,608. You knew if you got it from your wife that it came from Thomas Evans ?—Yes.

WILLIAM BURGESS sworn and examined. *W. Burgess.*

22,609. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman ?—No, I am a householder.

22,610. Where do you live ?—In Blackfriars.

22,611. What are you ?—I am a shoemaker.

22,612. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

22,613. What did you get for your vote ?—£4 10*s.*

22,614. From whom ?—Mr. John Hanman.

22,615. John Biddle Hanman ?—Old Mr. Hanman.

22,616. Did you receive anything from the other side ?—No.

22,617. Nothing at all ?—I think I had a shilling, or something like that, to pay for some beer.

22,618. Did you receive any money more than a shilling from Jefferson Bryon ?—No, I received nothing from Jefferson Bryon ; I received a shilling from Thomas Evans.

22,619. Did you receive anything except a shilling from the liberal party ?—No.

22,620. Did you vote in 1857 ?—No, I had no vote.

JOHN HAYLING sworn and examined. *J. Hayling.*

22,621. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman ?—No, I am a householder.

22,622. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,623. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

22,624. Who gave it to you ?—Harry Jacobs.

22,625. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

22,626. What did you receive for your vote then ?—I was put on as a messenger for one week, and received one pound one shilling, but I sweated 9*s.*, which I have never been paid for yet, besides.

22,627. You were put on that committee for one week ?—Yes.

22,628. And received 21*s.* ?—Yes.

22,629. And what else ?—I received nothing else.

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22,630. Was that for loss of time ?—Yes, as a messenger; I sweated 9*s.* at two different committee rooms.

22,631. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did not Harry Jacobs give you 7*l.* ?—No; six sovereigns.

22,632. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you on the Yellow committee ?—No; I was on neither committee.

22,633. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Jacobs says he gave you 7*l.* ?—He gave me 6*l.* in his passage.

W. Woodcock.

WILLIAM WOODCOCK sworn and examined.

22,634. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Quay Street.

22,635. Are you a householder or a freeman ?—A householder.

22,636. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,637. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

22,638. Who from ?—Mr. Jacobs.

22,639. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—I had no vote then.

22,640. Did you get anything from the other side at the last election ?—No; I had 2*s.* from Mr. Whithorn, at two different times, to have something to drink; that is all.

J. Llewellin.

JOHN LLEWELLIN sworn and examined.

22,641. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Worcester Parade.

22,642. What are you ?—A carpenter and joiner.

22,643. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—I am a householder.

22,644. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,645. What did you receive ?—£5.

22,646. From whom ?—William Fletcher—William or Charles; I do not know which it is.

22,647. Is that Fletcher, the greengrocer ?—Yes.

22,648. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—For Mr. Carden.

22,649. What did you receive ?—Nothing at all.

22,650. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you a committeeman ?—No.

22,651. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive any thing at the last election from the other side ?—No.

22,652. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Had you a vote before the last election ?—Yes.

22,653. How did you vote ?—For Carden.

22,654. But before the election of 1857 had you a vote ?—No.

W. Lee.

WILLIAM LEE sworn and examined.

22,655. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,656. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

22,657. Who from ?—Mr. Monk.

22,658. Mr. Thomas Brewer Monk ?—Yes.

22,659. What is the name of the street in which you live ?—The Island.

22,660. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

22,661. What did you receive then ?—Nothing, not for my vote; but I drew 30*s.* worth of drink, and got paid for it three months afterwards.

22,662. Was it given in money, or beer ?—The beer I drew, and I had the money three months after.

22,663. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You drew 30*s.* worth of beer ?—Yes.

22,664. Who paid you the money ?—Mr. Whithorn.

22,665. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive anything from the blue side at the last election ?—No.

22,666. Had you any bill against them ?—No.

22,667. Did you receive anything from the other side in 1857 ?—No.

22,668. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you told to draw this beer ?—Yes.

22,669. Who told you ?—Mr. Whithorn.

22,670. What is the name of your beer-house ?—The Traveller's Rest.

22,671. How long before the election did Mr. Whithorn tell you to draw the beer ?—It might be a day or two.

22,672. Did you consider that that was for your vote ?—Yes.

S. Lee.

SAMUEL LEE sworn and examined.

22,673. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In the Island.

22,674. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,675. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

22,676. From whom ?—From Monk.

22,677. From Thomas Brewer Monk ?—Yes.

22,678. Did you receive anything from the other side at the last election ?—No.

22,679. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—For Carden.

22,680. What did you receive then ?—I drew 30*s.* worth of beer.

22,681. By whose orders ?—By Mr. Whithorn's.

22,682. That was for your vote ?—Yes; I drawed it for the voters.

22,683. And that induced you to vote on that side ?—I suppose it did.

22,684. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was the 30*s.* paid you by Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

22,685. After the election ?—Yes.

22,686. Soon after ?—A good bit after.

F. Ewers.

FRANCIS EWERS sworn and examined.

22,687. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—A boat-owner.

22,688. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

22,689. What did you receive ?—£6.

22,690. Who from ?—From Mr. Brewer Monk.

22,691. Did you receive anything from the other side ?—No.

22,692. Who did you vote for on the former election in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

22,693. What did you receive then ?—I received 3*l.* a little time after the election.

22,694. Who from ?—From Mr. Whithorn; it was for beer I drew in the house at the election.

22,695. You keep a public-house ?—Yes.

22,696. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the name of it ?—The Quart Pot.

22,697. You were told to draw it, were you ?—Yes.

22,698. By Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

22,699. And you were paid 3*l.* by Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

22,700. That was for your vote ?—Yes.

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ARTHUR ALLOWAY sworn and examined. *A. Alloway.* 26 Oct. 1859.

22,701. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where do you live?—In Parliament Street.

22,702. Who did you vote for at the election of 1859?—Price and Monk.

22,703. What did you get for your vote?—£5.

22,704. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Monk.

22,705. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I had not any vote then.

GEORGE LANE sworn and examined. *G. Lane.*

22,706. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A boot and shoe maker.

22,707. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

22,708. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

22,709. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 3*l.* 10*s.* for my services.

22,710. What services?—Services, attending to and being on the committee, and doing as Mr. Brewer Monk wished me.

22,711. Acting as a sort of assistant to Brewer Monk?—Yes.

22,712. In canvassing and bringing up voters, I suppose?—Yes.

22,713. What else did you receive?—Nothing else.

22,714. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive anything on the other side?—No.

22,715. What voters did you take up to Brewer Monk?—Henry Lane; I took him to the poll.

22,716. Did you bribe Henry Lane?—I did.

22,717. What did you give him?—£5.

22,718. Did you receive that money from Brewer Monk to give him?—I did.

22,719. Was Henry Lane your cousin?—Yes.

22,720. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You did not consider the money which was paid to you was for your vote?—No, I did not consider it so.

22,721. Did you always belong to that party?—I did in 1857 and 1859.

22,722. (*Mr. Welford.*) In 1857 you voted for Price and Berkeley, did you?—Yes, for Price and Berkeley.

22,723. Did you receive anything then?—No.

22,724. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you do anything at all except giving this 5*l.* to your cousin?—I was out helping and assisting in getting the voters together.

22,725. What do you say you did; how long were you engaged?—I was about pretty well for three weeks.

22,726. What voters did you take up, or what voters did you see?—That is the only voter I took up.

22,727. Did you take him to the committee-room?—No, I did not; he said in London that I did, but that was an infamous story.

22,728. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who said so?—Henry Lane said so in the House of Commons; I never took him near the place.

22,729. (*Mr. Welford.*) You attended the committee-room yourself, did you?—I did not attend the committee-room myself.

22,730. What you received was for assisting Brewer Monk to bribe the voters?—I do not know about bribing voters; I admit bribing one.

22,731. Who else did you take up?—No one else.

WILLIAM TIMOTHY WATTS sworn and examined. *W. T. Watts.*

22,732. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A waterman.

22,733. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

22,734. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 3*l.*, and my wife received 1*l.*

22,735. Who paid that?—James Williams.

22,736. What James Williams is that?—He works under Mr. Price.

22,737. Did you receive anything else from the other side?—No.

22,738. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

22,739. Had you no vote?—No.

22,740. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a householder.

22,741. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did James Williams pay your wife the 1*l.*?—Yes.

22,742. You know that?—Yes.

22,743. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who paid you?—James Williams.

22,744. Did you not get 5*l.*?—No.

22,745. Are you sure of that?—Yes.

22,746. Did your wife get no more than 1*l.*?—Only 1*l.*

22,747. Is James Williams Mr. Price's foreman?—I believe he is something of that kind; he works for Mr. Price.

THOMAS BEARD sworn and examined. *T. Beard.*

22,748. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Barton Street?—Yes.

22,749. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

22,750. For whom?—Price and Monk.

22,751. What did you get for your vote?—I had 3*l.* before the election and 3*l.* after the election.

22,752. From whom?—I did not receive it myself, it was left at my house for me I understood by a person of the name of Bennett.

22,753. What Bennett?—Benjamin Bennett.

22,754. Did you know who it came from? Did it come from Mr. Brewer Monk?—I cannot tell where it came from.

22,755. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it left with your wife for you?—Yes.

22,756. By Benjamin Bennett?—Yes.

22,757. Your wife told you so?—Yes.

22,758. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

22,759. For whom?—For Carden.

22,760. What did you receive?—Nothing at all.

22,761. You are a tenant of Mr. Goodrich's?—Yes, I have lived in that house 24 years.

22,762. Has Mr. Goodrich canvassed you at times for your vote?—Never in my life. I beg pardon, the last election, when I was out at work my mistress told me that Mr. Goodrich wanted to see me about my vote, but as for himself, I never saw him at all.

22,763. Did you know Henry Arkell, Mr. Goodrich's late agent?—Yes.

22,764. Did he ever canvass you for your vote?—Times out of number, both municipal and parliamentary, when he was in that situation.

22,765. Did he canvass you on the part of Sir Robert Carden?—No.

22,766. Who did he canvass you for?—He never canvassed me for Sir Robert Carden.

22,767. Was not he Mr. Goodrich's agent at the time of the election in 1857?—Yes; he might have asked me in the street; he said, "Beard, will you poll "for Sir Robert Carden?" and I said, "Well I was "always inclined that way, and I dare say I shall;" that was in 1857.

22,768. Did he ask you for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—In the street he did, but not at my house.

22,769. Did he promise you anything if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

22,770. He did not?—Never.

22,771. Did he tell you that if you did not vote for Sir Robert Carden it would be worse for you?—No.

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T. Beard.
26 Oct. 1859.

22,772. Were you in arrear for your rent at the time of the election in 1857 ?—No, I do not know that I was more than about a quarter I suppose.

22,773. Do you remember any offer being made to you that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden you should have a recept for your rent ?—No.

22,774. Did you pay your rent ?—Yes.

22,775. After the election of 1857 ?—Yes, some time after.

22,776. You never received any remission of any portion of your rent, in consequence of your voting for Sir Robert Carden ?—Never in my life.

22,777. And no inducement to vote for Sir Robert Carden was held out to you, to the effect that you should have an abatement of your rent ?—No.

22,778. And no threat was ever used towards you if you would not vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No.

22,779. Did you pay your rent after the election, or was it paid for you ?—I do not think I paid any rent till the September following, and then I cleared up.

22,780. You paid a half-year's rent then; there was no allowance made to you ?—Oh, no; I never had any allowance at all for electioneering purposes.

22,781. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you pay it yourself ?—Yes.

22,782. Do you know a person named Goodyear ?—Yes, very well.

22,783. Did he offer you anything ?—No.

22,784. Or give you anything ?—No, he never gave me anything in his life.

22,785. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you canvassed by Mr. Goodyear at the last election ?—No.

22,786. You were not canvassed by him at all ?—No; Mr. Goodyear never asked me any questions at all about the election.

A. Evans

ARTHUR EVANS sworn and examined.

22,787. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Hare Lane.

22,788. Are you a freeman ?—Yes.

22,789. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Carden.

22,790. What did you receive for your vote ?—£8.

22,791. From whom ?—James Maysey.

22,792. For whom did you vote at the election before, in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

22,793. What did you receive then ?—£2 10*s.*

22,794. From whom ?—James Maysey.

22,795. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A smith.

22,796. A whitesmith ?—Yes.

C. H. Evans.

CHARLES HILL EVANS sworn and examined.

22,797. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—At Windmill Terrace, near Gloucester.

22,798. What are you ?—A tailor.

22,799. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

22,800. What did you receive for your vote ?—Not anything at all.

22,801. Did you receive no money from anybody ?—No.

22,802. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857 ?—Mr. Carden.

22,803. Did you receive anything then ?—Yes.

22,804. What did you receive?—£2, after I had voted.

22,805. Who paid you ?—I had it from my brother.

22,806. What is his name ?—Arthur Evans.

22,807. Who did he get it from, do you know ?—I believe he had it from Mr. Maysey.

22,808. (*Mr. Vaughan to Arthur Evans.*) Where did you get the 2*l.* from that you gave to your brother ?—From James Maysey.

22,809. (*Mr. Welford to the witness.*) You received nothing at the last election ?—No.

22,810. Were you on the committee ?—No.

J. Smart.

JOHN SMART sworn and examined.

22,811. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—A bookbinder.

22,812. Are you a freeman ?—No, I am a householder.

22,813. Do you remember voting at the last election ?—Yes; I voted for Sir Robert Carden.

22,814. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

22,815. Who gave it you ?—Philip Smart.

22,816. Is that your son ?—One of them.

22,817. Were you offered money on the other side ?—I cannot say I was offered money, I was told I should have it provided I would go and vote first. I did not see the colour of any of their money; it was all promises and no performance.

22,818. How much were you offered ?—I was not offered any money at all by the liberal party; not to receive the money; only a promise that if I would vote for them I should have it.

22,819. Was it David Lane who promised you ?—That was the man.

22,820. How much did he promise you ?—£8 he promised me if I would vote first.

22,821. He promised that if you would vote for Price and Monk he would give you 8*l.* ?—Yes.

22,822. But he wanted you to vote first ?—Yes, and I left him and would not talk to him after that.

22,823. You wanted to have the money first ?—Yes, certainly; but he would not give me the money first.

22,824. When you found you were to vote first and to have the money afterwards you would not talk any further to him ?—No, I would not.

22,825. Do you remember saying to David Lane that you could get 10*l.* for your vote ?—No, I do not know. I may have said that I could have it if I was to try, but I was not offered 10*l.*

22,826. Do you remember your son coming down the street and taking you off ?—He said, "Do not "stop bothering with them; go on home;" and I went home, and about breakfast time Philip Smart comes and says, "There is 6*l.*, take that," and he gave it to me, and I took it, and I did not bother any more with the others.

22,827. You thought it was better to have the 6*l.* than to have the promise of 8*l.* ?—Yes.

22,828. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden, a plumper.

22,829. What did you get then ?—Only 2*l.*

22,830. Who did you get that from ?—Mr. Whithorn.

22,831. Where did you receive that money from him ?—I suppose it is what they call the committee-room; there was about 20 rooms in the house.

22,832. In the Westgate Street ?—Yes.

22,833. Was it in the room where Mr. Whithorn was ?—Yes; there was no one but me and him in the room when I received it.

22,834. Did you go there by yourself, or were you taken there by any other person in 1857 ?—I was by myself when I had the money, when I went into the room with Mr. Whithorn, but I was with a person before talking to him.

22,835. Were you by yourself when you saw Mr. Whithorn ?—I saw Mr. Whithorn when I was by myself, and when I was not by myself, when I was with another person; first of all when I saw him I had another person with me.

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J. Smart.

26 Oct. 1859.

22,836. When you received the 2*l.* from Mr. Whithorn were you by yourself?—I was by myself when I received the money.

22,837. Was that in a small room?—The room was not very large.

22,838. Was it upstairs?—Yes.

22,839. Do you know the room which was called the committee-room upstairs?—No, I do not know what they called the room. It was a small room, with about two or three chairs in it.

22,840. Was it a small room off the landing upstairs?—Yes.

22,841. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you sure you were paid in 1857 by Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

22,842. Are you quite certain?—Quite certain.

22,843. Was it not Mr. Maysey who paid you?—No, I did not have a single sixpenny piece of Mr. Maysey.

22,844. You are sure it was Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

22,845. You know him well, do you?—Yes, I know him well.

22,846. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who canvassed you in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Butt, the iron founder, and I think Mr. Whithorn was there, but I am not certain.

22,847. How came you to go to Mr. Whithorn on the day of the polling?—Why, there was plenty of other people going in and out, and I thought I might as well go in and see what was going on.

22,848. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you hear that some money was to be had there?—I thought there was something comfortable going on; people seemed so comfortable when they came out.

THOMAS BAYLIS sworn and examined. *T. Baylis.*

22,849. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A tailor.

22,850. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

22,851. Where is your house?—In Dean's Walk.

22,852. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.

22,853. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.

22,854. Who paid you?—Mr. Maysey.

22,855. Who did you vote for at the election before?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.

22,856. What did you receive then?—I think I received then 2*l.* 10*s.*; I believe it was 2*l.* 10*s.*

22,857. Who paid you?—Mr. Maysey, I think, then.

22,858. Did you receive that on the day of the election?—I would not be certain whether it was the day before or the day after. I am not certain; it was there or thereabouts.

WILLIAM TINKLER sworn and examined. *W. Tinkler.*

22,859. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In the Westgate Street.

22,860. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

22,861. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

22,862. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

22,863. Who gave it you?—Thomas Brewer Monk.

22,864. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—No one.

22,865. You had no vote then?—No.

22,866. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A basket maker.

22,867. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a master man?—Yes.

JAMES WILKINS sworn and examined. *J. Wilkins.*

22,868. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

22,869. What are you?—A tailor.

22,870. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A freeman.

22,871. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

22,872. What did you receive for your vote?—£3.

22,873. From whom?—From Mr. Whithorn.

22,874. What did you receive in 1857?—£2 10*s.*

22,875. Who did you vote for?—Sir Robert Carden.

22,876. From whom did you receive 2*l.* 10*s.*?—Mr. Maysey.

CHARLES GLENDALL sworn and examined. *C. Glendall.*

22,877. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman or householder?—A freeman.

22,878. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Carden.

22,879. What did you receive for your vote?—Oh, I wish I had had it.

22,880. What did you receive?—Nothing at all.

22,881. Had you nothing at all for your vote?—No.

22,882. Were you offered any money for your vote?—No.

22,883. Not on either side?—No.

22,884. What are you by trade?—I am a knacker and hammer man; that is, I work in a smith's shop.

22,885. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Carden.

22,886. What did you get then?—£2.

22,887. From whom?—Mr. Maysey.

22,888. For your vote?—Yes.

22,889. Are you quite sure you got nothing in 1859, the last election?—No.

22,890. (*Mr. Welford.*) How was that?—I did not take any trouble; I did not trouble myself about it; if a man is a man, let him be a man; that is the way I look at it.

22,891. You have improved then since 1857?—Yes, I improved 1857 at 2*l.*; Mr. Maysey gave me 2*l.*

22,892. But since then you have thought better of it?—Yes.

22,893. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you want more this time than 2*l.*?—I never asked the parties neither on one side or the other; they said, "Never mind, let "him go." I knew my pals, I said; they knew that I had been good and staunch.

22,894. What time in the day did you poll in 1859?—I might say about half-past nine, or between that and ten, in the morning; they asked me what my profession was, and I said a knacker man.

JOHN DIX sworn and examined. *J. Dix.*

22,895. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Mitre Street.

22,896. What are you?—A cordwainer.

22,897. Are you in Mr. David Lane's employment?—Yes.

22,898. Who did you vote for in 1859 at the last election?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

22,899. How much did you receive for your vote?—I received from Mr. David Lane the sum of 40*l.* between four of us; that is 10*l.* apiece.

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J. Dix.
26 Oct. 1859.

22,900. You received 40*l.* from Mr. David Lane, did you?—Yes.

22,901. Was that for yourself and your three brothers?—One brother and two sons.

22,902. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

22,903. What did you receive then?—£2 10*s.*

22,904. For yourself?—Yes.

22,905. Who did you receive that from?—Mr. Maysey.

22,906. Did you receive any money for your brother and two sons then?—No.

22,907. Did you tell David Lane that you had got a great deal more money than that at previous elections?—No; I never got much more than that.

22,908. You never got much more than 10*l.*?—No; I do not know that I ever got more.

22,909. Did you tell him that you had had 16*l.*—No; I never received no such money.

22,910. Did you not tell David Lane that you had received a great deal more money than 10*l.* at previous elections?—No, I never did.

22,911. Do you think you ever had more than 10*l.* at previous elections?—I might have had.

22,912. When did you have as much as 10*l.* before?—I do not know when I had as much, not that I can recollect; but I know I have had some money.

22,913. Had you as much as 10*l.* at any elections previous to 1857?—No, I could not recollect that ever I had.

22,914. Who have you voted for at a previous election, when you received money?—I never received more than 10*l.*, to my knowledge.

22,915. Who have you voted for when you received money at any previous elections?—I do not know that I received money more than twice; that was, once at Mr. Hope's election.

22,916. Did you receive money for voting for Mr. Hope twice?—No, only once.

22,917. Who did you vote for when you received money the other time?—Mr. Carden.

22,918. Are those the only times you have received money?—Those are the only three times; I might have received money, if I had liked, after that.

22,919. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How long have you been on the register?—Ever since Phillpotts's first election.

22,920. Have you not always had money for your vote?—No.

22,921. Did you know Mr. Hudson?—Yes.

22,922. Did you never get any money from him?—Not a farthing.

22,923. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What election was it when you got the money for voting for Mr. Hope?—The third election before this last, I think; there were two elections, one after the other.

J. Dix, jun.

JOHN DIX, junior, sworn and examined.

22,924. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for in 1859?—Price and Monk.

22,925. What did you get for your vote?—£10.

22,926. Did you get it from your father?—Yes.

22,927. Did you get any money for your vote in 1857?—Yes.

22,928. How much?—£2 10*s.*

22,929. Who from?—Mr. Maysey.

22,930. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes.

T. Dix.

THOMAS DIX sworn and examined.

22,931. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote in 1859?—Yes.

22,932. Did your brother give you 10*l.*?—Yes, I voted for Price and Monk.

22,933. Did your brother give you 10*l.*?—Yes.

22,934. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

22,935. What did you get then?—£2.

22,936. Who gave it you?—Mr. Maysey.

T. Pegler.

THOMAS PEGLER sworn and examined.

22,937. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—I keep a small grocer's shop.

22,938. Are you a greengrocer?—I sell grocery, and I am a greengrocer and a gardener.

22,939. Did you vote at the last election in 1859?—Yes.

22,940. For whom?—Price and Monk.

22,941. What did you get for your vote?—£6.

22,942. From whom?—John Mills.

22,943. Who is he?—A plasterer and painter; he lives in Worcester Street.

22,944. Did you vote in 1857?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden then.

22,945. How much did you receive?—2*l.*

22,946. From whom?—James Haines brought it to me; I do not know who he brought it from.

22,947. I suppose you knew what it was for?—I did not know what I was to have. I was to be paid for my expenses; it was as much as three weeks before I got it. Mr. Whithorn told me I should be satisfied my expenses.

D. Wilkins.

DAVID WILKINS sworn and examined.

22,948. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In St. Nicholas parish.

22,949. What are you?—A manure dealer.

22,950. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

22,951. What did you get for your vote?—I received a sovereign as a messenger.

22,952. What did you get at the last election?—I did not receive anything at all. I could not give any vote then.

22,953. In 1859?—I could not give any vote.

22,954. How much did you receive in 1857?—A sovereign for being messenger.

22,955. Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

22,956. You received 1*l.* as messenger?—Yes.

22,957. Was that all?—Yes.

22,958. Who paid it you?—Mr. Maysey.

28,959. Were you at the committee room?—Yes, I went to the committee room.

22,960. Were you there more than once?—Yes, twice.

Adjourned to to-morrow, at ten o'clock.

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Twenty-second Day.—26th October 1859.

THOMAS TAYNTON called and further examined. *T. Taynton.* 26 Oct. 1859.

22,961. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you a clerk in your employment of the name of Dee ?—I have.

22,962. Had you so at the last election ?—I had.

22,963. Has he a father who is a voter ?—He has.

22,964. Do you rememember giving any money to your clerk to be given to his father ?—No, never.

22,965. Do you remember giving any money at all to Dee's father ?—Never at all; never on any occasion.

22,966. Was Dee, your clerk, employed at the committee-room ?—He was a little; not very much.

22,967. At the last election ?—At the last election.

22,968. Was he in your employment at the election in 1857 ?—No, he was not.

22,969. Did your clerk receive any amount of money for his services at the committee-room ?—He did.

22,970. What did he receive ?—I do not know the precise sum, but I think it was 3*l.* or three guineas.

22,971. Was he, besides that, receiving the ordinary amount of remuneration which he would obtain from you as your clerk ?—He was; but the sum he was paid for being at the committee-room was chiefly for services rendered after my office had closed in the day. For some weeks or so before the polling day the clerks were very busy at the committee-room; and he, and two or three other clerks of solicitors in the town, were engaged after office hours until, perhaps, twelve or one o'clock in the morning, assisting in making up the necessary books for the poll. In that way Dee was engaged the whole of the nomination day. He was also engaged as check clerk on the polling day, and I allowed him to retain for himself the whole amount he received, as a little encouragement to him.

22,972. The payment of 3*l.* was made to him for extra work beyond the work he would have had to do as your clerk ?—Certainly; except as to the services he rendered on the polling day, which, strictly speaking, I of course should have been entitled to.

22,973. Do you know whether or not Dee, your clerk, gave his father 8*l.* for his vote ?—Certainly not, to my knowledge, and I feel quite confident that nothing of the kind took place. His father was a clerk engaged in the committee-room, and I have no doubt he was paid for those services; but what sum he received I do not know. I should say, with reference to the father, that he was one of the most efficient clerks we had there. He was a very steady man. He made himself very useful indeed, and was employed during the whole time from early in the morning till frequently very late at night.

RICHARD HELPS called and further examined. *R. Helps.*

22,974. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to make some statement to us ?—Yes. Your secretary mentioned to me, yesterday, when I came in with Mr. Goodrich, that my statements of the expenses of previous elections had been questioned. I immediately went to my friend Mr. Washbourne, and asked him to come this morning, and look at my books, in order that we might refresh our memory as to previous elections; and I will state to you, if you will allow me, what the expenses were, as they appear by my books, of the elections in January 1853, in July 1852, and also of the election in 1847. I am sure the Commissioners will excuse my mentioning, that when I appeared before them the other day, and gave my evidence, I had only returned by mail the night before, and had not been in Gloucester, except in passing through into Wales, for a considerable time. I had not referred to my accounts, nor did I speak, except from memory, being called up without any previous intimation. Now the expenses of the election in January 1853 were 693*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*; the election in 1852 cost 455*l.* 12*s.*; and the election in 1847 cost 1,832*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* I see that I received from Mr. Hope, on the 27th July 1847, 500*l.*; on the 3d November 1847, 500*l.*; and on the 20th of December, 600*l.*; making, in the year 1847, 1,600*l.* On the 4th of February I received from Mr. Samuel Baker 250*l.*; that made a gross sum of 1,850*l.*; and 18*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* was carried over as a balance to the election account of 1852. Mr. Washbourne had much more to do with the details of the election of 1847 than I had. As the principal agent, I avoided details as much as I could. Mr. Washbourne I am sure would wish to give you any explanation he can; and it is but fair to say that Mr. Washbourne's impression is that that 250*l.* which I received on the 4th February of Mr. Baker was a moiety of a sum of 500*l.* I have no recollection that it was so; but if Mr. Washbourne says it was I have no doubt he is correct. I had no recollection of it, nor can I say that I have any recollection of it now that my attention has been called to it; but if Mr. Washbourne says so I have no doubt he is correct. My books do not show it. They simply show a receipt from Mr. Samuel Baker on the 4th of February of 250*l.*

22,975. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean to say that the sums you have just mentioned are the whole sums that Mr. Hope expended in those elections ?—Yes; I am confident that in 1852 and 1853 not a farthing more was spent.

22,976. The election of 1847, which cost 1,832*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*, was the election at which there was no polling ?—There was no polling. There was a strong contest in this way, that Mr. Price retired the night before the polling, after every expense had been incurred in putting off voters who had promised to come from a distance. I recollect being up all night, sending messengers off in a variety of directions.

22,977. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How do you account for the difference between the expenses of 1847 and the expenses of 1852 ?—The time was shorter, and no agents were paid in 1852.

22,978. Do you attribute the difference to the fact of the nonpayment of agents in 1852 ?—In part; but besides that there were no ribbons and no bands; there was a chairing, too, in 1847, which there was not in 1852.

22,979. Are you under the impression that to some extent the difference may be accounted for by the expenditure of money in 1847 in bribery ?—No; I do not think that one farthing was expended in bribery.

22,980. I suppose that if there had been any money expended in bribery you would not have been informed of it ?—I can only say that I received the most positive injunctions that one man could receive from another that I was to sanction no bribery on Mr. Hope's behalf, and nothing should have induced me to do it, directly or indirectly.

22,981. You would not sanction bribery yourself, and you were not aware, if bribery did take place, that it had existed at that election ?—I was not, nor do I believe it now.

22,982. Your belief is that none did take place ?—My belief is that none did take place on Mr. Hope's behalf.

22,983. I suppose there were subordinate agents at that election, the same as there have been found to be at the last election in Gloucester ?—Yes.

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R. Heps.
—
26 Oct. 1859.

22,914. Are you aware whether any money was paid by Mr. Hope on account of his elections at Gloucester to any other person but yourself?—Certainly not, when I acted for him.

22,985. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Does that apply to 1847?—Yes.

22,986. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say you received a sum of 250*l.* in 1848 from Mr. Baker?—Yes.

22,987. Was that sum transmitted to Mr. Baker by Mr. Hope?—Mr. Hope and Mr. Baker were great personal friends. Mr. Baker was a merchant, formerly in partnership with Mr. Phillpotts; and I see that the 4th of February is our annual dinner, and I imagine that Mr. Baker had seen Mr. Hope a few days before, and brought me the cheque.

22,988. My object in putting the question to you was to ascertain whether or not any money might have come to Mr. Baker or to any other gentleman in Gloucester or the neighbourhood, with reference to the election, of which you were not cognizant?—I believe not; I have no reason whatever for believing it.

22,989. You do not know under what circumstances it was that the 250*l.* came into your hands through Mr. Baker, instead of coming to you direct from Mr. Hope?—No, I do not; it is twelve years ago.

22,990. I should not have addressed you upon the point except that you appeared to be able to afford rather accurate information about 1847, and therefore I thought it possible that your memory might serve you still further about it. You received 250*l.* from Mr. Baker, but you cannot say how it was that the money found its way to Mr. Baker's hands from Mr. Hope instead of coming to you direct?—I think I can. After that election it was determined, at a meeting at which Mr. Baker was present, that dinners should be given to Mr. Hope's supporters shortly after the election. Mr. Baker took the principal management of that; and my impression is, that that money was paid to me to be paid for those dinners that took place after the election.

22,991. To voters?—To voters and friends.

22,992. A general dinner?—Yes. There was a dinner at the Bell, at which the principal members of the party would pay their own expenses; and there were dinners given at smaller houses to Mr. Hope's friends and supporters, for which he paid.

22,993. So far as you yourself know, no money was paid by Mr. Hope with reference to those elections of which you yourself were not cognizant?—I should say certainly not.

22,994. You have heard it stated, have you not, that the election in 1847 had cost Mr. Hope as much as 14,000*l.*?—I think you asked me that question before. I am not sure; I should say certainly not; I have no doubt about it. If the Commissioners should find it is necessary for the purposes of justice that those previous elections should be gone into minutely, I will produce my books, and every paper I have in my possession relative to them.

22,995. We do not intend to go minutely into any election anterior to 1857?—I feel it my duty, as I expressed to your secretary, to give every information in my power. I do not wish to reserve anything; but I must say, that, referring to these old matters, and ripping up old sores, is doing a great deal of harm in the city. Persons who have forgotten all these things and forgiven each other, are affected by it; and it is, I am afraid, doing no good. I speak as a person bearing office in the city.

22,996. We are only discharging our duty in the best way we can?—I ventured to preface what I said by saying, that if you considered the ends of justice required it, I should be the first to give you every information in my power.

22,997. (*Mr. Welford.*) One cannot help observing, that although it may occasion the ripping up of old sores, that is the result of recent acts of which we have heard a great deal too much?—With the acts of 1857 and 1859 I had personally nothing to do.

22,998. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were there any bills from the election of 1847 standing over and unpaid?—There were a variety of bills which I refused to sanction, and which Mr. Hope refused to sanction.

22,999. (*Mr. Welford.*) And they were not paid?—They were not paid.

23,000. (*Mr Vaughan.*) A variety of bills for sums of money beyond the amount of 1,832*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* to which you have spoken?—Yes.

23,001. Were those bills paid by any persons in Gloucester afterwards?—Not to my knowledge.

23,002. Do you know to what amount those bills extended?—No.

23,003. Can you form no opinion?—No.

23,004. There were a number of bills?—There were a number of bills.

23,005. Not sanctioned by yourself or Mr. Hope?—No.

23,006. What was the reason of their not being sanctioned?—They were not ordered; nobody had ordered them.

23,007. You did not object to them in consequence of their being improper, but simply because they had not been previously sanctioned by you?—Yes; there were no orders given by any authorized person for them, and I advised Mr. Hope not to pay them.

23,008. What was the character of those bills?—I had rather not answer that question, unless you think it necessary.

23,009. Can you give us any idea as to the amount?—No.

23,010. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were they publicans' bills?—Yes.

22,011. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say orders were not given for those bills; that they were not sanctioned, and that they were publicans' bills; were there bills of any other parties?—I believe not.

23,012. They were all publicans' bills?—All of them.

23,013. Have you any reason to believe that any of those bills were paid afterwards?—No.

23,014. You think that up to the present moment they are unpaid?—I have no knowledge that they have been paid.

23,015. Was the amount of them serious?—I should say not; "serious" is a relative term.

23,016. Would they amount to as much as 1,000*l.*?—No, I should say not.

23,017. £500.?—I can but give you a very rough idea. I should say they might be somewhere rather under 500*l.*

23,018. You cannot say specifically what the amount was, but you think they might have been something under 500*l.*?—Yes.

23,019. During the time you were Mr. Hope's agent, was Mr. Hope in the habit of making large contributions year by year to charities and institutions in Gloucester?—He subscribed to the charities. I saw a sum of 10*l.* given to the dispensary, and I believe he subscribed to the infirmary. I am not sure that he does not subscribe still.

25,020. Did the money that Mr. Hope contributed in one way and another during the years that intervened between one election and another pass through your hands?—I think it did, principally, but I am not quite sure about that.

23,021. Can you state what amount he generally contributed each year to the public and individual charities of Gloucester?—I could not, from recollection; but he was a liberal supporter of all the charities in the town.

23,022. And was he a liberal supporter also of individuals who were in distress and in poor circumstances?—No; I do not know that he was; I do not recollect any case of the kind.

23,023. Did he make annual benefactions in blankets and things of that sort?—He subscribed to the Benevolent Charity, which was a charity for disposing of the sums collected in coals and blankets.

23,024. Can you give us any information as to what was the amount that Mr. Hope contributed generally in the course of the year towards the local

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charities and eleemosynary institutions of Gloucester?—I should think it was somewhere about 50*l.*

23,025. Not more than that?—No, certainly not more than that.

23,026. What amount did he expend in blankets and coals?—I do not think he did anything for individuals. I never knew him do anything except through these institutions.

23,027. You think no money was sent down to Gloucester for those purposes, except through you?—I am not sure about that. He had many personal friends here; and in cases of distress, if they applied to him, he might send money to them.

23,028. Were any subscriptions given by him towards the expense of municipal contests during the time he was connected with the city?—He occasionally subscribed. I know of one case in which he subscribed to the municipal elections.

23,029. In what year was that; do you remember?—I have not a notion of the year. The only thing that I recollect of it is, that some gentleman said that Mr. Hope had subscribed 10*l.* upon the occasion of his election.

23,030. Is that the only subscription that you are aware of his having given for that purpose?—Yes; I never paid any.

23,031. In giving us the sums you have mentioned as the cost of the different elections,—in 1853, 693*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, in 1852, 455*l.* 12*s.*, and in 1847, 1,832*l.* 3*s.* 11.,—I do not understand you to say you are certain no other sums were expended upon those elections?—As to the election of 1853, I am positive that no other sum was paid by any other person; that is to say, I have no knowledge of any other sum having been paid, and I am convinced that there was none.

23,032. Are you equally positive with regard to the election of 1852?—Yes, I am equally positive.

23,033. You are positive that no other sums came either from Mr. Hope to your hands, or from Mr. Hope to any other person in Gloucester, or were paid by any other person on Mr. Hope's behalf on account of that election?—Yes.

23,034. Do you give the same answer with regard to the expenditure in 1847?—No; I believe it to be so, but I cannot speak so positively as to that.

23,035. You are the present Mayor of Gloucester?—I am.

23,036. Can you tell me whether the Corporation of Gloucester exercise any patronage with regard to any charitable institutions?—No, none.

23,037. There are two hospitals here, are there not; St. Bartholomew's Hospital and another?—They are under the governance of Charity Trustees appointed by the Lord Chancellor.

23,038. Has the Corporation any patronage vested in itself which might be made use of for the purpose of an election?—None whatever. By an Act of Parliament passed two years ago, the only patronage they may be said to have had was taken from them, which was in respect of the appointment of police constables, who were deprived of their votes; but that has now gone further in this city, because the city police has been amalgamated with the county police, and the Corporation have surrendered the appointment altogether.

23,039. Before the Reform Bill, I believe the franchise was vested in freemen only?—Yes.

23,040. How long had that franchise been enjoyed by them?—From the earliest period, I imagine.

23,041. What is the date of your earliest charter?—We have charters as old as Richard the Second and John. I think the last charter before the Reform Bill was a charter granted by Charles the Second.

Mr. Walker.—Henry the Second.

23,042. From the earliest period down to the passing of the Reform Bill the franchise was exercised by freemen?—Yes. I suppose at the date of our earliest charter there was no Commons House of Parliament.

23,043. Do you know when Gloucester first returned members to Parliament?—I think at a very early period.

Mr. Walker.—In the twenty-third of Edward the First.

The Witness.—Then Gloucester must have been summoned to the first Parliament that probably ever sat as a Commons House.

23,044. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) With regard to that sum of 500*l.*, the amount of the bills which had been run up which you refused to pay, I suppose those bills would not have been run up unless the parties had had some reason to expect that they would be paid after the election?—My belief is that they were run up without the slightest authority whatever.

23,045. But still, I suppose, the publicans would not have allowed bills to so large an amount to have run up unless they had expectations that they would be paid afterwards?—It does not seem reasonable that they should.

23,046. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did they plead precedent; did they plead previous payment of similar bills?—I do not recollect that they did.

23,047. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did they not say that they had allowed those bills to be run up because such had been the custom before?—I should say not.

23,048. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your knowledge does not extend beyond 1847, as Mr. Hope's agent?—No; not as his agent.

23,049. (*Mr. Welford.*) Still you were an inhabitant of Gloucester?—Yes; and I have taken part in elections, though not as the principal agent, ever since I have been in Gloucester; and I was in business here in 1833.

23,050. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you think that these publicans would have given credit to so large an amount as they did unless they had had reason to believe that their bills would afterwards be paid, founding their belief on what had been the former practice?—With reference to those bills, I had a very painful duty to perform, both as regards myself and as regards Mr. Hope. The matter was very much discussed; and Mr. Hope said, "Whatever persons in authority have sanctioned I will pay; and I leave it to you, Mr. Helps, to advise me whether I ought to pay these bills or not." I may mention, that the instructions which Mr. Hope had given me previous to the election had been most particular and precise. I recollect that on one occasion, it having come to his ears that a house was opened, he sent for me to know whether it had been sanctioned by me or by anybody connected with him; and stated that if it was he was prepared to resign and leave the town.

23,051. My question was not intended to impute anything to you or Mr. Hope; but, on the contrary, I only want to know, as a matter of fact, whether the expectations of these publicans were not based on a former practice which had prevailed in the borough?—As a matter of fact I do not know that they were, but very probably there had been much more laxity formerly.

23,052. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It is your belief that that was the practice formerly, is it not?—Yes. I feel very sensitive upon this point; and if the Commissioners had not put into my mouth that these bills were of a particular class I should not have wished to answer the question; but after these bills had been so incurred, there was a reference to Mr. Hope, and Mr. Hope referred the parties back to me; and persons, regardless of my character in the town, have repeatedly stated, and it has come to me, that I have received money to pay these bills, and have appropriated it to my own use; and I am glad, in the face of this Court and this Commission, to say, that I never received one single farthing from Mr. Hope that I did not properly and strictly apply.

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E. Washbourne.

EDWARD WASHBOURNE called and further examined.

26 Oct. 1859.

23,053. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Helps informs us that you can give us some detailed statement with regard to the expenditure of 1847?—I think Mr. Helps is a little in error as to the total cost of that election. I think the total cost was a little over 2,000*l.*

23,054. Do you include in that sum of 2,000*l.* the additional sum of 250*l.*?—My impression is, Mr. Baker received 500*l.* from Mr. Hope, and, I think, one moiety of that 500*l.* came into my possession prior to paying over the balance.

23,055. It did not go into Mr. Helps's hands, but came into your hands?—It came into my hands.

23,056. For what purpose did that money come into your hands?—For the general purposes of the election. A considerable part of the money came into my hands. Mr. Helps paid me from time to time sums of money as I required them for the purposes of the election.

23,057. Were you at that election the distributor of the monies that Mr. Helps received?—In fact the principal management of that election remained with me. Mr. Helps was my senior, and, consequently, I conferred with him from time when anything was done, but a great deal of the management of the details rested with myself.

23,058. What was the amount of the publicans' bills that remained unpaid after the election?—I think Mr. Helps has exaggerated the amount; I do not think that the amount was more than half 500*l.*; I do not believe it was so much.

23,059. Did all the publicans' bills that were unpaid after that election come under your inspection?—Yes; they all came under my inspection.

20,060. So that you are enabled to speak with some certainty as to the amount of them?—It is so long ago that I cannot speak with absolute certainty.

23,061. You are giving the impression on your mind, derived from the actual inspection of those bills?—Precisely so.

23,062. Was any portion of that money, to your knowledge, spent in bribery?—Not one farthing.

23,063. Not in direct bribery?—Not one farthing.

23,064. A considerable portion of money was spent probably in treating?—No; not a great deal in treating. There were various causes for the large amount expended in that election. In the first place, the agents on that occasion were very expensive. It was a very long canvass; I think the canvass lasted six weeks.

23,065. You think that no money was spent in direct bribery, and that very little was spent in treating?—I am quite sure there was none spent in direct bribery; and I will give you the reason why. Mr. Hope and myself audited the account; he did it most minutely, and I am quite sure that he would not have allowed one farthing if there had been anything charged for bribery.

23,066. Do you mean that Mr. Hope paid nothing beyond the amount of the various items in the account which was submitted to him?—I am quite sure of it; I am quite sure that nothing was paid except through myself or Mr. Helps.

23,067. And are you sure that Mr. Hope himself audited the account, and paid nothing more than the sum stated in it?—He paid nothing more; he audited the account himself with me.

23,068. Do you know whether or not there were any persons in Gloucester at that election who were volunteers in the cause, and advanced money for the purpose of bribery?—I do not think there were, because Mr. Hope, on that occasion, was very particular, and would not make any one responsible except myself and Mr. Helps.

23,069. You are not aware that at any subsequent period any money was paid by Mr. Hope beyond the sum you state?—I am almost certain that no money was ever paid except to us.

23,070. For what purpose was that sum of 500*l.* sent to Mr. Baker?—The impression that I entertain is this, that Mr. Baker, who was an intimate friend of Mr. Hope's, received of Mr. Hope, on his communication with him in town, the first 500*l.* that came for the general purposes of the election.

23,071. Not the last payment, but the first payment?—That is my impression. I may say that Mr. Hope consulted Mr. Baker with reference to his coming to Gloucester upon that occasion. Mr. Hope had been defeated at the preceding election, and I think he consulted Mr. Baker as to his appearing again as a candidate; in fact I know he did.

23,072. Was there at those elections a considerable expenditure in ribbons and band?—Bands were very expensive, and ribbons were also expensive.

23,073. Were those expensive items?—Very expensive items; and flags; and we had also chairing, and that was an expensive business.

23,074. Did the sum which has been mentioned, amounting to a little more than 2,000*l.*, cover the whole of those expenses?—Yes; it covered the whole of those expenses.

23,075. Do you think that there could not have been any larger sum of money expended without your knowledge?—I am quite positive there could not have been any money spent except with my knowledge.

23,076. Do you know whether or not any sums of money were paid afterwards in respect of outstanding claims connected with that election?—I do not believe there were.

23,077. Do you know whether or not in 1847 there had been any promises made to voters?—Not to my knowledge, and I do not believe there were any promises made.

23,078. There was no poll, because Mr. Price resigned?—No; the canvass of Mr. Hope was so very good that it left Mr. Price in a hopeless minority.

23,079. Are you aware of Mr. Hope having been in the habit of supporting his interest in Gloucester by large benefactions to the institutions, or to individuals, in blankets and coals?—I think he was a subscriber to most of the local charities; but I am not aware, of my own knowledge, that he gave anything away in coals and blankets.

23,080. You do not know whether or not he paid considerable sums of money every year, from the time of his first connexion with Gloucester until his connexion with it ceased?—In the year 1838 I became more prominently connected with Mr. Hope, and I do not think that since that period I know of any money being given by him for coals and blankets; certainly I do not know it of my own knowledge.

23,081. You do not know that large benefactions were made by Mr. Hope during the time he was connected with Gloucester, and that those benefactions formed upon public occasions the subject of reproach, as being a desecration of charity for party purposes?—He was liberal; he subscribed to most of the useful local institutions; but I do not believe that they at all affected his interest in Gloucester; at least very slightly indeed. He had a very good name; he was a very popular man in Gloucester.

23,082. Popular, I suppose, in consequence of the sums he contributed from time to time towards the institutions, or towards the relief of individuals in Gloucester?—I do not speak with reference to individuals, because I am not aware that he did relieve any.

23,083. Did you ever hear that Mr. Samuel Bowyer has publicly referred to the large expenditure of money by Mr. Hope in benefactions of one kind and another as being a desecration of charity for party purposes?—If I ever heard of it I have forgotton it. I have no recollection of it at present.

23,084. Did you take part in the elections of 1852 and 1853?—Yes, I did.

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23,085. You have heard Mr. Helps's evidence with regard to those elections?—I took much the same position in 1852 as I did in 1847.

23,086. Do you concur with Mr. Helps in the evidence he has given respecting the expenditure at those elections?—Yes, I do.

23,087. Do you consider that no money at all was spent in the elections in either of those years beyond the sums he has mentioned?—No; I do not believe that any sums beyond those which have been mentioned by Mr. Helps were expended in those two years.

23,088. Do you think that if any other sum had been spent you must have known it?—I think so.

23,089. Were you at all cognizant of bribery, or of any improper means being resorted to, at either of those elections?—The 1852 election was a most pure election.

23,090. Do you say the same with regard to the election of 1853?—Yes; my impression is that the constituency were a very good constituency at that time.

23,091. They have become very much worse since then?—By all accounts.

23,092. (*Mr. Welford.*) There is this difference between your statement and that of Mr. Helps, that you think 250*l.* more than he appears to have any trace of in his books was expended on the election; can you account for the expenditure of that additional 250*l.*?—It went much in the same way are as the other portion.

23,093. It appears that, at all events, there was a sum of 250*l.* more than Mr. Helps can trace. Is it not possible that there may have been some other sums that may have passed either through your own or somebody else's hands?—No; I am positive there are no other sums.

23,094. How do you account for the fact of the whole of the 500*l.* not coming into Mr. Helps's own account, and not appearing in his book?—It is only an impression I maintain with reference to the 500*l.* that came from Mr. Baker. 250*l.* might have come direct from Mr. Hope to myself. Why I feel positive upon the subject is, that I have a strong recollection that the costs of the election were over 2,000*l.*, as audited by Mr. Hope.

23,095. And you think the purposes for which that extra sum of 250*l.* was expended were the same as the purposes for which the other sum was expended which appeared upon the account audited by Mr. Hope?—Yes; that 250*l.* was in the same account. We had but one account.

23,096. There was no division between legal and illegal expenditure?—There was no division at all; it was all in one account, and the account was vouched and every item gone into by Mr. Hope.

23,097. Was that account made out in considerable detail, or were there lump sums put down?—It was made out quite in detail, and audited in detail. I may say that Mr. Hope went down as low as 3*s.* 6*d.*

23,098. Has there been any payment in the nature of head money to the voters after the election?—Not recently. Many years ago there used to be.

23,099. There was none in 1847?—No. The electors had a dinner in 1847.

23,100. At that dinner they had no sum of money given to them?—No money whatever.

23,101. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How long is it since that payment in the way of head money has ceased?—I think since the Reform Act. I believe that whatever bribery took place was subsequent to the Reform Act. I have never known, of my own knowledge, many cases of bribery; but those I did know of were many years ago.

23,102. Were you aware of an agreement having been come to in 1852 as to the mode in which the election should be conducted?—I was not aware of it until after it was signed by the candidates.

23,103. But you were aware of it then?—I was aware of it afterwards.

23,104. Looking to the difference between the expenditure at the election of 1847 and at the elections of 1852 and 1853, do you consider that diminution in the expenditure in the latter year was attributable to the fact of that agreement having been come to?—Not altogether; I do not think it was; I think there was a great deal saved by one circumstance, and that was, confining the candidate to one agent. There was a considerable saving in that. At the election in 1847 there were several agents, and expensive ones, employed.

23,105. At the election in 1852 there was only one solicitor employed?—Only one solicitor.

23,106. No solicitors were employed by the principal agent?—I took precisely the same part in 1852 that I did in 1847, but I did it as a friend of Mr. Helps, not expecting to receive any remuneration.

23,107. What I mean is this:—it appears that at the last election in 1859, and also in 1857, a large number of solicitors were employed on each side. Did the same thing take place at the elections in 1851 and 1853?—I do not think there were any solicitors paid at that time. I was not paid.

Mr. Helps.—I received no payment in 1852 at all.

The witness.—I know I did not expect to receive anything myself, and it was my impression that the others were working in the same way. I think I might say I recollect Mr. Helps telling me he did not intend to receive any fee in 1852. When we had some conversation, probably about the agreement, Mr. Helps very naturally requested that I would assist him as I had done before, and I said I would do so most readily; and I think he told me that he did not intend to take any fee.

23,108. Was it one of the terms of the agreement, that each side should be limited to one agent?—I believe it was.

23,109. Substantially it would be to that agreement then that the diminution in the expenditure would be attributable?—That branch of the expenditure would be very much limited.

23,110. Then it would substantially be to the agreement that the diminution of the expenditure would be attributable?—I am afraid I do not quite understand your question.

23,111. I referred you to the expenditure at the election of 1847, and also in 1852 and 1853, and looking to the great difference existing between the expenditures in those different elections, I asked you whether the diminution of the expenditure at that election was attributable to the agreement which was signed in 1852?—So far as the agents were concerned.

23,112. And in no other way?—There was no band in 1852, there were no colours, and there was no chairing. There would be a great saving in those things.

23,113. And a saving also in consequence of the diminished number of agents?—Yes.

23,114. Do you not also think that the diminution of the expenditure might be attributable to the circumstance that one of the terms of the agreement was that the election should be purely conducted?—Just so. I do not mean, in answering that question in the affirmative, to admit that there was any impropriety in 1847.

23,115. If there was no impropriety in 1847 you could not obtain an increase of purity in 1852?—I do not believe that the election in 1852 was more pure than the election in 1847.

23,116. Then the diminution of expenditure in 1852 would not be attributable to the fact that purity of election was one of the terms of the agreement?—That was the intention, no doubt.

23,117. Would you say that to the agreement was largely attributable the diminution of the expenditure in 1852?—I do not think that the expenses would have been very heavy even if the agreement had not been in existence, for Mr. Hope had fully

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made up his mind that he would never be elected on impurity principles in Gloucester.

23,118. I will remind you that the agreement had for its objects the diminution of the number of agents, of putting down chairing, putting down the use of colours, the employment of bands, and opening of public houses; do you not consider that those are matters of some importance with reference to economising the cost of an election?—No doubt they are; but at the same time I can state positively that Mr. Hope was most peremptory in his instructions, that there should be no illegal expenditure, either in the way of opening houses or in direct bribery; and I think he was fully prepared to act in the spirit of the agreement, even without it.

23,119. Do you not think that, owing to that agreement existing in 1852, which led to the diminution of the expense from 2,000*l.* in 1847 to 400*l.*, greater purity was obtained in the election in that year than had prevailed at the previous election in 1847?—I think I can say that owing to the existence of the agreement there was a very much less expenditure incurred in 1852 than there was in 1847.

23,120. The diminution of the number of agents, and putting down chairing, bands, colours, and assembling in public houses, was most important, was it not?—Yes, it was important, no doubt; but I knew what Mr. Hope's feelings were; they were very strong with reference to illegal expenditure.

23,121. (*Mr. Welford.*) When there is a long canvass previous to an election, does not that give rise to a considerable expenditure of money at public houses, and small treatings to voters; is not that the practice?—It used to be the practice formerly, but in the 1847 election we checked that as much as we possibly could; and, as Mr. Helps stated to you, when Mr. Hope heard that a house had been opened, he sent both for him and me, and stated that if he heard of anything more of the kind he would certainly resign and leave the town; and we were very apprehensive that in the event of anything coming to his ears of a very slight character he would not remain a candidate.

23,122. Is it the habit of canvassers going among the lower classes of voters to give them small quantities of beer, and pay for it at once, and then for such an expenditure of money to be brought in as the expenses of the canvass?—That might be the case; but I should be very careful indeed, if I knew it, in paying anything of the kind; I do not think I should have encouraged it by paying such expenses.

23,123. You do not think you would have sanctioned it?—I do not think I should in 1847.

23,124. What are the expenses of the canvass?—The agents are very expensive; professional agents.

23,125. So far as we have learned anything of the details of the Gloucester canvassing, a great proportion of canvassing is done by non-professional agents, not by solicitors, but by agents of a different class?—Solicitors were engaged very much at that time, more, perhaps, by professional men, than at the last election.

23,126. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There were more employed in canvassing in 1857?—The canvass was got up very close indeed.

23,127. (*Mr. Welford.*) You mean that most of the voters, including the lower classes of voters, were seen personally by solicitors?—They were seen personally by them, and they got promises from them; there were very few remaining unpromised.

23,128. You think that through professional men you got personal promises from them?—Yes, we did. We showed a very large majority over Mr. Price; a majority of something like 500.

23,129. Did you yourself personally canvass much in 1857?—Not a great deal.

23,130. So that you cannot say whether any of these promises were coupled with conditions?—No, I cannot, but I do not believe they were.

23,131. You would not have recognised any such promise?—I would not.

23,132. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was the subject of the publicans bills' mentioned at the audit by Mr. Hope?—Yes, it was.

23,133. Was it determined at that time that the sum should not be paid?—Prior to that we had come to a determination to recommend those bills not to be paid.

23,134. On the ground, as Mr. Helps has stated, that credit was given without any orders from any authorized person?—We had some reason to think that in some cases the goods were never supplied.

23,135. At all events there was a certain amount of credit given for goods supplied on the faith that some one would pay?—Yes; on the faith that some one or other would pay.

23,136. Do you believe that the publicans allowed bills to be run up in consequence of a practice that had prevailed before of paying such after the election was over?—I was not engaged in the 1842 election, and therefore I do not know anything that took place then. In 1838 the entire management of the election rested with myself, and there was nothing of that kind then that I recollect.

23,137. Do you think it is reasonable to suppose that credit would have been given by publicans to so large an extent without expectation of payment?—It is a speculation on their part, I think; they speculated that some one or other would pay.

23,138. Unless they had some facts on which to base an expectation of payment, do you think it likely that credit would have been given?—I think it was a speculation on their part; they thought that if they gave some beer away the candidate, or some one else, would pay for it.

23,139. Was not that speculation founded on what did formerly take place in the borough?—It may have been; I do not know that of my own knowledge. I think that in some instances the publicans might have received orders, not from anybody connected with Mr. Hope or his immediate supporters, but from some indiscreet person.

23,140. But if they had adopted the same practice in former years, and had not been paid for it, do you think they would have adopted it again?—Yes; I think they might, on speculation.

23,141. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say that Mr. Hope was a very popular candidate in Gloucester?—Yes.

23,142. Probably he was as popular a candidate as ever you had here on the Conservative side?—We never had one so popular.

23,143. You could not therefore have selected any more popular leader under whom you could have fought the Conservative battle in 1852 than you then had?—No, certainly not.

S. Herbert.

SAMUEL HERBERT called and further examined.

23,144. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to contradict some evidence that has been given before us?—Yes. I wish to be allowed to contradict a statement that was made by one of the Coopeys, I believe on Saturday last, that I had offered him 3*l.* at the last election.

23,145. (*Mr. Welford.*) The statement that he made applied not to the last election, but to 1857?—Then I contradict that statement entirely.

23,146. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you canvass the Coopeys at all before the last election?—Yes; I canvassed them in 1859, with Mr. Monk, and I left word then with Mrs. Coopey, who I have dealt with for many years, buying pea and bean sticks, to leave some at my house as soon as possible. She called on the following Saturday with these sticks, and asked for some beer. I believe that I asked Coopey for his vote; and the woman said, "Oh you can place no reliance upon him, for though he is my husband, he is a vile lot, and they are all a bad lot together."

23,147. That was the testimony of the wife with regard to her husband?—Yes. My brother-in-law

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was with me at the time. I certainly should not have offered Coopey a bribe, because Mr. Monk had told me previously that it was his particular wish that the Coopeys should not vote for him.

23,148. Did you give that Coopey a bottle of ale at your house?—No, certainly not; he had some ale. I always give it to those people when they bring articles of that kind.

23,149. Did you tell them that you would give them all 3*l.* each to vote for Price and Monk?—Certainly not.

23,150. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

23,151. And you deny that you offered him 3*l.* in 1857?—Certainly.

D. M. Walker and R. Helps.

DAVID MOWBRAY WALKER and RICHARD HELPS called and further examined.

23,152. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Walker.*) I believe you are acquainted with the history of Gloucester with respect to the dates of its charters?—I have referred very recently to a history of the city of Gloucester.

23,153. The first charter is of the date of Henry the Second, is it not?—I am not quite certain whether that is a charter or a grant, but there is one that goes as far back as the reign of Henry the Second.

23,154. Was that charter confirmed by a charter in the reign of Richard the Third?—Yes.

23,155. And was that again confirmed by a charter in the reign of James the First?—Yes.

23,156. And subsequently was there a charter granted by Charles the Second?—Yes, and that is the charter that continues in force now, modified, of course, by the provisions of the Municipal Reform Act.

23,157. Is that charter of Charles the Second the charter under which the freemen became entitled to the franchise?—No; the freemen were created before that time, but I cannot tell you exactly when.

23,158. Then the charter of Charles the Second only confirmed the right of the freemen to the exercise of the franchise of voting for the election of members of Parliament?—It confirmed all their former privileges.

23,159. Do you know when it was that members were first returned to Parliament for Gloucester?—In the twenty-third of Edward the First; and I may state that up to the time of James the First the burgesses were assessed in Gloucester for the expenses of their representatives.

23,160. Do you mean that the burgesses supported their representatives in Parliament?—I do not know to what extent it went, but they were assessed for the expenses of their representatives.

23,161. How does that appear?—It is mentioned in one of the histories of Gloucester. I extracted that fact from Fosbrooke's History.

23,162. But you do not know in what way or under what circumstances it was that the burgesses were assessed?—No. I merely state it as a fact that is recorded in the history of Gloucester.

23,163. Is Fosbrooke's History of Gloucester a book of authority?—It is; it is a recent book, and it comprises some of the best authorities of former writers on the history of Gloucester.

23,164. Is it the most recent history that has been published?—I am not quite sure whether Mr. Counsell's or Mr. Fosbrooke's is the last.

23,165. Before the reign of James the First the burgesses ceased, did they not, to contribute towards the expenses of members?—I believe so.

23,166. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know the circumstances under which the charter of Charles the Second was granted?—No, I do not. There had been a dispute; there was a contested election for the office of mayor, which I think had something to do with it.

23,167. Were there any proceedings taken on the part of the crown to resume the charter?—That I do not know.

Mr. *Helps.*—I think that all the charters were renewed after the Restoration. Probably the Commissioners would like to know that the custom of Borough-English prevails here.

23,168. (*Mr. Welford to Mr. Helps.*) Does the custom of Borough-English prevail to this day?—Yes; to this day. I have had legal proceedings in which the youngest son has been treated as the heir.

23,169. That is in the event of a person dying intestate?—Yes. It does not extend to collaterals. In the celebrated Wood case one of the claimants was heir according to the custom of Borough-English.

J. Karn.

JOSEPH KARN sworn and examined.

23,170. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Gloucester? I do.

23,171. Where do you live?—My private residence is in Westgate Street; my place of business is in Berkeley Street.

23,172. You are an elector of Gloucester?—Yes. I might as well state that I have never had anything to do with electioneering affairs. I have never been prominent in electioneering affairs in my life.

23,173. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

23,174. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Berkeley and Price.

23,175. You have wine stores, have you not?—Yes; wholesale; not retail.

23,176. At the election of 1857 were persons allowed to go into your wine stores to be treated by you in respect of their votes?—Certainly not; decidedly not.

23,177. You did not open any bottles of wine or give any spirits away to induce persons to vote?—Not on account of the election; certainly not. Several gentlemen looked in there, and had a little brandy and water; it was given them with a generous spirit, not with any view to or in connexion with the election at all.

23,178. Were they voters?—Some were and some were not.

23,179. Did you give it to them for the good of the cause?—No. They promiscuously looked in; a very few would come in who did not taste something; they communicated to others how good it was, and the numbers increased.

23,180. It was so about the time of the election, was it not?—I believe so.

23,181. Did the people come promiscuously and taste your good liquors at any other time?—Yes; it is a rule.

23,182. Is that generally known in Gloucester?—A great many come, I can assure you.

23,183. What I want to know is this, was any practice adopted by you at that election with regard to giving voters brandy and water?—No; it was no more given that day than any other day. I never offered brandy, wine, or money to any voter in Gloucester in my life; that I positively swear.

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W. Brown.

WILLIAM BROWN sworn and examined.

26 Oct. 1859.

23,184. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In King Street.

23,185. What are you?—A musician.

23,186. Are you a freeman?—No; I am a householder.

23,187. Who did you vote for at the last election in 1859?—For Mr. Carden and Mr. Monk.

23,188. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 3*l.* from a man named Clark.

23,189. Where does Mr. Clark live?—In the adjoining premises.

23,190. What is he?—A baker by trade.

23,191. You received 3*l.* to vote for whom?—Mr. Monk.

23,192. What did you receive for your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Two shillings was received by my wife and child from Mr. Whithorn at two callings that he made.

23,193. Two shillings?—Yes; a shilling each time. She had a baby in her arms.

23,194. That is all you got for your vote for Sir Robert Carden, is it?—Yes.

23,195. That was all you received, was it?—Yes. It was merely to have a little for the child, I suppose, the election coming on.

23,196. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

23,197. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all; not at the time; but six or seven weeks afterwards I received 1*l.*, and for that I had been employed in making out polling papers on the polling day.

23,198. You were employed in the committee-room?—Yes.

23,199. Who did you receive that 1*l.* from after the election?—Mr. Whithorn.

E. Roberts.

EDWARD ROBERTS sworn and examined.

23,200. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A freeman.

23,201. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Not for any one at the last election.

23,202. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—Mr. Carden.

23,203. What did you receive for your vote?—£2.

23,204. Who paid you?—Mr. Maysey's foreman; James Maysey, I believe he is.

23,205. Mr. Maysey paid you himself?—Yes.

23,206. Did you not vote at the last election at all?—No.

23,207. Why was that?—I had no vote.

23,208. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

23,209. Do you live beyond the seven miles?—No; it is not more than five miles from Gloucester where I live.

23,210. You were on the list in 1857?—Yes, but I was not the last time.

23,211. You were sorry for it, were you not?—No not particularly.

J Davis.

JOSEPH DAVIS sworn and examined.

23,212. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for in 1859?—Mr. Carden.

23,213. What did you get for your vote?—£3.

23,214. Who did you get it from?—Mr. Ward.

23,215. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

23,216. What did you get then?—Nothing at all.

23,217. Nothing at all from anybody?—No.

23,218. Not before or after the election?—No, nothing at all.

23,219. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

23,220. Living in Gloucester?—No; I live at Longney now.

G. Davis.

GEORGE DAVIS sworn and examined.

23,221. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where do you live?—At Longney.

23,222. Are you a freeman?—Yes.

23,223. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Carden.

23,224. What did you receive for your vote?—£3 5*s.*

23,225. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Ward.

23,226. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—For Mr. Carden.

23,227. What did you receive that time?—Ten shillings.

23,228. Who paid you?—I cannot say who it was; it was some gentleman.

23,229. Where did you receive it?—Down at the place that they call the committee-room.

23,230. Did you go down before or after you voted?—After I had voted some gentleman gave it to me, but I cannot tell what gentleman it was.

23,231. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In the committee-room in Westgate Street?—Yes.

23,232. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you go up stairs to receive it or down stairs?—Up stairs.

23,233. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any one take you there?—Yes; some one I had seen before, but I do not know who it was.

23,234. You do not know who paid you the money?—I cannot tell what gentleman it was that paid me.

23,235. Was it a young gentleman or an elderly gentleman?—An elderly gentleman.

23,236. Were you promised anything before you voted?—No, I was not.

W. Davis.

WILLIAM DAVIS sworn and examined.

23,237. (*Mr. Welford.*) We understand you wish to make some statement to the Commissioners with reference to some evidence that has been given?—Yes.

23,238. Where do you live?—In Deans Walk.

23,239. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,240. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,241. Were you paid anything at the last election?—Nothing.

23,242. Neither for your vote nor for anything else?—Nothing.

23,243. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden and Admiral Berkeley, I believe.

23,244. Did you receive anything on that occasion?—Nothing. I never received anything for my vote, I have always voted independent.

23,245. Is that what you wish to say?—That is what I wish to say, because it was stated here by Mr. Whithorn that he bribed one Thomas Davis, residing in Deans Walk, with 10*l.*, and there is no person of my name residing there except myself.

23,246. The person Mr. Whithorn mentioned was Thomas Davis?—Yes. There is no person named Davis residing in Deans Walk except myself.

23,247. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is there a person living in Deans Walk of the name of Thomas Baylis?—Yes.

23,248. It was Thomas Baylis Mr. Whithorn spoke of. It does not apply to you?—It has got into the papers that it was me.

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JOHN BAGLEY sworn and examined. *J. Bagley.*

23,249. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Hare Lane.

23,250. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,251. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,252. What did you receive for your vote?—I did not receive anything at the time. I was paid *5l.* afterwards, but there was not anything said to me about money for voting, or anything of that sort.

23,253. But after the election you received *5l.*?—Yes. 26 Oct. 1859.

23,254. Who paid you that?—Mr. Ward.

23,255. That was for having voted?—He said I had always voted that way, and I might as well have it as any one else.

23,256. In the former election, in 1857, for whom did you vote?—For Sir Robert Carden.

23,257. What did you receive then?—Nothing.

23,258. Neither before nor after?—No.

HENRY HANCOCK sworn and examined. *H. Hancock*

23,259. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In the Island.

23,260. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,261. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

23,262. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

23,263. Who gave it to you?—Mr. William Withers.

23,264. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—Price and Berkeley.

23,265. What did you receive then?—Nothing.

23,266. Neither before nor after?—No.

23,267. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered any money by Mr. Ward for your vote?—I was not offered; it was promised.

23,268. How much did he promise you?—He promised he would give me *5l.*

23,269. (*Mr. Wellford.*) Was that at the last election?—Yes.

23,270. When was it that he promised you that?—I could not say.

23,271. Was it just before the election?—Yes.

23,272. Was that to vote for Carden?—Yes.

23,273. You did not receive it from him?—No.

THOMAS KENT sworn and examined. *T. Kent.*

23,274. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

23,275. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

23,276. Who from?—James Orpin.

23,277. Who did you vote for in 1857?—No one at all.

23,278. You had no vote?—Yes; I had a vote, but I did not vote for any one.

23,279. How was that?—I did not seem inclined to vote for any one.

23,280. Had you a vote before?—Yes; I have had a vote for these years.

23,281. Had you always voted previously?—Yes, all but that time, in 1857 I did not vote at all.

23,282. ((*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,283. Where do you live?—In St. Aldate Street.

23,284. Are you upon the register for St. Aldate Street?—Yes, I believe I am; I am not certain whether I am or not, because I have not long left "The Lamb." I lived there.

23,285. Where did you live in 1859?—In Newmarket.

23,286. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it at "The Lamb" public house that you received *5l.*?—Yes, it was.

23,287. Were you offered any money on the other side at "The Lamb"?—No.

23,288. Have you got any bill at your public house?—None at all.

23,289. Why did you not vote in 1857?—It was not my inclination to vote at that time.

23,290. Was there nothing to get?—Nothing at all. I was never offered nothing; I just wish I had been.

23,291. Was that why you did not vote in 1857?—No. I never denied it, if I could get anything good.

ROBERT WILLIAMS sworn and examined. *R. Williams.*

23,292. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where do you live?—In Worcester Street.

23,293. Are you a freeman?—No.

23,294. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

23,295. What did you get for your vote?—I did not get anything for my vote. I was paid *2l.* for putting off my journey.

23,296. Who paid it to you?—James Orpin. That was for putting off my journey. I should not have been at home if I had went away.

23,297. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Walter Carden.

23,298. Did you get anything for your vote then?—No.

23,299. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your principles had undergone a change between 1857 and 1859?—No not the slightest.

23,300. Your principles remained the same?—Yes.

23,301. But your vote was different?—Yes.

23,302. Did that *2l.* exercise any influence over your vote?—Not the slightest.

23,303. How came you not to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I always voted Yellow.

23,304. But in 1857 you voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

23,305. How came you to vote for Sir Robert Carden in 1857?—Well, I had no reason in particular.

23,306. You voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1857, did you not?—Yes.

23,307. You say you voted Yellow before that?—Yes.

23,308. You voted Yellow in 1859?—Yes.

23,309. How came you to vote in 1857 for Sir Robert Carden?—My reason was, I had a difference between me and the Corporation in the contract of Mr. Guest, respecting some damage that was done me; and being a Blue Corporation and all, I thought if I voted for Sir Robert Walter Carden it might assist me in getting my claim settled; that was the only reason I had.

23,310. You were examined in London, were you not?—I was.

23,311. You were canvassed for your vote in 1857?—Yes.

24,312. By Sir Robert Carden's party?—By both parties.

23,313. You were canvassed by Sir Robert Carden's party?—Yes.

23,314. Mr. Michael Butt was one of the canvassers, was he not?—He was.

23,315. He came with Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

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23,316. And Mr. Lovegrove?—Yes; I believe Mr. Lovegrove was there. I suppose there was a dozen gentlemen came at the time.

23,317. Did you state to them or state to Mr. Butt that there was damage done to you?—I did. I told them I had made several applications to the Board of Health for them to inspect it, and they never came; and I got Mr. Butt to look at it, being a practical man in those things. There were several of the Corporation with the party, and I drew their attention to it, and wished them to make the inspection then; and, I believe, Mr. Butt and some one else came and looked at it, but who I cannot say now.

23,318. The Corporation of Gloucester is the Board of Health, I suppose?—Yes; they are a part of the Board of Health.

23,319. When Mr. Butt came and looked at it, did you make any application to Mr. Butt that he should use his influence with the Corporation?—Mr. Butt told me he would send the city surveyor and have it looked at.

23,320. Was that Mr. Hanley?—That was Mr. Hanley.

23,321. And then did he make you any promise of what should be done if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No, none whatever.

23,322. He made no promise at all?—No.

23,323. Mr. Butt made no promise whatever?—No.

23,324. Was that all that took place between you and Mr. Butt?—Yes.

23,325. You drew his attention to the damage?—Yes.

23,326. And Mr. Butt said he would send the surveyor to look at it?—Yes.

23,327. Is that all?—Yes; and some time after Mr. Hanley called, and made an inspection of it; perhaps a week or ten days after; I cannot say how long.

23,328. What followed his inspection?—Nothing followed till the October following; and then Mr. Hanley called on the part of Mr. Guest, and we came to a compromise. I believe Mr. Guest could not be relieved from his contract until the damages had been paid.

23,329. Was Mr. Guest the contractor?—Yes; but we could not find out who was responsible before.

23,330. You complained of some damage done to you by works which Mr. Guest carried on?—That was it.

23,331. Then was the damage you then complained of afterwards repaired?—I repaired it myself.

23,332. And received something for doing it?—I received in the October following 8*l.* on the part of Mr. Guest.

23,333. Was that as much as it had cost you to repair it?—No, it was not.

23,334. Are you certain Mr. Butt did not make you any promise of what should be done in the event of your voting for Sir Robert Carden?—I am quite certain of that; it was free and voluntary on my part.

23,335. All free and voluntary?—Yes.

23,336. Then how came you to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—As I told you before, the Corporations had changed between the construction of the works and the election; and as I had made several applications before to the Board of Health, I thought, perhaps, if I voted for the party then in power it might assist me.

23,337. Was it a mere speculation on your part?—A mere speculation.

23,338. You thought if you did so you would get this damage repaired?—That is so.

23,339. Did you not say in London that that was not the case?—No; I told them in London the same as now. I told the chairman I thought it might assist me in getting any damages.

23,340. Did you not say in London that Mr. Michael Butt had told you that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden he would use what influence he had to get that damage put to rights?—No. What I said was, that Mr. Michael Butt, after I drew his attention to it, said he would see the city surveyor, and get him to look at it.

23,341. Do you swear that that is all?—I believe that is correct.

23,342. Do you not know that Mr. Michael Butt was taken to London to contradict your evidence?—I know he was there; but whether he was taken on that point or not I cannot say.

23,343. Do you not know that Mr. Michael Butt and others were taken to London, and examined on that very point?—I know Mr. Butt was examined very well, having seen him.

23,344. And do you not know that it was to contradict the evidence you gave on that occasion?—No, I am not aware of it.

23,345. Do you mean to swear that no promise was held out by Mr. Butt, and that Mr. Butt did not say if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden he would use what influence he had to get that damage to your place remedied?—That was all Mr. Butt said, that he would get the city surveyor to come and inspect it.

23,346. It is Mr. Michael Butt?—Mr. John Michael Butt.

23,347. That was all he said to you; he said nothing further to you about your vote?—No, I do not recollect anything.

23,348. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who asked you to go to London on that occasion?—I was summoned to London by Sir Maurice Berkeley's party.

23,349. Had you told nobody what passed between you and Mr. Butt before you were summoned?—My neighbour heard it.

23,350. Were you requested by Sir Maurice Berkeley's agent to make a statement?—Yes. I did not make any statement at all before I went to London.

23,351. Did you know what you were summoned to London for?—I knew that it was with respect to the damages.

23,352. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you let Mr. Michael Butt know that you expected your voting for Sir Robert Carden would help you to get your damages?—I thought that would help me.

23,353. Did you let Mr. Michael Butt know that when you saw him upon the canvass?—No, I do not know that I did.

23,354. Did you say anything to him at all about it?—Not that I recollect. I told him I was glad to see some of the Corporation there; that I had something to draw their attention to; and I asked Mr. Butt as one,—he was not belonging to the Corporation, but he was a gentleman very much with them,—I asked him to look at it, and he did so; and he told me he would send the city surveyor, and the city surveyor came and made the inspection.

23,355. Did you then promise to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I told them I should vote for Sir Robert Carden.

23,356. And did you tell them your vote for Sir Robert Carden was given in connexion with those repairs?—No, decidedly not.

23,357. You merely drew their attention to the repairs, and told them you would vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; but still, as I said before, I thought it would assist me.

23,358. Did you let them understand that you thought so?—They might very easily understand that, I think.

23,359. From your manner?—Yes.

23,360. I suppose there was a good deal of talking about the voting and about the damages at the same time?—Yes. I had made several applications before, because it was an old affair. The sewage works were a long time being constructed.

23,361. (*Mr Vaughan.*) Did you see Mr. Hanley?—Yes.

23,362. Did you see Mr. Butt after you had seen Mr. Hanley?—Not on that subject; I never saw him after.

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R. Williams.
26 Oct. 1859.

23,363. But you did see Mr. Butt?—I saw him several times in the street, but not to have any conversation with him.

23,364. Did you not tell Mr. Butt the city surveyor had been, and that you had made it all right, and therefore you would vote?—Yes; that is quite correct. The city surveyor told me it should be put right, and then I told Mr. Butt. He said the election was coming on, and I told him I should vote for Mr. Carden.

23,365. If you had not understood that that damage would be put right, would you have voted for Sir Robert Carden?—No, certainly not. I supposed, after Mr. Hanley came there, that that was his object.

23,366. Is this what you say, "If I had understood the damage would not be put right, I would not have voted for Sir Robert Carden?"—That is right.

23,367. You had tried some time before to get this damage repaired, had you not, by the Board of Health?—I had.

23,368. And had your applications to the Board of Health been ineffectual?—The Board of Health said that it was to remain until the sewerage was finished, and then all those things would be taken into consideration; that was the answer that I got from the Board of Health.

23,369. Mr. Hanley did not come to inspect your place till after you had been applied to for your vote?—Mr. Hanley was not the surveyor at the time the works were being constructed.

23,370. No surveyor came to inspect your works till after you had been applied to for your vote?—No more than the surveyor I employed myself.

23,371. But no surveyor on behalf of the Board?—No.

23,372. How soon after the application to you for your vote was it that the surveyor came to you?—From ten days to a fortnight, I should think. I cannot say how long; not to be sure.

23,373. You regarded the understanding that that damage should be repaired as an inducement to you to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes; after the surveyor came.

23,374. Are you a commercial traveller?—I travel for myself.

23,374*a*. You say you received 2*l*. for putting off your journey at the election in 1859?—Yes. I was going into Oxfordshire at the time; it was much more out of my way than that, but I stayed at home the week previously.

23,375. Did you consider that the 2*l*. was paid to you for your vote upon that occasion?—No. I consider the 2*l*. was paid to me for my loss of time; not for my vote; it did not influence me in that way.

23,375*a*. You looked on it as a compensation for staying at home and putting off your journey?—That is all.

23,376. (*Mr. Welford.*) If you had not received that 2*l*. you would not have stayed at home, and would not have voted?—I should have stayed at home very likely; but I told Mr. Monk when he canvassed me, I did not expect I should be at home, but if I was I should vote for him and Mr. Price.

23,377. Who paid you the 2*l*.?—Mr. Orpin.

23,378. Then it was with Mr. Orpin the arrangement was made that you should put off your journey, and get 2*l*. for it?—He came, and begged me to put off my journey, and stay, and I agreed to do so; but there was nothing said about the 2*l*. at that time.

23,379. The 2*l*. was given afterwards?—Yes; after the election was over.

23,380. As a compensation for what you considered your loss of time in stopping?—Yes.

H. Merrett.

HENRY MERRETT sworn and examined.

23,381. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Norton.

23,382. What are you?—A farmer.

23,383. Are you a freeman?—No.

23,384. Are you a voter for Gloucester?—No.

23,385. Who did you bribe at the last election?—No one.

23,386. Not at the election in 1859?—I bribed no one. I had nothing to do with the last election.

23,387. Who did you bribe in 1857?—George Morgan and James Bragg.

23,388. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you give Morgan?—£1.

23,389. Is George Morgan a freeman?—No, I think not, but I would not be positive.

23,390. Where does he live?—In Union Street.

23,391. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You gave him 1*l*. to vote for whom?—Berkeley and Price.

23,392. What did you give James Bragg?—£1.

23,393. Where does he live?—In Suffolk Street.

23,394. Was that to vote for Berkeley and Price?—Yes.

23,395. Where did you get that money from?—Mr. Brewer Monk. Not the money I gave them, but I got some in return for it.

23,396. Was it your own money?—It was my own money that I gave them.

29,397. When was it repaid you?—Some time in the course of the day.

23,398. The same day?—The same day.

23,399. (*Mr. Welford.*) The day of the election?—Yes; the day of the election.

23,400. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was repaid to you by Brewer Monk the same day?—Yes.

23,401. Do you know at what time it was that you got the money repaid you?—No; I cannot exactly state the time; it was some time in the afternoon.

23,402. Did you tell Brewer Monk what you wanted the money for?—No. I told him I had promised those men that they should be paid for their day's trouble, and that I had paid them a sovereign a piece.

23,403. And thereupon he gave you the 2*l*.?—Yes. I called on him once or twice in the morning, to ask him if there would be anything for these men, as I had promised them, and I could not consistently pay it out of my own pocket, and he told me there would be nothing to give.

23,404. When was that?—That was in the early part of the morning.

23,405. Were those persons that you had known before?—I had known them for years.

23,406. Had you ever given them any money before that?—No; not to my knowledge.

23,407. Did they ask you for money themselves when you canvassed them?—I said most likely there would be something given, and that if there was I should be able to get them as much as any one else.

23,408. The giving the money in the first instance was entirely your own act; you were not told to do so?—No. Brewer Monk told me there would be nothing given, and as I had promised the men I gave them the money out my own pocket.

23,409. (*Mr. Welford.*) In what condition of life are these men?—One is a shoemaker, and the other is something of everything.

23,410. What does he do; how does he get his living?—He carries a pack, and keeps a few pigs, and deals in anything that he can get anything out of.

23,411. I suppose 1*l*. a day is a pretty good day's work for them?—It is more I should think than they would get any day.

23,412. Is George Morgan a shoemaker?—No. I do not think he is in any trade. I saw Morgan yesterday, and he told me he had been before the Commissioners, and stated that I gave him 7*s*. 6*d*. I called it to his recollection, and he perfectly recollected that I had given him 1*l*.

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T. Fletcher.

THOMAS FLETCHER sworn and examined.

26 Oct. 1859.

23,413. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A stonemason at times, and I have worked lately at salmon fishing.

23,414. Are you a freeman?—No; a householder.

23,415. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

23,416. For whom?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

23,417. What did you get for your vote?—£10.

23,418. From whom?—From Mr. Maysey.

23,419. Did you vote in 1857?—No, I believe not. I have not voted since Mr. Price's first election.

23,420. Had you a vote in 1847?—I do not believe I had.

23,421. Were you offered any money to vote for the Liberal candidates at the last election?—Yes.

23,422. How much?—I was offered 5*l.* by the other party.

23,423. By whom?—By James Orpin, of the White Lion. He gave me a sovereign on the Saturday night, and promised me 4*l.* more on the polling morning; but on the polling morning he would not give it to me before I had polled, and so I went home, and got my breakfast; and when I was in the house Mr. Maysey came in, and asked me where Giles, the tailor, was. I said, "He is across at his own house." He said, "Go, and fetch him;" and I went, and against I came back he gave my wife 10*l.*, and then I went and voted there and then.

23,424. I dare say you were glad then that you had not taken the 5*l.*?—No, not particularly; I should not have broken my promise if I had given it.

23,425. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you think of returning that 1*l.* you had received?—Yes. I went up on purpose, and some persons began to insult me, so I returned home again, and kept the 1*l.*

23,426. You kept the 1*l.* in consequence of the insult that was offered to you?—Yes; in consequenc of the insult, or else I should have returned the 1*l.*

W. Smith.

WILLIAM SMITH sworn and examined.

23,427. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Queen Street.

23,428. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,429. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Price and Monk.

23,430. What did you receive for your vote?—Three sovereigns.

23,431. Who paid you?—William Wingate; he had 5*l.*, but he gave me 3*l.*

23,432. How do you know that he had five pounds?—From the committee; my name was upon the committee, and he was to give me 5*l.*, you know, and he gave me three.

23,433. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He kept two for himself?—Yes.

23,434. You were to have had 5*l.*, and he gave you only three of them?—Yes.

23,435. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who promised you 5*l.*?—From the committee; but he told me it was only three; he said Mr. Monk and Mr. Price fell off, and could not afford more than three.

23,436. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857, the election before the last?—Berkeley and Price.

23,437. What did you receive for your vote then?—Nothing at all; not a glass of beer even.

J. Lovett.

JOSEPH LOVETT sworn and examined.

23,438. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—At Tredworth.

23,439. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a householder.

23,440. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

23,441. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

23,442. Who gave it you?—William Parker.

23,443. Who did you vote for at the election before?—I did not vote at all.

23,444. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you no vote?—No.

J. Holder.

JOHN HOLDER sworn and examined.

23,445. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Eastgate Street.

23,446. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a freeman.

23,447. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Carden.

23,448. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

23,449. What did you receive after the election?—Nothing at all.

23,450. Were you a messenger?—No.

23,451. Were you not paid anything?—I was paid nothing at all.

23,452. What time in the day did you vote?—A quarter before four.

23,453. Were you promised anything?—No, I was not.

23,454. Did you expect anything for your vote?—No, I did not.

23,455. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—For Sir Robert Carden.

23,456. What did you receive then?—I received three pounds.

23,457. Who paid you?—Mr. William Parker.

23,458. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What time did you vote at the election in 1857?—About half-past two o'clock, and from that to three.

23,459. And a quarter before four at the last election?—Yes.

23,460. You see you did not vote early enough?—I went at my opportunity, when I had the time, when I had done what I had got to do.

J. Phillips.

JOHN PHILLIPS sworn and examined.

23,461. Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

23,462. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

23,463. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

23,464. Did you receive anything for your vote?—Yes; 2*l.* 10*s.*

23,465. Who did you receive that from?—From Daniel Tandy.

23,466. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—For Mr. Berkeley and Price.

23,467. Did you receive anything then?—I did not.

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JAMES SALABANK sworn and examined. *J. Salabank.* 26 Oct. 1859.

23,468. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

23,469. Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a householder.

23,470. You voted for Messrs. Price and Monk at the last election, did you not?—Yes.

23,471. Did Daniel Tandy give you 2*l.* 10*s.* for your vote?—Yes.

23,472. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—I voted for Berkeley and Price.

23,473. What did you receive then?—Nothing.

MICHAEL JENNINGS, junior, sworn and examined. *M. Jennings.*

23,474. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you Michael Jennings the younger?—Yes.

23,475. Where do you live?—In St. Mary's Square.

23,476. Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

23,477. For whom did you vote?—For Price and Monk.

23,478. What did you receive for your vote?—I received nothing for my vote.

23,479. What did you receive for anything else?—I received 3*l.* for my services as a servant on the committee.

23,480. What are you?—I am a printer and engraver.

23,481. Are you a journeyman or a master?—I go jobbing about on my own account.

23,482. Were you at the committee-room?—Yes.

23,483. How often?—As waiter, or servant, or messenger.

23,484. How often were you there?—I was there every day from the time I was engaged.

23,485. How long?—I cannot say exactly that I was there all the time, because I was sent out at different times.

23,486. Were you there for a week before?—Yes.

23,487. Ten days?—I should think quite as many as that.

23,488. Were you there an hour in the course of each day?—Oh, yes, perhaps three hours.

23,489. Do you think you were quite three hours there?—Not at once, but at different times.

23,490. Does your father live in St. Mary's Square?—He does.

23,491. Do you live with him?—No; a short distance from him.

23,492. Did you vote at the election in 1857?—Yes.

23,493. For whom?—Berkeley and Price.

23,494. What did you receive then?—Nothing for my vote.

23,495. What did you receive for anything else?—A friend gave me thirty shillings towards defraying the expense of a trial I had against the other party.

23,496. Who gave you that?—Mr. William Wingate, I think, is his name. That was to assist in carrying out a trial I had with the Blue party.

23,497. What trial was that?—Concerning the Conservative election; concerning the ringing. After giving the order they refused to pay, and I had to take them to the court to recover it.

23,498. Who gave you the order to ring?—Mr. Castree, the gentleman who was returned for the municipal election.

23,499. They ring the bells, do they?—Yes.

23,500. When any gentleman is returned as town councillor?—Yes, if he wishes it.

23,501. And you were ordered to ring the bells for Mr. Castree?—Yes.

23,502. At a municipal election?—Yes.

23,503. You did not get the money, so you had to come into court?—Yes.

23,504. And you got thirty shillings from Mr. Wingate to assist you in carrying it on?—Yes.

23,505. How soon after the election?—It was the same day.

23,506. Did you not think it was for your vote?—No, because he knew my intention was not to vote for the other party.

23,507. Did you look upon that thirty shillings as a reward for your vote?—No. I told him I was very poor; I could not carry it on; and he said, "Will this be of any service to you?" and he put it on the board in front of me, and I took it.

23,508. You would not have expected to have got that thirty shillings if there had been no election going on?—Very likely I should not.

GEORGE PUGH sworn and examined. *G. Pugh.*

23,509. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Littleworth.

23,510. Are you a freeman?—No; I am a householder.

23,511. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

23,512. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

23,513. Did you receive anything after the election?—No, nor before it.

23,514. Did you receive anything for being a messenger?—No; I was not a messenger.

23,515. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I had no vote.

23,516. Were you offered anything at the last election?—No.

23,517. Did you receive anything for expenses at the last election?—No.

23,518. Has anybody said you received anything for your vote?—No.

23,519. Do you live at High Orchard?—Not now; I did live there.

23,520. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you give any money to anybody?—Yes.

23,521. Who did you give money to?—To John Hall.

23,522. How much did you give him?—Five pounds.

23,523. Did you give anybody else any money?—No.

23,524. Was the money you gave to John Hall for his vote?—Yes.

23,525. Where does John Hall live?—At the Black Horse in Saint Mary's Square.

23,526. Is that all you did in the way of bribery?—Yes.

23,527. Did you do anything in the way of bribery in 1857?—No.

23,528. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where did you get the five pounds from that you gave to John Hall?—I met Mr. Webb in the street, and I told him I knew where a voter was. He asked me who it was, and I told him, and he put his hand in his pocket, and gave it me. If I had not given it him the other party would.

23,529. What Mr. Webb is that?—He lives in the Westgate Street.

23,530. You paid all the money to Hall?—Yes.

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L. Tanner.

26 Oct. 1859.

LLEWELLIN TANNER sworn and examined.

23,531. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Alvin Street.

23,532. Are you a householder or a freeman?—A householder.

23,533. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,534. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

23,535. Did you receive any money after the election?—No.

23,536. Were you promised any money?—Well, I was promised, but I have not had it.

23,537. Who promised it to you?—Frederick Hanman.

23,538. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Frederick Hanman of "The King William"?—Yes.

23,539. What did he promise you?—£10.

23,540. To vote for Carden?—To vote for Carden.

23,541. He promised you 10*l.*, did he?—Yes.

23,542. Did you owe him anything at that time?—I did owe him money.

23,543. How much did you owe him?—A good bit.

23,544. As much as 10*l.*?—Yes; more than that.

23,545. Did he allow you the 10*l.* off that debt?—No, not yet.

23,546. But that is how it is to be allowed?—That is how I expect it is.

23,547. You have not paid him any part of the debt?—No.

23,548. Is it for interest?—No.

23,549. But when you come to settle you expect to have this 10*l.* allowed you?—Yes; I expect to have it.

23,550. And that is how he promised to pay it you?—That is how I intended, as he was going to allow it to me.

23,551. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Mr. Price and Mr. Carden.

23,552. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

23,553. Not for either vote?—Not for either vote.

23,554. Were you a messenger or anything of that kind?—No.

23,555. No allowance was made to you?—No; no allowance from any party.

J. M'Coy.

JAMES M'COY sworn and examined.

23,556. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Suffolk Street.

23,557. Are you a householder?—No; I am a freeholder.

23,558. But you vote as a householder, do you not?—Yes.

23,559. Who did you vote for at the last election in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,560. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

23,561. From whom?—Mr. Frederick Hanman.

23,562. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Sir Robert and the Admiral.

23,563. And what did you receive for either vote?—Nothing at all.

23,564. Not from either side?—No.

23,565. Neither for Sir Robert Carden's vote, nor for Admiral Berkeley's?—No; not so much as a glass of ale.

H. Hatch.

HENRY HATCH sworn and examined.

23,566. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

23,567. Who did you vote for in 1859?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.

23,568. What did you get for your vote?—£5.

23,569. Was that from Mr. Hanman?—Yes; from Mr. Hanman.

23,570. Frederick Hanman?—Yes, I believe so. He is a tailor. I believe his name is Frederick; I am not certain.

23,571. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

23,572. Had you no vote?—I had no vote then.

G. Beckley.

GEORGE BECKLEY sworn and examined.

23,573. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In the London Road.

23,574. Are you a freeman?—No.

23,575. Are you a householder?—I am a householder.

23,576. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

23,577. For whom?—For Price and Monk.

23,578. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing.

23,579. Did you receive nothing at any time for your vote?—I never received a shilling in my life for my vote.

23,580. Were you a messenger?—Yes, at this last election, but I never was before.

23,581. What did you receive as messenger?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day for twenty days.

23,582. Did you attend the committee-room at all?—Yes.

23,583. How long each day?—From four to five hours.

23,584. As much as that?—Yes, at different times, going about the town with circulars, and so on.

23,585. Are you quite sure you were there four or five hours?—Yes.

23,586. Did you receive any money at all to bribe any person?—No.

23,587. What are you?—I am a glove and gaiter maker.

23,588. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,589. What did you receive then?—If you will allow me I will explain it. At Mr. Hope's election I was going a long way up the country, and the party told me that if I would come back they would pay my expenses. I did return, and my expenses were 1*l.* 5*s.*, and I went up, and gave my vote early in the morning, and then I was not paid; and at Sir Robert Carden's election I told them I would not give a vote again till I was made right for my loss.

23,590. You would not vote for Sir Robert Carden unless you were paid for your loss of time at the previous election?—Yes.

23,591. £1 5*s.*?—Yes.

23,592. Who gave you the 1*l.* 5*s.*?—William Parker.

23,593. If you had not received that 1*l.* 5*s.* from him you would not have voted for Sir Robert Carden?—I would not.

23,594. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose if you had not been employed as a messenger you would not have voted for Price and Monk last time?—Yes, I should.

23,595. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What are you in politics—A Liberal.

23,596. How came you to vote for Carden in 1857, then?—I worked for a good many gentlemen about the country, and there was a few over-persuaded me to do it.

23,597. Did you ask the Liberal side if they would pay you the 1*l.* 5*s.*?—No; I did not put the question to them. I met Mr. Lovegrove and Sir Robert

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G. Beckley.

26 Oct. 1859.

Carden in the street, and I told them I would not give a vote unless I was made right the 1*l.* 5*s.*

23,598. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You told them both so?—Yes.

23,599. When you told them that did they say you should be made right?—No, they did not.

23,600. Was anything said to you at that time by them?—No. There were two or three of the party came to me several times afterwards, and I told them I would not give my vote unless I was paid the 1*l.* 5*s.*

23,601. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where had you come from that it cost you 1*l.* 5*s.*?—Farringdon in Berkshire.

23,602. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that the election in 1853?—Yes.

23,603. Have you a son in the army?—Yes.

23,604. And you had at the last election?—Yes.

23,605. Were you anxious to obtain the discharge of your son?—Certainly; I intended to buy him out.

23,606. You were anxious to obtain his discharge from the army?—Yes; with my own money.

23,607. Did you represent to Mr. Whithorn that you were anxious for his discharge?—Mr. Whithorn came into my shop, and asked me if I had not a son who wanted a situation as a clerk. I told him I had one who thought of getting a situation after he had learnt his trade. He said, "What trade?" I said, "A tailor." He said, "How old is he?" I said, "He is in his twentieth year." "He said, "That is too old. Have you not a younger one?" and the moment the word was spoken came in my youngest son. He asked how old he was. I said he was fourteen; and he said that was too young. Then he said, "Is there any obstacle standing in the way that I can remove for you?" I told him, for one thing, I had a son in the army that I wished to get out. He asked me what he was in. I told him that he was in the military train, and that his discharge would be 30*l.*; and he told me that that should be done, provided I would give Mr. Carden my vote. He stated that Mr. Carden had great influence in those things, and if I would not promise to give Mr. Carden my vote he would hinder my son from being bought out of the army, and I thanked him.

23,608. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was at the last election, was it?—Yes; this last election.

23,609. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said that Sir Robert Carden had great influence?—Yes, he did.

23,610. And that if you would not vote for Carden he would hinder your son from being bought out?—Yes.

23,611. What time was this in the day?—I should say ten minutes or a quarter past nine in the morning.

23,612. When Mr. Whithorn came to you?—Yes.

23,613. How soon before the election?—The morning before the election; but he had been at my house repeatedly time after time, but I happened to be out in the country on business.

23,614. Was any person present when he said that to you?—My son and wife.

23,615. Your son and wife were present, were they?—Yes.

23,616. Is that the younger son you speak of?—That is the youngest son.

23,617. What is his Christian name?—William Henry.

23,618. How old is he?—Fourteen; he is in his fifteenth year now.

23,619. Is he at home?—Yes.

23,620. Could there be any doubt at all as to this statement having been made by Mr. Whithorn to you? Could there be any doubt or confusion in your mind about it?—Not the least. I was in great hopes that Mr. Whithorn would wait here till I was called; but I was anxious to be examined at once, because my wife is lying very ill.

23,621. You know that Mr. Withorn has denied it, do you not?—He cannot deny it before me.

23,622. But you know that he has denied it in this court?—I was informed so, and that made me more anxious to make this known.

23,623. Is your wife here now?—No; she is almost a corpse.

23,624. Is it this son that is ill?—No, not this one; I have lost one son that he came to me about.

23,625. The son in the army?—No.

23,626. Is that son in the army still?—No.

23,627. We should like to examine your son about this, if you will let him come here to-morrow morning?—I will.

23,628. (*Mr. Fitgerald.*) This was said while you were a messenger on Price and Monk's committee?—Yes, it was.

23,629. Did Mr. Whithorn know that you were a messenger?—He offered me to be a messenger on their side.

S. Wood.

SHADRACH WOOD sworn and examined.

23,630. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a freeman?—Yes.

23,631. Where do you live?—In Sweetbriar Street.

23,632. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,633. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

23,634. Were you a messenger?—No, I never was.

23,635. Did you receive anything for your expenses?—Nothing at all.

23,636. Nothing after the election?—No.

23,637. Were you promised anything?—No, nothing.

23,638. Who did you vote for in the election of 1857?—Mr. Carden.

23,639. What did you receive then?—I had fifty shillings.

23,640. Who paid you?—Mr. Hanman.

23,641. Frederick Hanman?—Yes.

23,642. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered nothing in 1859?—No.

23,643. Not by either side?—No; I was not offered anything.

23,644. You got fifty shillings from Mr. Frederick Hanman in 1857. Do you mean to represent that you got nothing for your vote at the last election in 1859?—No.

23,645. Was any promise made to you?—Some party did ask me what I wanted, but I told them I should not vote for them.

23,646. Who was it asked you what you wanted?—It was Mr. Evans, the lawyer, came to my house. I told him I would not vote for them.

23,647. He came and asked you what you wanted?—Yes.

23,648. What is the Christian name of Mr. Evans?—I cannot say.

23,649. Where is his office?—I cannot say where his office is; but he lives up the Tewkesbury Road.

23,650. What did you say?—I did not say anything more than that I would consider of it.

23,651. Did he say that he would give you any particular sum of money?—Not at all.

23,652. Then, having received fifty shillings for your vote in 1857 for voting for Sir Robert Carden, do you mean to represent that, after having had the question put to you as to what you wanted for your vote in 1859, you received nothing for your vote in 1859?—I received nothing.

23,653. Do you expect anything?—No.

23,654. Was no promise made to you?—No.

23,655. No inducement of any kind was offered to you?—Nothing at all.

23,656. Having considered about it, when did you make up your mind?—He told me he would see me again. I saw him many times afterwards, but never spoke to him.

23,657. Did you see any persons afterwards on Sir Robert Carden's side?—No. When they come to my house they always make sure of me, and never ask me any questions.

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S. Wood.
26 Oct. 1859.

23,658. They made sure of you in 1857, because you got fifty shillings?—Yes. I always voted that way.

23,659. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What time of the day was it when you gave your vote in 1859?—About twelve o'clock, I suppose.

23,660. There was no money going then?—Not that I know of.

C. Niblett.

CHARLES NIBLETT sworn and examined.

23,661. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Albert Street.

23,662. Are you a builder?—I am.

23,663. Do you remember at the election of 1857 going to the shop of Mr. Reuben Cook?—I do.

23,664. He is a baker, is he not?—Yes.

23,665. Did you see there two voters of the name of King and Jeremey?—I saw two voters there, but I do not know what their names are, even now.

23,666. You saw two voters at Cook's?—Yes. I was informed that there were two men at Mr. Cook's who had not voted, and I went down to them.

23,667. Did Mr. Goold, the currier, go with you?—I do not think he did. I saw Mr. Goold afterwards in the street.

23,668. Did King and Jeremey go down the street with you?—They did. They asked me to wait a few minutes while they cleaned themselves.

23,669. To go to the hustings?—Yes, to go to the hustings to poll.

23,670. Had you requested them to vote for Price and Berkeley?—Yes; I asked them to vote for Price and Berkeley.

23,671. Had you canvassed them before you went on that occasion?—No, I had not, because I did not know the men. I knew Mr. Cook very well.

23,672. Did they tell you, when you requested them to vote for Price and Berkeley, that they had promised to vote for Carden?—I do not remember it at all; they seemed perfectly willing to go, if I would wait a few minutes while they cleaned themselves.

24,673. Did you see Mr. Cook there?—I did; I saw Mr. Cook.

23,674. Did you hear Mr. Cook say anything to them?—I did not; he was in the shop. I asked him if there were not two men there who had votes, and he said yes. I asked him if he would let them go to poll, and he said, "Yes, certainly, if they will go."

23,675. Did you hear Mr. Cook say anything to them about going down and giving their votes?—I did not. I never remember it. He sent me into the back yard to them; he said the men were out at the back.

23,676. Did you go with them to the committee-room?—No; the men were going very well with me, but I was stopped in Saint John's Lane by a lot of what they generally term on election days "roughs;" they used me very rough, I know.

23,677. You were stopped in Saint John's Lane by roughs?—Yes.

23,678. And then they were separated from you?—I called Mr. Goold to my assistance, but we could not get them away; they overpowered us.

23,679. Were these men quite willing to go with you till they were stopped by the roughs?—Quite willing; they were going with me very well. When these roughs came up I left them. I said I did not want to get into a row, and I would not remain with that rough lot, and I left them.

23,680. Did you offer them any money?—No.

23,681. Or give them any?—No.

23,682. Did Mr. Goold?—Not in my presence.

23,683. Have you any reason to believe that they did receive or that either of them received money?—Not at all; I have no reason to believe that they did.

23,684. So far as you can form an opinion from what you heard and what you observed, they did not receive any money for their votes?—I should say not. The men were perfectly willing to go without money matters being mentioned.

23,685. About what time was it when you went there?—I could not say exactly. I should think about two o'clock. I could not say to an hour.

23,686. When you found that the roughs prevented their going with you, did you say anything to them as to where they should go?—Not at all; I left them entirely. I told Mr. Goold I should not stop any longer, and left them entirely.

23,687. You left them entirely to their own actions?—Yes.

23,688. Was Mr. Cook a strong supporter of the Liberals at that election?—I do not know as to that election particularly; he was always a Liberal.

23,689. Did you offer any money to any person for his vote at that election?—No.

23,690. Did you hold out any inducement to any person for his vote?—No.

23,691. Did you do so at the last election?—No.

23,692. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know Mr. Samuel Clutterbuck?—Yes.

23,693. Did you canvass him?—I did.

23,694. Did he vote for the Liberals?—I believe he did.

23,695. Did you give him anything?—No.

23,696. Or promise him anything?—No. He said he wanted money; that he could have money from the other side. I said I had nothing to do with money, but that if he wanted money he could go to the committee-room.

23,697. Did he ask you for money?—He told me he could have money on the other side.

23,698. What is Samuel Clutterbuck?—I believe he is a guard on the Midland Railway.

23,699. Do you know Joseph Howard?—I know him very well.

23,700. Did he ask you for anything?—No.

23,701. Do you know William Trueman?—I do not know anything about him. I never so much as asked him to vote. He always would vote as a Liberal.

23,702. Long?—I did not ask him; I had nothing to do with him.

23,703. Henry Chapman?—I know him very well.

23,704. Did you ask him?—I believe I did.

23,705. Did he say anything to you about money?—No; he was always a man who polled without money.

23,706. Marigold?—I do not know him.

23,707. Murrell?—I canvassed him; he wanted money. I said I had nothing at all to do with money, neither should I have anything to do with it.

23,708. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you tell any of these persons where they might go and get money if they wanted it?—No. I said if they wanted to talk about money they must go to the committee; I had nothing to do with it.

23,709. When they told you they wanted money you then said they must go to the committee?—Yes.

23,710. You never paid any money?—No; never a halfpenny in my life.

23,711. Did you advance any money for the purposes of the election?—Never a penny.

23,712. Did you mention any person's name to the committee?—No.

23,713. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Can you mention the names of any other people that you canvassed, and who asked you for money?—No, I do not know that I can, at present.

23,714. You refer to the election of 1859, do you not?—Yes.

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JAMES RUDGE sworn and examined. *J. Rudge.*

26 Oct. 1859.

23,715. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Bull Lane.

23,716. What are you?—I keep a beerhouse and eating-house.

23,717. Are you a freeman?—No; I am a householder.

23,718. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,719. How much did you receive?—Nothing at all.

23,720. Did you receive nothing?—No, nothing at all.

23,721. Are you sure of that?—Yes, I will swear it.

23,722. Did you receive nothing from Mr. Whithorn?—No; not at the last election.

23,723. I am speaking now of the last election. Do you mean to swear that you did not receive 7*l.* from Mr. Whithorn?—No.

23,724. Did you receive no money at all in respect of refreshments supplied at your house?—No; not at this last election.

23,725. You deny that you received anything from Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

23,726. What did you receive in 1857?—I received 7*l.*

23,727. Who did you vote for then?—For Sir Robert Carden.

23,728. Who did you receive the 7*l.* from?—Mr. Whithorn.

23,729. For your vote for Sir Robert Carden?—For refreshments.

23,730. For refreshments and your vote?—I do not know about the vote; I had 7*l.*; that was my account that I gave to Mr. Whithorn, and that is what he paid me.

23,731. Were you requested by Mr. Whithorn to supply refreshments and beer and so on?—He told me I might draw.

23,732. That you might draw beer for voters?—Yes, for voters; I suppose so; he did not say anything to me about voters.

23,733. He said that you might draw?—Yes.

23,734. For anybody?—Anybody I thought proper, I suppose.

23,735. Would you have voted for Sir Robert Carden if you had not received that order from Mr. Whithorn in 1857?—I received nothing.

23,736. Would you have voted for Sir Robert Carden if you had not received that order from Mr. Whithorn?—I had not received any order; I volunteered it this time.

23,737. I am speaking of the election in 1857. If you had not received the order from Mr. Whithorn to draw beer, would you have voted for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

23,738. Are you quite certain you received nothing in 1859?—I did not; that was the last election.

23,739. You are quite certain of it?—Yes.

23,740. Had you no order to draw beer at the last election?—No, I had no order at all.

23,741. Did you expect to receive anything?—No, nothing at all.

23,742. Do you feel rather aggrieved at not having had any order to draw?—No. I am perfectly satisfied about it.

AMELIA JEYNES sworn and examined. *A. Jeynes.*

23,743. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is your husband's name?—Thomas Jeynes.

23,744. He voted at the last election, did he not?—Yes.

23,745. Who did he vote for?—Mr. Carden.

23,746. You received some money for him, did you not?—I received 5*l.* from Mr. John Hanman.

23,747. For his vote?—Yes.

23,748. Did he vote at the election in 1857?—Yes.

23,749. Who did he vote for then?—Mr. Carden.

23,750. What did he receive then for his vote?—Nothing at all.

23,751. You got nothing then?—No, never anything.

23,752. How old is your husband?—He is 85, and he is very ill; he is not able to come and give evidence.

SAMUEL LOVEGROVE sworn and examined. *S. Lovegrove.*

23,753. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live at Churchdown, do you not?—I do.

23,754. Are you a timber merchant?—I am, and farmer.

23,755. What did you give to any one for his vote at the last election?—Nothing.

23,756. Nothing at the last election?—No.

23,757. Did you offer any money to any person at the last election?—Not any.

23,758. You neither gave money nor offered money?—No.

23,759. Did you in the election of 1857?—I came in in 1857, and saw a man of the name of Gardner; he was in the street, and I asked him if he would vote, and he said no, he should not vote at all unless he had something. He said he used when Robert Hudson was living to have a glass full of sovereigns.

23,760. Did he say whether it was a large glass or a small glass?—No, he did not say. He wanted to know where the head man was, of the other side. He had been down to the Blue committee, he said, and he could make nothing of them there. He wanted to know where the head man was of the other party. I said, "You go and vote for Sir Robert Carden, and "see me afterwards, and I will do something for "you;" and he went and voted, and came to me, and I gave him fifty shillings.

23,761. You were not the head man of the other party, were you?—No; but that was what he told me.

23,762. When you found he was looking out for the head man of the other party, you thought you would give him something, and secure him?—I gave him fifty shillings; but he went and voted first, and came to me at "The Fleece."

23,763. You made it safe?—I got his vote first. That was the only man I ever bribed.

23,764. What time in the day was it?—I would not say to an hour, but I should think it was somewhere about two o'clock; I would not be certain; I should think it was something like that.

23,765. From one to two o'clock?—I should think it was something like that.

23,766. Did he say he had been looking out to see what he could get on the other side?—He was repining that he could not get money so easily this time as he had before.

23,767. It was a source of regret to him?—Yes, it was.

23,768. Did you ever give any money before?—Never. I think he chiefly voted the other way. Once or twice I know he did.

23,769. But you understood from him that he was on the look out for money on the Liberal side?—He had been down to the Blue committee, he said, and could make nothing there, and he wanted to know who was the man of the other party that gave money, and I said I did not know anything at all about it.

23,770. Did he not know that you were one of the

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S. Lovegrove.
26 Oct. 1859.

Blue party ?—Yes, but he met me in the street, and this was the conversation.

23,771. He knew you were one of the Blue party ?—Yes.

23,772. Was it not very odd that he should come to you to know where he could get money from on the Liberal side ?—I suppose it was not much odds to him who he came to so that he got it.

23,773. But was it not odd that he should come to you to know where he could get money on the Liberal side ?—Those were the words he told me, as near as I can speak to them.

23,774. Was the fifty shillings you gave to him repaid to you afterwards ?—Never.

23,775. It was paid out of your own pocket ?—Yes.

23,776. You never sought to obtain repayment ?—No. I recollect saying to my brother, last summer, that I gave Gardner fifty shillings; but he put it off, and said that was nothing. In fact, I have always voted Conservative all my life, and if I could ever see any one I should be very glad to take him up to poll him at any time.

23,777. And give him fifty shillings ?—No. If it was any money out of my pocket I should not mind a pound or two at a time like that.

23,778. For the good of the cause ?—For the good of the cause.

23,779. Mr. Joseph Lovegrove is your brother, is he not ?—Yes.

23,780. Did you never tell him till last summer that you had paid fifty shillings to Gardner for his vote in 1857 ?—I never did.

23,781. It was a contribution in fact to Sir Robert Carden ?—It was to get this man to vote my way of thinking.

23,782. Did you ever give money to any one else ?—No.

23,783. Never ?—No.

23,784. Was this entirely an impromptu act on your part ?—Yes.

23,785. It was quite voluntary ? — Yes; quite voluntary.

H. Davis.

HANNAH DAVIS sworn and examined.

23,786. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the wife of William Davis ?—Yes, I am.

23,787. Where does he live ?—In Littleworth.

23,788. Do you remember your husband being canvassed by Mr. Buchanan ?—He was canvassed by Mr. Price and Mr. Monk, and he promised his vote to them.

23,789. Do you remember any gentleman on the other side coming to your house afterwards ?—A great many came, both of the Blue and the Yellow party.

23,790. Did Mr. Buchanan come to your house ?—Really I do not know him.

23,791. An old gentleman ?—There were a great many gentleman came, but I do not know their names.

23,792. What is your husband ?—We keep a little shop.

23,793. A greengrocer's shop ?—Yes. My husband has not been able to do a day's work these ten years.

23,794. You keep a greengrocer's shop ?—Yes.

23,795. And you sell firewood ?—Yes, we do.

23,796. Do you remember any gentleman on the other side coming to your shop, and offering you money if your husband would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—There was a gentleman came at nearly eleven o'clock at night, and he asked me if my husband would vote for their party; and I said, "What party ?" And he said, "We are for Carden." I said, "No, sir, he will not; he will not vote for no one except it is Mr. Price and Monk; he has promised them, and he will not run from his word."

23,797. Did that person offer you any money ?—He did not offer me any money.

23,798. Did any person who came on the other side offer any money ?—There was a man, I believe, from "The King William" came several times. I said, "It is no use for you to come here, for my husband has promised Price and Monk, and he will not vote for no one else, and it is no use to come bothering me."

23,799. Did any person make to you or your husband any offer of money ?—No one, except it was Mr. Ayers gave me five sovereigns; at least he put it on the table, and I picked it up, the night before the election, and no one else.

23,800. Your husband received 5*l.* ?—Not my husband; I did; but he did not know it for two months after. The effigies was burnt of them people who went to London, and then I told him of it.

23,801. Ayers put 5*l.* on the table without saying what it was for ?—No, he did not; he went into our house the night before the election; I was waiting on some one in the shop, and he went in; and when I moved my things off the table to clear the table I picked up five sovereigns.

23,802. You were very much astonished, were you not ?—I was; I tied it up in the corner of my handkerchief, and I never let my husband know it till the effigies were burnt.

23,803. Did you keep the five sovereigns tied up in your handkerchief all the time you mention ?—Yes.

23,804. Are you sure that no person on the part of Sir Robert Carden offered you any money for your husband's vote ?—No.

23,805. Have you ever said since the election that your husband was offered money, or that you were offered money ?—No, not that I am aware of.

23,806. That was the last election in 1859 ?—That was the last election.

23,807. Did your husband vote in 1857 ?—Yes, he did.

23,808. Who did he vote for then ?—He voted for Price and Berkeley.

23,809. Did he receive anything then ?—Nothing at all; we never had anything before.

23,810. In 1859 he voted for Price and Monk ?—Yes, he did.

23,811. Do you remember any gentleman coming on Sir Robert Carden's side, and asking you about your bundles of firewood ?—Yes, I do.

23,812. What did he say about your firewood ?—He asked me if we had any firewood; and I said, yes, we had some; I said, "Do you want any, sir." He said, "Could I see your husband ?" And I said, "No, you cannot;" and that was all he said. He went out, and said he would send his servant.

23,813. Did he not say he was come about your husband's vote ?—No, he did not.

C. Byett.

CHARLES BYETT sworn and examined.

23,814. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Portland Street.

23,815. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—I am a householder. I have no vote for a member of Parliament.

23,816. Then you did not vote at the last election ?—No.

23,817. Had you a vote at the election of 1857 ?—No.

23,818. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did any money pass through your hands at the last election ?—No.

23,819. Did you not give money to any person ?—No.

23,820. Did not somebody put money into your hand to give to somebody else ?—No, they did not.

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23,821. Did any body do so in the election of 1857 ?—No ; I had nothing to do with it ; I have not these twenty years, nearly ; I have not received any money, or had anything to do with it.

23,822. Not for yourself ?—Nor for any one ese.

23,823. Were you requested by any one to take some money, and give it to any other voter ?—I was not.

C. Byett.

26 Oct. 1859.

JOHN DAVIS sworn and examined.

J. Davis.

23,824. (*Mr Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Windmill Terrace.

23,825. Where did you live at the last election ?—Queen Street.

23,826. Were you a householder or a freeman ?—A householder.

23,827. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

23,828. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all.

23,829. Did you receive nothing after the election ?—No.

23,830. Were you employed as a messenger ?—No.

23,831. For whom did you vote at the election before ?—For Price and Berkeley.

23,832. Did you receive anything then ?—No.

23,833. You never have received anything ?—I never have received anything.

23,834. Do you keep a beerhouse ?—I do.

23,835. Had you any suppers at your house at the last election ?—I had.

23,836. Who ordered them ?—Mr. Moss and Mr. Bennett.

23,837. Were the suppers to voters ?—They were.

23,838. How many suppers had you there ?—I had one supper.

23,839. Was that the night of the election, or the night before the election ?—It was the night previous to the nomination.

23,840. How many had you there ?—There were 34 sat down to supper.

23,841. Were they all voters ?—Well, I think principally they were ; they were all a lot of respectable men ; they were chiefly men employed to get the votes up, I think.

23,842. You think they were chiefly canvassers ?—Yes.

23,843. Did you supply refreshments at any other time to voters ?—No.

23,844. That was all you had to do with it ?—Yes.

23,845. Mr. Moss and Mr. Bennett ordered the supper ?—Mr. Moss and Mr. Bennett ordered it.

23,846. What did it come to ?—£6 15*s.*

23,847. Have you been paid that ?—No, I have not been paid for it.

23,848. Have you sent in the account ?—I sent in my account to Mr. Wilton. He promised me payment.

23,849. Mr. John Wilton ?—Mr. John Wilton. I should like to get paid.

23,850. Did the ordering of that supper influence your vote at all ?—Not a bit of it. I did not wish to have the supper.

23,851. It was rather pressed upon you ?—They came to me, and said they should like to give me a bit of a turn. My wife was not very well, and I said I had rather not have any supper there. They said they had always been very comfortable at my house, and they should like to have a bit of supper there. I said, "Very well ; I will get it for you." That was at two o'clock in the afternoon, and I got it ready for them against night, six o'clock. They said it was a very good supper, and they were very well satisfied with it, but I should have been much better satisfied if I had got my money.

23,852. Had you promised your vote for Price and Monk before that ?—Yes.

23,853. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you lose money by the supper ?—Yes. Thirty-four of them sat down to supper, and I reckoned it at four shillings apiece. I was up stairs attending to them, and helping them ; and a lot came into the house afterwards and called for beer ; and we had cold meat in the cupboard, and they called for refreshments, and told my wife it was all right. They all had as much as they could eat and drink ; and they smoked tobacco, and had all sorts of things. My wife thought it was all right, and never told me of it till the next morning, after I had sent in my account. If I was to have the worth of it it was eight or nine pounds. I sent in my bill at seven o'clock the next morning. I was told to send it in, and that I should be paid at once, and I expected to have the money.

23,854. What is the name of your public house ?—"The Butchers' Arms." Four shillings each was what I charged, and that included supper and beer, and everything they had.

23,855. That was at the last election ?—Yes ; in 1859.

23,856. Was there any entertainment at your house in 1857 ?—No, there was not.

23,857. I suppose you considered when that supper was ordered that it was a good thing for your house ?—I did not think so ; I would rather have been without it.

23,858. Why did you not say then that you would rather they did not have the supper at your house ?—I did, but they very much pressed me, and said they should like to have a supper at my house. They said they always were very comfortable there, and wished I would get a bit of a supper for them, because they had a few friends going to meet together, and they should much enjoy it ; and then I said I would get it for them.

23,859. It was in fact for their benefit, then, and not for yours ?—It was not for my benefit ; it was for theirs.

23,860. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Mr. Jordan at that supper ?—No.

23,861. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It would have been better if you had refused to let them have the supper ?—Yes ; I shall for the future.

23,862. Who was the chairman of that supper ?—Mr. Jones's articled clerk.

23,863. What is his name ?—I forget his name ; I should know it if I was to hear it.

23,864. Was it Richards ?—Yes.

23,865. He made a good chairman, did he not ?—He was a very good one.

JAMES DAVIS DEE sworn and examined.

J. D. Dee.

23,866. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You live with your father, do you not ?—Yes.

23,867. Where is that ?—In Parker's Row.

23,868. You are a clerk to Mr. Taynton ?—Yes.

23,869. Do you remember giving your father 8*l.* at the last election ?—No.

23,870. Did you give your father anything at the last election ?—Nothing.

23,871. You were employed, were you not, as clerk in the committee room ?—Yes.

23,872. And your father was also employed there ?—Yes.

23,873. What was he employed as ?—Clerk.

23,874. Your father is a voter, is he not ?—Yes.

23,875. And he voted for Sir Robert Carden ?—I believe so.

23,876. Do you know that your father did receive 8*l.* for his vote ?—No.

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23,877. Do you know that he received any thing ?—I know he was paid for his services as clerk.

23,878. Besides that, do you know whether he received anything for his vote?—I should think he did not.

23,879. Did you hear your father say that he had received anything for his vote ?—No ; I have heard him say that he had not.

23,880. How much did he get for his services as clerk ?—I do not know.

23,881. You have no vote, have you ?—No.

J. Dowding.

JAMES DOWDING sworn and examined.

23,882. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep a beerhouse, do you not, in Bell Lane ?—Yes.

23,883. What is the name of it ?—The White Hart.

23,884. Did you vote at the last election ?—Yes.

23,885. Who did you vote for ?—Carden.

23,886. What did you receive for your vote ?—The party that I voted for did not offer me anything.

23,887. Did the other party offer you anything ?—Yes; I think they did. Wilkes and Henley called on me; I cannot say whether it was sovereigns they had, but it was something that appeared like sovereigns ; if it was not sovereigns, it was a very good imitation of it.

23,888. Did they offer you anything ?—They wanted to know if they could do anything for me ; I did not know what they meant ; I could not make them out.

23,889. Did you make them out afterwards ?—They said that if I would promise to vote for the Liberals they would fill my house on the next Wednesday night. I believe it was 400 they said they would bring.

23,890. They promised to fill your house if you would vote for the Liberals ?—Yes.

23,891. And they said they would bring 400 ?—I believe they did ; they said they would fill every room in my house, however. I believe 400 was the number they said they would bring from the Liberal club.

23,892. Was there any money offered ?—They put down on my table a lot of sovereigns, and told me what I wanted I was to take.

23,893. How many sovereigns did they put down ?—I did not count them.

23,894. Were they so many that you could not count them ?—No ; I did not look particularly at them. I looked at the men more than I did at the sovereigns, for I thought they were either drunk or foolish ; or rather I looked at Wilkes ; the other I did not take so much notice of.

23,895. Had you an opportunity of seeing how much money there was ?—No ; I did not wish to; it seemed to me from the chink or rattle in their hands that it was sovereigns.

23,896. It was only a chink, was it ?—A noise or rattle, or whatever you may term it.

23,897. The chink of money ?—Yes ; or something that resembled money.

23,898. Did you receive a sovereign from them on that occasion ?—No. I did not.

23,899. Did you not receive a sovereign for a bottle of sherry ?—No ; that was paid in my bar.

23,900. Was it not given to you ?—No.

23,901. Are you sure of that ?—Yes, I am sure of it ; it was put on the counter, and it was taken from there and put in the till by a party who was standing at the bar. I was not there myself.

23,902. Do you know that Mr. Wilkes has been examined here ?—I know it ; I saw it in the print.

23,903. Do you know he said that he had paid you for a bottle of sherry ?—If I had had the money they should have had the sherry directly ; if Wilkes had given me the money he would have had the sherry.

23,904. Do you swear that he did not give you a sovereign ?—I do ; and I will bring here the party who was at the bar, who took the money off the counter. Wilkes and Henley were in the bar.

23,905. Do you mean to swear that you did not take the sovereign up yourself ?—I do swear it, and that is the reason why I did not take in the wine. Mrs. Dowding knew it was there ; she told me it was paid for. I looked hard at her when the wine was taken in, and when she said "It is paid for."

23,906. You were astonished, were you, at the bottle of sherry coming in ?—I was.

23,907. You were there when it was brought in ?—Yes.

23,908. And you were astonished when it was brought in ?—I was rather astonished ; I did not know that it was paid for.

23,909. Did you partake of the bottle of sherry ?—I did.

23,910. And of the supper ?—Yes.

23,911. At their expense ?—Yes, out of the sovereign.

23,912. Have you any bill against the party of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes ; do you wish to see it ?

23,913. What is the amount of it ?—That is the bill (*handing a paper to the Commissioners*).

23,914. Is that the total amount that the party is indebted to you for the entertainment ?—Yes.

23,915. Have you received any other money from them ?—Not at all.

23,916. Has this bill been paid to you ?—No ; here is the order I received (*handing another paper to the Commissioners*).

23,917. This seems to be an order from Mr. Whithorn, "Monday, 25th April. We shall be glad to "have dinner to-day, at three precisely ; we shall "be six or eight of us." Is this the bill for that dinner ?—Yes.

23,918. It amounts, I see, to 5*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes.

23,919. Was any money at all received by you from the party of Sir Robert Carden previous to, during, or since the election ?—No, not a farthing.

23,920. Before that order was sent to you, had you seen Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes.

23,921. Had Mr. Whithorn made any promise to you as to what he would do if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—No, he had not.

23,922. Was your son employed in the committee-room of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

23,923. Was he a clerk there ?—Yes.

23,924. Do you know what he received ?—No, I do not.

23,925. Were you told that your son should be employed as clerk ?—No ; my son was told by one party —I believe he said it was Mr. Bryon, but I am not certain—that he could get him put on as a clerk, and get him a permanent situation with Mr. Price if I would vote for the Liberals. Somebody said, "Why "not go to the party your father is going to vote for, "and very likely you will be put on there ;" and then he went and got put on.

23,926. Had the order for the dinner any influence upon your vote ?—Not at all.

23,927. How long have you taken that house in Bell Lane which you occupy ?—I should think it was five years last August, if I recollect right, four or five ; I cannot say exactly which it was.

23,928. When you went to that house it was a beer-house, was it not ?—No. Mr. Carter, the solicitor, lived there before me.

23,929. It had no licence, had it ?—No, certainly not.

23,930. You obtained a licence after you went there ?—Yes.

23,931. How soon after you went there ?—Perhaps in a fortnight or three weeks.

23,932. A spirit licence ?—Yes ; it was about three weeks after, I should judge.

23,933. Were you told that if you would support

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the Conservative candidate you should obtain a spirit licence ?—No, I was not.

23,934. That spirit licence was not granted to or obtained for you in consideration of any vote you had given or were to give ?—Certainly not.

23,935. Did you make an application for it yourself ?—Yes ; at least I engaged a party of the name of Cother to apply for it. He put the notices up, and so on, and went down before the magistrates to swear they were there on the proper days, and that sort of thing.

23,936. Is Cother a solicitor ?—No, he has been a solicitor's clerk.

23,937. Are you sure there was no agreement at all made by you with any person with regard to obtaining that spirit licence, that you should have a spirit licence if you would vote for the Conservative candidates ?—Not a word of that kind was said by either party.

23,938. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you always voted for the Conservative party ?– No, I believe that on one occasion, when Mr. Hope and Admiral Berkeley were candidates, Mr. Robert Wilton, a customer of mine, and a very gentlemanly neighbour, asked me to oblige him with my vote for Admiral Berkeley. I lived nearly next door, or within 30 or 40 yards, and I told him I did not mind, and so that one time I voted for Admiral Berkeley.

23,939. Was that in 1857 ?—No ; I voted for Sir Robert Carden in 1857.

23,940. What election before that was it ?—I do not know ; it was when they were single handed, I remember ; when there were two I voted for each of those two.

23,941. Did you offer any money to any person to vote at the last election ?—No, I never interfere with any other person's business ; if I had twenty men to work for me I should not put myself under an obligation by asking any one to vote for any candidate.

23,942. Did you offer any money to any person in the election of 1857 ?—No, I never offered a farthing in my life ; and I never was offered it till this time.

23,943. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did the sovereign that Mr. Wilkes put upon the counter go into the till ?—Yes, I believe so.

23,944. Did you give him the change ?—No, but I left them in the room, and they passed by the bar ; they had had their supper and a bottle of wine, and they were coming again on the next Wednesday.

23,945. Did they say that ?—Yes ; and the next Wednesday they were going to fill my house, but they did not come.

23,946. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There is some money still due, then, from you to them ?—I do not know much about that ; there is the two suppers, there is not much change.

23,947. Whatever change there was you did not give it to them ?—They passed by the bar and went out, and did not ask for it ; I did not run after them, and I did not send my servant after them with the change ; I had something else to do ; it was all to remain till the next Wednesday, when they were going to fill my house, but they never came.

23,948. And they have never had their change ?—No.

23,949. They did not ask you for anything ?—No ; it was all to remain till the next Wednesday.

23,950. How much change do you consider you owe them ?—Well, I do not know.

23,951. How much money would you have given them if they had asked for their change ?—I should have referred them to the bar. I have nothing to do with charging suppers ; I leave that to Mrs. Dowding; I do not at all interfere with it. Even when the dinner party was there I was in the room ; I did not know but what the dinner would be paid for there and then.

23,952. There were a couple of suppers and a bottle of sherry, what should you charge for that ? —What should you think ? It was electioneering time ; besides I had a lot of respectable people on the Saturday night in my house, and I did not want people after me, offering me bribes; people would say, " What, are you so badly off as that ? There is Wilkes " and Henley in your house; have you begun to open " a bribery shop ? " or something of that sort.

23,953. What would be your charge for a bottle of sherry and two suppers ?—Well, I cannot say. Five shillings would have been the cost of the bottle of sherry ; I believe there was some ale had as well. It is a sort of thing that I do not understand ; I leave it to my mistress. If a person comes and orders a supper, or anything of that kind, we let them have it, and my mistress charges them for it.

23,954. Surely you would know what you would charge in your own house for suppers such as they had ?—No ; I should put it down, perhaps, at eighteen pence each.

23,955. That would be about 8*s.* ?—Yes, about 8*s.*

23,956. Then you have got 12*s.* belonging to them? —No, not if there was much ale had ; there was a pint or two.

23,957. With the exception of the ale it would cost about 8*s.* ?—Yes.

23,958. Perhaps Mr. Wilkes will ask you for 12*s.* after this ?—Yes, perhaps he may.

EDWARD EAST sworn and examined.

E. East.

23,959. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live ?—In Northgate Street.

23,960. What are you ?—A grocer.

23,961. For whom did you vote at the last election? —Price and Monk.

23,962. At the election of 1857, for whom did you vote ?—Carden and Price.

23,963. What money passed through your hands at the last election ?—None whatever.

23,964. Did you not receive any money from any one ; I do not mean for your vote, but did you receive any money from any one ?—No, I did not.

23,965. Did you receive any money at the election of 1857 ?—I had nothing to do with either election, any more than recording my vote.

23,966. Did you not receive any money for the purpose of giving to other persons ?—None whatever.

23,967. Were you instrumental in procuring the votes of any of the electors for Price and Monk, at the last election ?—No, not at either election.

23,968. Are you enabled to afford any information with regard to either of the elections ?—I had nothing to do with either election more than recording my vote.

23,969. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you canvass for anybody ?—No, I did not.

CHARLES BYETT called and further examined.

C. Byett.

23,970. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you receive 20*l.* for Samuel Roberts ?—When.

23,971. At the last election ?—I have had nothing to do with elections for these 20 years nearly.

23,972. You know nothing about receiving 20*l.* ?–No.

23,973. For any person of the name of Roberts ?–No.

23,974. You did not offer Roberts any money ?—I did not.

23,975. Do you know Roberts ?—Yes.

23,976. Are you sure you did not offer him any money ?—I am certain I have not offered him any money for these last twenty years for elections, or anything else.

23,977. Did Roberts say anything to you about money ?—He did not.

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J. Westbury.

26 Oct. 1859.

JAMES WESTBURY sworn and examined.

23,978. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You keep an eating house in Westgate Street, do you not?—Yes.

23,979. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,980. Did you get anything for your vote upon that occasion?—No.

23,981. Was any inducement held out to you to vote?—No.

23,982. Were you in the hope of getting a large sum of money if you voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Well, there was some expected, but that had nothing to do with electioneering; I never spoke to Mr. Carden in my life, nor him to me.

23,983. You have got some hope, have you not, of getting a large sum of money?—Well, I had at one time.

23,984. Were you offered any money on the Liberal side in 1859?—I never was; I never had an offer in my life.

23,985. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

23,986. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

23,987. Nothing?—Nothing.

23,988. Were you not paid an outstanding claim?—Yes; there was one.

23,989. What was the amount of it?—£9 19*s.*, I think it was.

23,990. You received 9*l.* 19*s.* at the election in 1857, did you not?—No, I did not.

23,991. When did you receive it?—I never received it at all.

23,992. Have you never received any portion of it?—I never received a farthing of it.

23,993. Was there any claim that you had upon the Conservative party in respect of the election of 1852 or 1853?—No. My wife received 8*l.* about five months after the election; that came unexpected, but I never was promised anything. I cannot say to a month when it was that it came.

23,994. How was it that it came unexpectedly?—Because I talked about the money lying by.

23,995. What money?—This amount of money I speak of.

23,996. The 9*l.* 19*s.*?—Yes.

23,997. When was that debt of 9*l.* 19*s.* contracted?—In 1847.

23,998. Was that at Mr. Hope's election?—Yes.

23,999. And by Mr. Hope's friends, was it?—Yes.

24,000. When you were canvassed for your vote in 1857, did you not say that there was a sum of 9*l.* 19*s.* that had been outstanding and due to you ever since 1847?—I was never canvassed at all, I never met one of the gentlemen, or spoke to them concerning it; my wife was at home, I was out; I was in ill-health.

24,001. Was your wife canvassed?—I believe the party called there.

24,002. Did your wife say there was 9*l.* 19*s.* due to you?—I cannot say; I never heard of it.

24,003. What did your wife tell you?—She did not say anything to me about 9*l.* 19*s.*

24,004. Did she not tell you that she had told the gentlemen so?—No.

24,005. How did you think they came to know anything about it?—They all knew about it; all the party did.

24,006. How did they come to know it?—Because some of the party came and had the victuals and drink.

24,007. In 1847?—Yes.

24,008. How did the party who came to your house in 1857 know that some of the party in 1847 had had victuals and drink in your house?—Some of the party had helped to eat the victuals and drink.

24,009. Did you think Sir Robert Carden and his friends knew anything about that in 1857?—That I cannot say anything about.

24,010. Who paid you the 8*l.* which came to you unexpectedly after the election?—Mr. Whithorn paid my wife.

24,011. Do you not know that that 8*l.* was paid to you in consideration of your voting for Sir Robert Carden in 1857?—No; I never promised any one a vote in my life. I always went my own way. I never polled any other way else but that way. If a person asked me, I never promised him till the time came. I was never promised any money, nor never received anything.

24,012. Does your wife arrange those matters for you?—She did then, for I had nothing at all to do with it.

24,013. Would you have voted for Sir Robert Carden if you had known that no portion of the 9*l.* 19*s.* would be paid to you?—I should have been sure to have done so, because I never intended to go any other way; I never did and never shall.

24,014. You are fixed well in your convictions?—I am.

G. Winfield.

GEORGE WINFIELD sworn and examined.

24,015. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Water Street.

24,016. What are you?—A gardener.

24,017. For whom did you vote in 1859?—For Price and Monk.

24,018. And who did you vote for in 1857?—For Carden and Price.

24,019. You received some money, did you not, at the last election for the purpose of giving to other persons?—Yes.

24,020. How much did you receive?—£10.

24,021. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Robinson, the corn dealer.

24,022. And to whom did you give it?—I paid a bill to the amount of 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, a doctor's bill, for Mr. Richard Newth, who is dead.

24,023. You paid that for his vote, did you?—I paid that for his vote.

24,024. What did you do with the remainder?—I spent it in treating, and a good deal more than that.

24,025. You spent the balance and more out of your own pocket in treating?—Yes.

24,026. At different public-houses?—Yes.

24,027. Did you, generally speaking, treat those persons that were voters?—Yes, I did.

24,028. Did you go to the houses of those persons that were Liberal voters?—Yes.

24,029. To the public-houses I mean?—Yes, to the public-houses.

24,030. How much did you spend out of your own pocket, do you think?—A good deal more than that; I could not say. I was knocking about for a fortnight or three weeks before the election at nights at different public houses.

24,031. £10 out of your own pocket perhaps?—No.

24,031*a.* £5?—No.

24,032. Would you like to fix any sum that you did spend out of your own pocket?—I dare say I was a sovereign out of pocket at least, besides my time. I do not reckon anything for that.

24,033. That was at the election in 1859?—Yes.

24,034. What did you do in that way at the election in 1857?—Nothing at all.

24,035. Neither treating nor bribing?—No; nothing at all.

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WILLIAM STAFFORD sworn and examined. *W. Stafford.* 26 Oct. 1859.

24,036. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you reside?—At Hillfield Parade.

24,037. You are a supporter of Sir Robert Carden, are you not?—Yes.

24,038. And I believe the Chairman of the Conservative Association?—No, I am not.

24,039. What post do you hold?—I am only an honorary member.

24,040. We have been informed that you are chairman of it?—It is quite a mistake.

24,041. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you a trustee?—No.

24,042. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is the chairman of that club?—A party of the same name, I believe.

24,043. A different Christian name?—No; the same Christian name.

24,044. And where does the chairman live?—I do not know. I never attend the meetings.

24,045. Do you not know where Mr. Stafford, your namesake, lives?—No; he is a perfect stranger to me. I have never seen him but once in my life.

24,046. You are only an honorary member of the club?—No.

24,047. Do you know anything about any bribery at the last election?—No; I never bribed a man in my life, and I hope I never shall.

24,048. (*Mr. Welford.*) What constitutes an honorary member; is it the payment of a subscription?—Yes.

24,049. And is the purpose of the club to keep together the Conservative interest?—Yes.

24,050. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a member of the Town Council, are you not?—Yes.

24,051. How long have you been a member?—Five years.

24,052. Were you elected after a strong contest?—Yes.

24,053. Was that at your first election?—Yes.

24,054. Who was your opponent?—Mr. Eassie.

24,055. What did your election cost you?—Upon my word I cannot tell you.

24,056. What did you pay?—I cannot tell you to a few pounds; perhaps forty pounds.

24,057. Out of your own pocket?—Yes; it may have been a pound or two more or a pound or two less; it was within a few pounds of that.

24,058. I suppose you know that that was by no means the whole of the cost of your election?—I believe not. I know it was not.

24,059. Was there a subscription entered into for the purpose of defraying the expenses of your election?—Yes.

24,060. What year was that in?—It is five years ago, about this time; within a week of this time.

24,061. Do you know that with the money paid out of your own pocket and the money subscribed the cost altogether was as much as 300*l.*?—Rather less than more.

24,062. But it was about 300*l.*?—Yes; not quite 300*l.* I should think.

24,063. Was there a considerable amount of bribery practised at that election?—That I do not know. I saw none.

24,064. What is your belief upon the subject?—It is possible there might have been, but I never saw any bribery; I never saw any money pass.

24,065. How do you think 300*l.* could have been expended at the election?—I can pretty well judge, but I cannot speak from my own knowledge.

24,066. How do you think it was spent?—There were a great many expenses no doubt; there was treating.

24,067. And bribery?—There was, I dare say, but I never saw any; I cannot speak of it of my own knowledge. I do not say there was bribery, for I do not know any case of bribery of my own knowledge.

24,068. There was a considerable quantity of treating, was there not?—Yes, there was.

24,069. And you would not be very far wrong I suppose if you were to say there was bribery also?—There might be, very likely.

24,070. Have your subsequent elections cost you anything like the sum that your first election cost?—No.

24,071. Have they cost you money?—A small sum.

24,072. Has every subsequent election been contested?—Yes.

24,073. Do you consider that treating has been carried on at every subsequent election?—No; I do not recollect any treating at the last election.

24,074. But except at the last election?—No; I do not recollect any treating going on after the first election; there might have been, but I never saw anything of it.

24,075. What is the amount you have paid at your subsequent election?—£5.

24,076. Not more?—Not out of my own pocket.

24,077. Has any money been paid out of the fund?—There might have been; I do not know what.

24,078. Do you know how much money is subscribed annually for the purpose of defraying the expense of municipal elections?—No.

24,079. Have you never heard?—No.

24,080. Neither on the one side nor on the other?—No; no certain sum.

24,081. Have you ever heard about how much has been subscribed?—No; I have not.

24,082. But you know I suppose that a sum is subscribed every year?—Yes.

24,083. For defraying the expenses?—Yes; there are some few subscriptions.

24,084. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who has the control of that fund?—There is generally a treasurer elected at the time of the subscription.

24,085. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who have been the treasurers?—I think Mr. Butt has been the treasurer on one occasion.

24,086. Mr. Michael Butt?—Yes; Mr. Michael Butt.

24,087. Was he the treasurer when you were first elected?—No; I think it was the last time, but I am not certain.

24,088. What other persons can you mention as having been treasurers?—I do not recollect any. I think I am mistaken in saying Mr. Butt was treasurer when I was a candidate for re-election. It was at a subsequent time.

24,089. Did you ever subscribe yourself any annual sum?—Yes.

24,090. How much have you subscribed?—£5.

24,091. Do you subscribe 5*l.* every year?—No, not every year. I have given 5*l.* on more occasions than one, I think.

24,092. Before and since you have been a member of the Town Council?—Since I have been a member of the Town Council.

24,093. You have subscribed 5*l.* on more than one occasion?—Yes.

24,094. And your opponent's election, I suppose, was an expensive one?—A very expensive one; at least, double as much as mine.

24,095. We have heard it stated that his election cost about 500*l.*; we have not had Mr. Eassie here. You do not know anything about the actual expense, I suppose?—No, I do not.

24,095*a*. You only go from rumour?—Yes.

24,096. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you not consider that this corrupt expenditure at municipal elections is very apt to lead to corrupt expenditure at Parliamentary elections?—It is very possible, but still we know those things were going on before the Municipal Reform Bill passed. Many of the elections cost more money then than they do now.

24,097. Although you express great disapprobation of bribery, you countenance it so far as to become

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a party to it in municipal elections?—I never bribed anybody in my life, and I never saw any bribe given in my life.

24,098. But you contributed a large sum of money towards expenses, part of which consisted of bribery?—They might consist of bribery.

24,099. Not doing it yourself you think is quite sufficient?—No; I never saw any bribery at all, either in my own or any other election. I never saw any money pass. I guessed that there might be bribery going on, but I never saw any.

24,100. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are not unwilling that other persons should do that which you will not do yourself?—I leave that entirely to them.

W. Williams.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS sworn and examined.

24,101. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is Frog Mill a small public-house?—Yes, a small public-house.

24,102. Is it called "Frog Mill"?—Yes.

24,103. You keep it?—I keep it.

24,104. How far is that from Gloucester?—About 17 miles.

24,105. Seventeen miles from this place?—From this place.

24,106. Do you remember the time when the last election was going on in this city?—Yes.

24,107. Had you any people brought to your house?—There were some people brought.

24,108. Who were they?—I do not know.

24,109. How many were brought?—Four the last time; four, I think, or five of them; I forget how many exactly.

24,110. Who brought them?—I do not know.

24,111. How many came with them?—They were brought in some sort of conveyance, but I forget what. I am very seldom at home myself. I am a foreman. I am very seldom ever at home.

24,112. There were four brought in a conveyance by some one?—Yes.

24,113. Who was it who brought them?—I think it was a fly; so I was told.

24,114. But who brought them?—I do not know.

24,115. They were brought in a fly from Gloucester?—Yes.

24,116. How long did they stop at your house?—I should think they were there about a fortnight.

24,117. This was at the time of the election, was it?—Yes; it was about the time of the election I know.

24,118. Was it in the month of April?—Upon my word I am seldom at home.

24,119. Was it in the month of April?—I do not know. I have been foreman with a gentleman in our neighbourhood these 27 years, and my mistress keeps the house; I am never at home except in the evening.

24,120. But if people stop in your house a fortnight you must know something about them? Did you understand they were voters?—I understood they were men of that sort.

24,121. Did you understand they were electors?—I did understand they were something of that sort, but I did not know what.

24,122. You understood they were something in the shape of electors for Gloucester?—Yes, I did.

24,123. Did you understand what they were brought to your house for?—I did not.

24,124. You do not know at all?—No, I do not.

24,125. Who paid you for their entertainment, for their board and lodging?—I was paid, but I was not at home when they went away.

24,126. Did you receive any money?—No, I did not, but my mistress did. I asked if she was paid, and she said she was.

24,127. Before they went away?—When they went away.

24,128. How much was she paid?—I do not know; I asked if she was paid, and she said she was.

24,129. How much was she paid?—I do not know.

24,130. Do you know who paid her?—No; it was paid; I asked her if it was paid.

24,131. You have told us that several times?—She told me she was paid, and I did not care who it was paid by.

24,132. Did you ask her how much she was paid?—No, I did not.

23,133. Did you send in any bill at all to any one?—No doubt but what she made out a bill.

24,134. Did you send any bill to Gloucester?—She said she was paid.

24,135. Do you know whether any bill was sent to Gloucester?—No; I do not know.

24,136. Were people brought to your house on more occasions than one from Gloucester?—There were some there twice, I think.

24,137. When was the other time?—That was before; there were two people there before.

24,138. How long was that before the four people were there?—That was before the election, I think.

24,139. The two people were there before the election?—Yes; I did not know their business at all.

24,140. Who brought the two people there?—I do not know; they were strangers.

24,141. Did they come from Gloucester?—The carriage that brought them I believe came from Gloucester.

24,142. Do you know who brought them?—I do not.

24,143. How long did they stop; the two people?—They stopped a very short time; them two.

24,144. Not so long as a fortnight?—No.

24,145. A few days?—A few days.

24,146. Did you understand whether they were voters?—Not exactly.

24,147. You did not understand that?—I did not.

24,148. What did you understand?—I did not understand the business at all.

24,149. Were you paid?—Yes; we were paid when they went away.

24,150. Before they went away?—Yes.

24,151. Did you receive the money?—I did not receive the money; my wife did. I asked her if she was paid, and she said she was.

24,152. You have not got your wife with you to-day, have you?—No, I have not.

W. Griffiths.

WILLIAM GRIFFITHS sworn and examined.

24,153. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Exibition Street, High Orchard.

24,154. What are you?—I keep a grocer's shop.

24,155. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

24,156. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Price and Carden.

24,157. Did you get anything for your vote at the last election?—Yes; I got half a sovereign, and he left 2*l.* at our house.

24,158. Who gave you the half sovereign?—John Ayers, junior.

24,159. He gave you half a sovereign, and left 2*l.* at your house?—Yes; and I told him I did not want anything; he gave me half a sovereign after I had voted; about an hour after; and left 2*l.* at our house; whether that day or the next day I do not know, and I never inquired about it.

24,160. (*Mr. Welford.*) You kept the money?—My mistress had the money; I never had it, or saw it.

24,161. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You knew from your wife that it was left, did you not?—Yes.

24,162. And you kept it and used it?—Yes.

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24,163. You did not give it back again ?—No.

24,164. I suppose you considered that to be for your vote ?—No, I did not; I considered that it was for my expenses.

24,165. What expenses ?—What I had been spending about.

24,166. About where ?—Gloucester.

24,167. What expenses ?—I was drinking for two or three weeks; I do not consider that I had anything for my vote.

24,168. For drinking for two or three weeks at other people's expense ?—Yes; and my own.

24,169. That was a very small part of the expense, I suppose ?—Very small, I will assure you.

24,170. Is that all the expense that you incurred—the expense in drinking at other people's expense ?—I spent more than I had of anybody else.

24,171. What are you ?—A grocer.

24,172. Do you keep a grocer's shop ?—I do.

24,173. Did you treat people ?—Yes, several.

24,174. Who did you treat ?—A great many of my fellow workmen, that work along with me among the timber.

24,175. You work among the timber, do you ?—Yes; I work among the timber as well as keeping a shop.

24,176. Who did you treat ?—I treated several; I know several I could mention if it is required.

24,177. Mention some ?—I treated a man called John Griffiths.

24,178. Is he a brother of yours ?—No, he is no relation of mine; he belongs to Bristol.

24,179. What did you treat him to ?—Some drink, and what went between us; we had both rum and beer.

24,180. That was upon one occasion, was it ?—Yes; and I treated several others besides.

24,181. Just give us the names ?—I will give you the names of a few others: a man named James Clutterbuck. They were non-voters both of them.

24,182. What did you treat him to ?—The same as myself, perhaps a drop of rum first and then a drop of beer after.

24,183. How came you to treat non-voters at the time of the election ?—Because they was friends of mine, as works along with me at times.

24,184. Was it with money out of your own pocket that you treated them ?—Yes. It was before the election.

24,185. Are you in the habit of treating them at other times ?—Yes.

24,186. Frequently ?—No, not frequently. Sometimes they treat me.

24,187. They did not treat you during the election, did they ?—No.

24,188. Can you give us the name of any other person that you treated ?—Yes, several more if you want them.

24,189. Give me the name of another ?—I will tell you another, a man of the name of James Williams.

24,190. Was that one of Mr. Price's men ?—No, he is not one of Price's men.

24,191. Was that rum and beer also ?—I do not know whether it was rum or gin. He might prefer gin sometimes of a morning.

24,192. Did you not receive any money for treating before you got this half sovereign and two pounds ?—Never a halfpenny.

24,193. What did you receive in 1857 ?—£2 5*s*.

24,194. From whom ?—John Biddle Hanman.

23,195. What did you receive that for ?—That was for my vote, and nothing else but for my vote that was not. They came and woke me up. I was asleep at the Cross Keys, and they woke me up. I had just got round a bit, and wanted a drop more.

24,196. That 2*l*. 5*s*. was to vote for Carden ?—To vote for Carden.

24,197. You are quite sure you received that money, are you ?—I am quite certain of it.

24,198. Where did you receive it ?—I received it in Hanman's shop after the election was over. I heard Carden's speech out here before I went to receive the money at his shop.

24,199. I suppose you were very much gratified with the speech ?—Well, I voted for him; I did not care who got in.

24,200. I suppose you know that Mr. Hanman denies that he gave you that money ?—Yes, he denied it in the committee room of the House of Commons, but the man who was there has owned to it since that he heard it. That was a man named Reece.

24,201. Who is that ?—He is yardsman now for Nicks and Baxter; he was present when I had the promise of the money from Hanman.

24,202. What Reece is that—what is his Christian name ?—Charles Reece.

24,203. Were you promised the money before the election ?—It was the same day, but I did not go for it till the election was over.

24,204. Were you promised the money before the election ?—Before I voted. He picked me up on the afternoon of the election day, at the Cross Keys, and he says, "Come along with me." He is a fellow workman of mine, and I thought I was going to have a drop of beer; but he took me into the committee-room of Carden, and brought Hanman to me.

24,205. Was Reece in London ?—Yes.

24,206. Did not Reece contradict your statement ?—Yes.

24,207. He said you had not received any money ?—He said he never heard Mr. Hanman promise me anything; but since he has had the sack, and got discharged from Nicks's, he has owned to it.

24,208. Who made you the promise ?—John Biddle Hanman, the grocer.

24,209. At the committee-room ?—He gave it me there.

24,210. At the committee-room ?—Yes. There was a yard at the back of the committee-room—it was not in the committee-room; he took me out in the back yard.

24,211. Was that the committee-room in Westgate Street?—Yes, facing the Shire Hall, or very handy; he took me in the lower part of where Carden's committee-room once was; the committee-room was upstairs, but he took me in the front door, and took me up to the back, and he said "Jack, (my name is William), "have you voted ?" I says, "No, Sir;" he says "You had better go; I will give you 2*l*.;" I said "I shall want 5*s*. more for drink;" he says, "Go on "and come up to my shop, and I will pay you." I went and voted. It was about twenty-five minutes to four when I voted; and when I went up to his shop I dare say it was half past four. I heard Mr. Carden's speech after the election was over, and before I went to his shop for the money; for I had a shilling or two of my own.

24,212. Where is that Charles Reece now ?—In Gloucester; he is working for Nicks again; he has got back to his old situation. I have two or three witnesses who will come forward at any time to prove what he has said since, when he was discharged from them; he was discharged for drinking.

24,213. Was Mr. John Ward in the yard at the time this promise was made ?—I did not see John Ward in the yard; he might have walked in the yard and out again, but I was busy talking to Mr. Hanman.

21,214. Were you not very tipsy ?—No, I had been tipsy, but I had got round.

24,215. Are you sure you were not so tipsy that you did not know what took place ?—I am certain I was not; I am certain that I knew it as well as I do now, at this present time.

24,216. Mr. Ward may have been there without your seeing him ?—He might have been there in the yard, and me not notice him.

24,217. If Mr. Ward had spoken to you, must you have known he had been there ?—If he had spoken to me in the back yard I should have known he was there.

24,218. You say you have no doubt you received

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that money from Mr. Hanman ?—No doubt whatever.

24,219. In what part of the shop did you receive it ?—In the back by the bacon rack,—when you go behind the bacon,—there is were I received it.

24,220. Was that a place where you would be screened from the observation of people in the shop ?—Yes, it is.

24,221. When you are behind that bacon rack people in the shop cannot see you ?—They cannot.

24,222. When you received that money was any person in the shop ?—Yes ; there were some shopmen.

24,223. Were there any customers in the shop ?—I did not notice, I did not look after such people ; I only wanted to see Hanman to see whether he was going to give me anything or not ; I did not expect it when I went there.

24,224. Was there any person besides yourself and Mr. Hanman behind the bacon rack at the time he gave you the money ?—No, there was not, not to my knowledge.

24,225. And did you receive the 2*l.* 5*s.* ?—I did ; I received one sovereign, two half sovereigns, and five shillings.

24,226. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you asked about this by Mr. Taynton ?—I was.

24,227. Was what you said taken down in writing ?—He wrote something out and wanted me to sign it, but I was not going to sign what I did not see wrote out.

24,228. Did you go to him voluntarily ?—They put my name down in the book "all Carden" ; but I voted for Price and Carden, and that was the reason why I went to Henley, the printer's shop, and asked him why my name was put in the poll-book as having voted "all Carden," when I had voted for Carden and Price. And then I went to Mr. Lovegrove's office where Mr. Taynton was, and he wanted me to sign a paper that I never received any money, which I could not do nor would not.

24,229. Did you not go there to make the statement of your own accord ?—Certainly I did not.

24,230. Did they offer to send you out of Gloucester ?—Yes.

24,231. Who did ?—Mr. Taynton ; I told him I did not want to go to London upon the job, and he sent me to a place called Skinner's Hotel facing the station, but I would not stop there ; I went home, I would stand the consequence.

24,232. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you make a statement when you went to Mr. Lovegrove's office ; did you sign any statement ?—I did not, I would not sign it ; he wrote something down and wanted me to sign it, and I would not.

24,233. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he read it over to you ?—No.

24,234. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Taynton write down what you told him ?—He did not ; he wrote down what he liked, and then wanted me to sign it.

24,235. Was it in the morning time ?—It was.

24,236. Were you quite sober ?—I was ; I was very wrath about my name being put in the poll-book all for Carden, when I had voted for Price and Carden.

24,237. How soon after the election was it when you went ?—As soon as I saw my name in the poll-book.

24,238. How soon after the election was that ?—About three weeks after the election.

24,239. You went there to see how it was that your name appeared only as voting for Carden when you had in fact voted for Carden and Price ?—I did ; I went to Henley's printing office to know, and he said he could not help it, as that was the statement he had from Mr. Lovegrove's office ; and I went there to see how it was.

24,240. Had you made any statement that you had received 2*l.* 5*s.* from Mr. John Biddle Hanman ?—I did not ; not a word ; he wanted me to sign a paper that I never received anything.

24,241. Had you mentioned, in the course of conversation after the election, that you had received 2*l.* 5*s.* from Mr. Hanman ?—I never mentioned it to anybody till this petition was put in against Price.

24,242. You never mentioned a word of it to anybody ?—No.

24,243. How do you think people knew that you had received 2*l.* 5*s.* from Mr. Hanman ?—Because I treated a lot of them at night after I saw him, both men and women.

24,244. When ?—The night of the election.

24,245. What had that to do with it ?—They thought I had some money from somewhere, and the party I suppose thought I had it for my vote.

24,246. The people that you treated ?—The people I was treating ; some were voters, and some were not voters.

24,247. The people you treated thought you had had this money for your vote ?—Yes ; and they asked me ; and I said "I cannot answer anything upon that question to-day."

24,248. And you did not ?—I did not.

24,249. And you did not say anything about it afterwards to anybody ?—I did not before the petition was put in against Price.

24,250. If you did not mention it to anybody, how could Mr. Taynton know that you had received the money ?—Perhaps Mr. Biddle Hanman told him, because they be all the same party.

24,251. That is your explanation ?—Yes, it is.

24,252. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who sent for you on the Liberal side about this story ; who asked you about it on the Liberal side ?—A man named Thomas Brewer Monk.

24,253. When did he ask you ?—When the petition was put in ; not before ; when Berkeley put in a petition against Carden, and Carden put in a petition against Price.

24,254. Did Brewer Monk come to you ?—He sent for me.

24,255. What did he say ?—He asked me whether I knew anything about the late election, and I told him I did ; and I said, "If you put in the petition "against Price I shall tell you what I had on Carden's "part."

24,256. When was that ?—When the petition was put in in 1857.

24,257. Was that after you had seen Mr. Taynton ? Yes ; a great while after that ; it might be a month after that or more.

24,258. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you quite certain there can be no mistake about this ?—I am certain there is no mistake. I can fetch ever so many witnesses who Reece has told what I agreed with Hanman for.

24,259. Who are the persons to whom you say Reece has mentioned it ?—John Bown and John Steele ; they mentioned it to me. When he had the sack from Nicks' he told me personally, "I wish I had known this when I was in London, I should have made a mess of Carden."

24,260. Who is John Bown ?—A man that works for Mr. Price in the saw mills ; Steele is a man that works in the timber yard ; he has told them and myself and several others too.

24,261. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did you do with the 2*l.* 5*s.* ?—I spent it ; I got a drop of drink for two or three days afterwards with it.

24,262. Where does Bown live ?—No. 1, High Orchard.

24,263. Where does the other man live ?—I do not know ; but it is somewhere down by the Northgate Street.

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THOMAS TAYNTON called and further examined. *T. Taynton.*

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24,264. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to make a statement with reference to the evidence that has just been given?—Yes. The witness Griffiths has stated that I endeavoured to induce him to sign a paper with the contents whereof he was unacquainted. I wish to state that he came to Mr. Lovegrove's office for the purpose as he says of inquiring how his name happened to be returned in the poll sheet as having voted for Sir Robert Carden only, when he had voted for Carden and Price. I referred to the poll sheet, and pointed it out to him. I had previously heard he had stated that Mr. Hanman had given him some money.

24,265. From whom had you heard that?—I really cannot tell; but it was a matter bruited about. There was a talk of the petition, and I had heard that that was one of the circumstances to be brought forward under the petition; and having heard that, I was rather surprised that he should come to me to ask anything about the election; and after I had referred to the poll sheet for him, I said, "Why, Griffiths, I "understand you have said that Mr. Hanman gave "you some money for voting for Sir Robert Carden." He said "It is a great lie; I have never said anything "of the kind." I said "Did you receive any money "for voting for Sir Robert Carden?" He said "I "never had a penny for my vote; I voted of my own "free will." I was then standing by a desk, and took up a slip of paper, and wrote on that paper what he had said. I have not the paper with me now, but I gave evidence of it, and produced the paper before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1857, and I have here a copy of the shorthand writer's notes; and, perhaps, you will allow me to refer to those notes for the words of the memorandum I made at the time. I wrote down these words:—"William "Griffiths states, I never received any money or "any promise of any money to vote for Sir Robert "Carden at the late election; but I voted of my "own free will, without any inducement." Those were the words I wrote down, and I read it over to him in that room, and then he said, "Let me look at "it? I can read it for myself." I handed him the paper, and he read it and returned it to me. I had put the day of the month at the end of the statement; it was the 29th of April; and he said "Add to it that "I voted for Carden and Price." I then struck out the date and added those words, and put in the date again, and I said "If that is correct, will you sign it?" He said "I will not sign it in Gloucester, but if you "will send me away from Gloucester for a time I will "sign it."

Griffiths, the last Witness.—I never said anything of the sort.

The Witness.—I asked him why he wished to be sent away from Gloucester, and he said he should be chaffed so, if he remained, by Price's men. I told him if his statement was true there could be no reason why he should not sign it, or why he should wish to be sent away from Gloucester, and that I could have nothing to do with anything of the kind. He said he would sign it if I would promise he should be sent away for a fortnight or so, and that he would take my word for it. I declined doing anything of the kind, and he went away. This conversation was heard by a person who is present in court now, who was at that time waiting in Mr. Lovegrove's office on business; the door was open between the two rooms. As I passed out with Griffiths I found him there, and we had some chat about the matter. He is in court now and will confirm my statement, every word of it.

24,266. What is his name?—Alfred Webb.

24,267. Are you quite sure that Griffiths did tell you what you wrote down on that paper?—Most certainly.

24,268. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What is the date of it?—The 29th of April; I handed it to him, and he read it and returned it to me, and at his request I made the addition that he did poll for Carden and Price. He was very anxious it should appear he voted for Price as well as Sir Robert Carden. He has stated, too, that I sent him to a public-house, and that I most distinctly deny.

24,269. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You considered at the time that Griffiths' evidence was rather important, did you not, with reference to the coming petition?—No doubt I did; my having heard that a petition was threatened, and that he had made that statement induced me to put the question to him, and finding he denied it I immediately made a memorandum of it.

24,270. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Was he sober at the time he came to you?—Perfectly sober. It was in the fore part of the day. He was perfectly sober.

24,271. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you not consider that it would be very important to obtain his signature to that paper?—I did. I considered it would be desirable to do so, having heard he had made such a statement as that.

24,272. The falsehood of the statement he had made would have been shown by the signature to the paper?—It would be so.

24,273. And he would have signed that paper if you had undertaken to send him out of Gloucester for a fortnight?—He said so over and over again.

24,274. Would it not have been important to have done that?—I should have thought I acted very wrong if I induced a man to sign a paper of that kind by a promise of sending him away.

24,275. The reason that he gave to you for wishing to be sent out of the way was that he was afraid of being chaffed by the workpeople?—Yes.

24,276. That was the only reason he gave?—That was the only reason he gave.

24,277. Did it not occur to you that it would be a very good plan to get him to sign the paper and send him away, if he wished to go, to escape the ridicule of his fellow workmen?—If I had induced him to sign that paper by that means I should have thought it very improper; at all events very unwise.

24,278. There is no doubt you took down the words as he uttered them?—Most distinctly.

24,279. Is Mr. Alfred Webb a clerk in the office?—No; he was waiting there on business; collecting rates, I think; or something of that kind. He was waiting in the office; I think that was his business there then; he had received rents or something; he was waiting there I know to see Mr. Lovegrove.

24,280. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect from whom you heard that Griffiths had made this statement?—I really cannot remember. There were persons frequently in and out, bringing us conversations heard out of doors.

24,281. Was it represented to you that that was one of the cases that would be brought forward?—Yes; that was one of the cases I understood upon the strength of which a petition was threatened. I had heard of that case and the case of Clark. Those were the only two cases that I had heard of, I think.

ALFRED WILLIAM WEBB sworn and examined. *A. W. Webb.*

24,282. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Worcester Street.

24,283. What are you?—A collector of rates.

24,284. For the parish in which you live, I suppose?—For the parish of St. John the Baptist, and for the Board of Health, under the Corporation.

24,285. Were you at Mr. Lovegrove's office on the 29th of April 1857?—I do not know the date when I was there; I do not know the day of the month.

24,286. Do you remember being there in the month of April?—I remember being there some time when a man named Griffiths was in the inner office.

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A. W. Webb.

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24,287. Was that the man who has been examined here?—It is.

24,288. Where were you?—I was in Mr. Lovegrove's right-hand office, waiting for Mr. Lovegrove.

24,289. Where was Griffiths?—In the office to the left going in.

24,290. You were in the right-hand office?—I was in the right-hand office.

24,291. And he was in the left?—Yes.

24,292. Was there a passage between them?—A short passage, about a yard and a half, the width of the stairs.

24,293. Was the door of the room in which you were open?—Both doors were open; both of the room I was in and the one Griffiths was in.

24,294. How do you know that?—Because I saw them.

24,295. Are you now testifying to the fact that both doors were open from anything said to you, or from what you observed at the time?—I remember it perfectly well at the time.

24,296. What time in the day was it?—About eleven o'clock in the morning.

24,297. Had you been there before Griffiths came, or did Griffiths come after you?—When I went in I heard somebody in the other room, and I said, "I want to see Mr. Lovegrove," and one of the clerks said "He is not in at present;" and I said, "Mr. Taynton will do," and I heard somebody talking to Mr. Taynton in that room, and I knew the voice of the man Griffiths.

24,298. Had you known Griffiths before?—Yes.

24,299. And you knew his voice?—I did.

24,300. Was any person in the office with you in which you were?—No, no one.

24,301. You did not go into the office where Griffiths was, you say?—No.

34,302. You heard Mr. Taynton's voice?—I heard both.

24,303. You did not go into the room?—Not at all.

24,304. Were you standing near the door in the room in which you were?—I was at the door of the room in which I was in. I did not sit down; I was walking backwards and forwards.

24,305. Did you hear the conversation between them?—I did.

24,306. Just say what the conversation was?—I fancied it was Griffiths's voice, and I made a comment to one of the clerks inside whether that was not Griffiths, and he said, "Yes, it is."

24,307. One of the clerks where?—In the adjoining place.

24,308. In the room in which you were?—In the outer room—in the room where I first came into; and I heard words similar to what Mr. Taynton has read; and I heard Mr. Taynton say, "Did you have any money from John Hanman?" and he says, "If any man says so it is a damned lie." Those were the words; I remember it as well as could be.

24,309. You heard him say, "Did you have any money from John Hanman?"—Yes.

24,310. And he said, "It is a lie?"—Yes; and he made use of the remark, "I voted from my own free will." Those were the words that he uttered.

24,311. Do you remember those words, independent of what you have heard read?—Yes.

24,312. Have you talked this matter over before?—No, never; I have not seen Mr. Taynton, or spoken a word to him since 1857. I mentioned it to a gentleman in court while Griffiths was giving his evidence, and stated I was present and heard the conversation.

24,313. Had you any conversation with Mr. Taynton on that morning about it?—The morning that Griffiths was in the room with him.

24,314. You did speak to Mr. Taynton about it?—Mr. Taynton spoke to me.

24,315. What did he say?—He asked me if I heard what Griffiths was talking about. I said, I did; and, if I am not mistaken, I wrote down what I heard him and Griffiths talk about, and signed my name to it.

24,316. Mr. Taynton asked you if you heard what Griffiths said?—Yes; and I believe I wrote down the purport of what I heard pass between them two.

24,317. Were you applied to, to go to London to give evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons?—I was.

24,318. And you went?—I did. I was not examined in 1857.

24,319. I am speaking of 1857?—I went on both occasions.

24,320. You were not examined, were you?—Not in 1857.

24,321. Do you know how that was?—I do not know, I am sure.

24,322. You take an active part, do you not, in election matters in Gloucester?—Yes, pretty well.

24,323. You are sure your feelings in favour of the Conservative party have not at all influenced your evidence to-day?—Certainly not.

24,324. There is no doubt at all that you heard what you have stated?—I am positive of it; and I should like that gentleman to be called (*pointing to a person in court*) who I told while Griffiths was giving his evidence that I heard him deny it, and little did I think I should be called on this day to state it.

24,325. Where did you know Griffiths before?—I know the man from his being called "Liverpool Bill," or "Liverpool Jack," or something like that; and he has a peculiar kind of voice when he has had a little beer.

24,326. But he had had no beer that morning?—But he talks very loud.

24,327. You did not see the man?—But I knew his voice, and I saw him come out of the office also.

24,328. You did not tell us that before?—I did not go into the room where he was.

24,329. I understood you to say you knew it was Griffiths, because you asked one of the clerks, and because you heard his voice?—And I saw him go out of the office.

24,329*a*. That you did not mention before?—But I did see him go out.

94,329*b*. Had you known him personally before that morning?—By the name of "Liverpool Bill."

24,329*c*. Had you ever spoken to him?—I never spoke to the man in my life.

24,329*d*. If you never spoke to him, where had you heard his voice before?—About the town at election times.

24,329*e*. Where?—In all parts of the town; not only in election times.

24,329*f*. You never have spoken to the man before?—No.

24,329*g*. How were you able to speak to that man's voice?—Because he has such a peculiar voice when he is talking. When that man has a little drop of beer anybody that has seen the man and heard him speak in the street could swear to his voice; he has a very off-hand blunt way of talking.

24,329*h*. Does he speak in the same way in the street that he does in a room?—He is a little more noisy in the street than he would be in a room.

24,329*i*. I have not been able to detect any great peculiarity in his voice to-day?—No; he is rather quiet to-day to what he generally is.

24,329*k*. Was he very noisy in Mr. Lovegrove's office?—He talked rather loud, I must say.

Adjourned to to-morrow, 10 o'clock.

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Twenty-third Day—27th October 1859.

HENRY WILLIAM BECKLEY sworn and examined. *H. W. Beckley*

27 Oct. 1859.

24,330. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is your name?—Henry William Beckley.

24,331. Where do you live?—In the London Road.

24,332. Do you live with your father?—Yes.

24,333. Do you remember Mr. Whithorn coming to canvass your father for his vote?—Yes.

24,334. When was that?—[*No answer*].

24,335. Do you remember when it was?—[*No answer*].

24,336. Do you remember when Mr. Whithorn called?—Yes.

24,337. When was it?—A little before the election.

24,338. A little before the election?—Yes.

24,339. Did your father see him?—Yes.

24,340. What time was it in the day?—Between nine and ten.

24,341. Between nine and ten in the morning?—Yes.

24,342. Had Mr. Whithorn a conversation with your father?—Yes.

24,343. Were you by at the time?—Yes.

24,344. What did Mr. Whithorn say to your father?—He asked him how old I was.

24,345. Well?—He said "fourteen years of age."

24,346. Your father said so?—Yes.

24,347. Well?—He said that was too young.

24,348. What were you too young for?—A clerk.

24,349. How came Mr. Whithorn to say that; what led to that?—[*No answer*].

24,350. Do you hear me?—Yes.

24,351. Had anything been said by Mr. Whithorn before?—Yes.

24,352. What was said before? I want to know what was said?—He was talking to my father about my brother; about getting him into an office.

24,353. What brother was that?—Joseph.

24,354. What did he say about your brother going into an office?—He asked him what age he was.

24,355. He asked what age your brother was?—Yes.

24,356. Well?—He said twenty.

24,357. Who said that?—Father.

24,358. What then was said?—He said that was too old.

24,359. When he said that was too old, what then did he say?—He asked him if there was any little obstacle that he could remove.

24,360. What did your father say?—He said that he had a son in the army.

24,361. Well?—That he thought about getting of him off.

24,362. Well?—Mr. Whithorn said that that would be all right, if so be that he would give his vote for Mr. Carden.

24,363. Was anything said about money?—[*No answer*].

24,364. He said he had a son in the army, and he thought of getting him off?—Yes.

24,365. Was anything said about money?—He said that should be made all right, if so be that he would vote for Mr. Carden.

24,366. Did he say anything else?—Father said that he would not promise.

24,367. Was anything more said about Sir Robert Carden?—He said that Mr. Carden had great influence with those things.

24,368. Well?—He said that if so be he did not vote for Mr. Carden he would stop his son from being bought off.

24,369. Was anything else said?—Not that I remember.

24,370. Have you been making this statement to-day from what you recollect yourself?—It is what I recollect myself.

24,371. Has your father been talking to you about it since yesterday?—No.

24,372. You are quite sure of that?—Yes.

24,373. Did your father tell you what you were wanted to come to this court for?—He told me I was to come and speak what I heard.

24,374. Did he tell you what you were to say?—Yes.

24,375. Did he tell you what you were to say?—No.

24,376. And you are quite sure you heard Mr. Whithorn say that?—Yes.

24,377. How near were you to Mr. Whithorn at the time you say he said this?—About a yard and a half from him.

24,378. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who was there besides your father?—Mr. Whithorn and my father and me.

24,379. Those were the only persons present?—Yes.

GEORGE BECKLEY called and further examined. *G. Beckley.*

24,380. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to add something to the evidence which you gave here yesterday?—Yes. Having so much illness in my house, it quite slipped my memory when I was giving my evidence that I had another offer to the same effect, and that was by Mr. Maysey. As I was going up the street, he came and caught hold of my arm, and walked with me up the street, and said, that if I wished it my son could be got out of the army the same as Mr. Tanner's son had been. He said that Mr. Carden had got him out without a fraction of expense to the parents.

24,381. That is what Maysey told you?—That is what Maysey told me.

24,382. What Tanner is that?—The one that lives in Alvin Street.

24,383. Do you know what he is?—A plumber and glazier; something of all sorts, I think.

HENRY KEAR WHITHORN called and further examined. *H.K. Whitnorn*

24,384. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to make some statement with reference to the evidence which has just been given?—Yes. I wish to relate to you as nearly as I can possibly recollect everything that took place between Beckley and myself.

24,385. I examined you as to this very matter before?—Not as to some parts of the statement. Very early in the canvass I canvassed Beckley for his vote, and he promised me that he would give Sir Robert Carden a vote. I made that return immediately to Mr. Taynton, who kept the canvass book. I suppose, almost a week afterwards, or not quite so much, Mr. Taynton and myself were coming down that way in a fly, and Beckley was standing at his door. I stopped the fly, and got out, and called this man to me, and told him that Sir Robert Carden would call on him in a few days to thank him for his promise. He then said that he did not think that he had promised. He said he had not made up his mind what he should do yet. I told him I considered

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that he had promised, and that I had no doubt he would perform it. He still made the same reply to me, that he did not think he had promised, and that there was plenty of time for him to make up his mind. In a few days afterwards Mr. Taynton and myself were again coming down that way in a fly, and I got out, I think, opposite "The Oxford Arms," and went and spoke to him again; it was a little lower down than his house. I then wanted to keep him to his promise, but he gave me much the same sort of reply as he did before; and I then went down to Mr. Taynton, and said, "I have no doubt that "Beckley means to shift." He told me then, if I recollect right (but seeing so many persons I cannot recollect every thing perfectly), that he should very likely split his vote, but that if he did he should split it as we wished. I stated that to Mr. Taynton, but at the same time I told him I thought he did not mean to vote for us. Some time after that, some days before the election (and not till then did I see anything more of him,—I do not think I saw anything more of him to say anything to him, though I passed his door daily), as I was passing his door, I saw him in the shop, and his wife was there, and, I believe, this lad (*pointing to the last witness*). I then asked him if he had thoroughly made up his mind what he meant to do. He then told me that he did not think he could serve us. I pressed him to tell me why. I think his answer to that was, that he could not do it, for that he had a son in the army that he wished to get discharged; that he did not like his being in it, and wished him to be discharged; and I think he told me that Captain Robertson was interesting himself with the Horse Guards to get him discharged. My reply to him was, that I thought our party (meaning the Conservative party) had quite as strong interest as the other party had; and that is all I ever said.

24,386. That was all you said?—That was all I said. I left him to infer what he pleased from that. I should tell you that when I first went into the shop his wife was there. I think she did not stay many minutes, and I believe this lad (*the last witness*) did stay, though I believe he went away before we parted.

24,387. Did you say anything at all to Beckley about his sons?—As to a clerkship, I think I did. I think he said that the lad was idle, and doing nothing; and I think I made this remark, that if he had a lad qualified to take a clerk's situation I knew a person who would take him into his office, for at that time both Mr. Matthews and Mr. Taynton had asked me if I knew of a lad.

24,388. You said that if he had a son who was qualified you thought you could get him a place?—I think I did.

24,389. And you asked the age of his sons?—Yes, I think I did.

24,390. You inquired the age of both sons?—I do not think I did: I might have done so. I would not say I did not. I think there was something said about the age of the son. I know that both Mr. Taynton and Mr. Matthews had spoken to me upon the subject, and if he had a son who was qualified I thought it would be a very good situation for him.

24,391. Did you tell him that Sir Robert Carden had great influence in such matters?—No, I did not. I confined it to saying that we (the party) had as much influence in that way as the opposite party could have, and perhaps more.

24,392. Did you say that if he did not vote for Sir Robert Carden you would stop, or that your party would stop, his son from being bought off?—I never did. I should be quite ashamed of myself if I had made such a remark. I think anybody who knows me would say that that is not my disposition.

24,393. Did you say at all that your party would use any influence if he did not vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Certainly not. I never thought of such a thing.

24,394. Did you say that if he would vote for Sir Robert Carden the influence of your party would be exerted for the purpose of getting his son bought off?—Certainly not. I did not even think of such a thing. In fact from my conversation with him, I gave him up, and told Mr. Taynton that I considered his vote entirely gone; that was several days before the election, and from that moment I never troubled myself any more about him or thought about him.

24,395. You were engaged in a series of transactions at the last election, and you saw a great number of people. Might you not have made use of language to many of those persons of which you do not now retain an accurate recollection in consequence of the number of persons you saw?—I quite agree with that, and if I had made Beckley the offer he says I did I would be the first to say I did so.

24,396. The peculiarity is this:—the father gave his evidence to my mind in a very satisfactory manner, and the lad comes here, and I see nothing which should make us disbelieve him in the mode in which he has given his evidence. The matter to which they speak is one which is likely to have made a greater impression on their mind than it would on yours?—I think that in a matter of that sort my memory cannot fail me. I assure you that my endeavour has been, throughout, to keep back nothing, and to conceal nothing. My desire has been to tell everything I have done and everything I have said, if I could. I have no object in the world to serve by keeping back anything, but I do not like to have that said of me which I believe not to be true.

24,397. It is certainly unfortunate that your statements have been met on more occasions than one by contradictions by other parties?—I am quite aware of that; but probably I may be allowed to make this remark: that there is a monstrous lot of bitter feeling as regards me, I am sorry to say, carried out, not by all the party to whom I am opposed; I should be very sorry to say that; but there is a feeling against me which I am afraid is carried to a much further extent than it ought to be.

24,398. However you see the state of things is this: that as to some of these matters there is a contradiction given by persons whose testimony appears to be entitled to consideration?—I am very sorry that such things should arise. I can only say that if I had promised this man what he says I did, I would have been the first person to admit it. I have no recollection of it whatever, and my impression is that I never did make him that promise; and that being my impression I cannot possibly say that I think I did make it.

24,399. (*Mr. Welford.*) Your object being at that moment to get the man's vote, seeing that the tendency of his mind was to obtain the discharge of his son as a reward for voting, may you not have used language somewhat more ambiguous than it now appears to you you did?—I really do not think I did, for I saw clearly from the man's conduct throughout, or I fancied I did, that he did not mean to vote for us.

24,400. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) This took place, you say, shortly before the election?—Yes.

24,401. Beckley says it was the day before the election?—It was many days before that.

24,402. Were you aware at that time that he was a messenger on the opposite committee?—No; I was not aware of it at that time. I afterwards found out that he was. I was not aware that he was then.

24,403. Did this conversation take place in his house?—Yes; and I should say that that lad (*the last witness*), if he is deaf, as he appears to be, was not near enough to hear what I said. I do not think he was nearer to me than I am to the Chief Commissioner.

24,404. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) He said he was about a yard and a half from you?—I do not think if he is deaf he could have heard what passed.

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(*Beckley, the Witness*).—Mr. Whithorn never called at my house but that once ; not to see me.

The Witness.—I believe that is the fact. I pulled up twice. Mr. Taynton saw me do it ; therefore there is no mistake about it.

24,405. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was your object to bring to bear upon this man what you thought would influence his vote ?—Having promised me faithfully at the beginning I wanted to ascertain why it was that he had changed.

24,406. When you talked to him about his sons, did you do so in the hope of obtaining what you wanted, his vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Whether he had had a vote or not, if he had had a lad sufficiently qualified I should have made use of the same language to him.

24,407. You say you understood from Beckley that Captain Robertson had been using his influence to get his son out of the army ?—He told me so.

24,408. And then you told him that your party had as much influence as theirs ?—Yes.

24,409. That would be also with the same object ? —No doubt ; I do not disguise that fact ; I am willing to admit everything that is true ; no doubt it was so ; I do not wish to disguise it.

24,410. The wife was present, was she not ?—She was, at first ; but I think she went out while the conversation was going on ; I think she went into the kitchen.

(*Beckley, the Witness.*)—She went into the kitchen, and heard every word that passed.

A. Goodman.

ALFRED GOODMAN sworn and examined.

24,411. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a surveyor ?—Yes.

24,412. And are you the agent of Mr. Goodrich ? —I am.

24,413. Since when have you become his agent ?—Since the 24th of June 1858.

24,414. Did you take any part at the last election? —Before the election Mr. Goodrich came to me one morning, and requested me to show him where some of the tenants lived, which I did ; I went round to them with him.

24,415. You went with him ?—I did.

24,416. Did you canvass them with Mr. Goodrich? —Yes, I did.

24,417. For Sir Robert Carden ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

24,418. Were any of the tenants at that time in arrear for rent ?—There were many.

24,419. Was any threat made use of by Mr. Goodrich or yourself to any of the tenants if they did not record their votes for Sir Robert Carden ?—Not in the least.

24,420. Was any promise made that if they would vote for Sir Robert Carden any arrear of rent should be remitted to them ?—Not one.

24,421. Did you canvass any of them separately from Mr. Goodrich ?—One or two afterwards, that he could not see.

24,422. Did you yourself use any threat or make any promise ?—Not the least.

24,423. Was there a man of the name of Fletcher in arrear for rent ?—William Fletcher of Longsmith Street, do you mean ?

24,424. Yes ?—He was, and is.

24,425. Has he had any allowance in consequence of voting for Sir Robert Carden ?—He has not ; the rent is still in arrear.

24,426. Was there a tenant of the name of White? —There is John White of Pitt Street.

24,427. Was he in arrear for rent at that time ?— I do not know whether he was a tenant at that time. He only went in just before that time. He was not in arrear.

24,428. Was there a man named Charles White, a tenant ?—I know of no such name.

24,429. No Charles White ?—No.

24,430. Not at the last election ?—No ; and not now, to the best of my belief.

24,431. Do you mean to declare, so far as you know, that Mr. Goodrich's influence was not improperly applied at the last election for the purpose of influencing or coercing his tenants ?—He only asked them for their vote. He said that if it would make any difference to them he would not ask it, but that if they could oblige him he should be glad. Those were the simple words that he said.

24,432. Do you know, or do you believe, that the fact of your canvassing tenants with Mr. Goodrich did produce any effect upon them, and induce them or any of them to vote contrary to what they would have voted, although no threats or promises were made use of ?—Not at all ; not in any case.

C. Hatton.

CHARLOTTE HATTON sworn and examined.

24,433. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the name of your husband ?—Francis Hatton.

24,434. Does he keep an eating house in Westgate Street ?—In the new market now.

24,435. At the election of 1857 were you living in the Westgate Street ?—Yes.

24,436. Do you remember any gentlemen coming to you to canvass you for your husband's vote on behalf of Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

24,437. Who were they ?—Mr. Curtis and Mr. Hawkins.

24,438. Had you been canvassed for your vote for Sir Robert Carden before they came to you ?—No.

24,439. Do you know how long before the election it was that they came to you ?—No ; it was not long before the election.

24,440. Did they see you in your shop, or in the room behind the shop ?—My daughter answered them when they came.

24,441. Did you not see them on that occasion ?— Yes ; she called me out of the kitchen.

24,442. Where did you see them ?—In the shop.

24,443. Who was there besides yourself and Mr. Curtis and Mr. Hawkins ?—No one besides.

24,444. There was no one in the shop ?—No.

24,445. Had your daughter gone into the kitchen ? —No ; she stopped in the coffee-room.

24,446. Is that coffee-room next to the shop ?— Yes ; it adjoins ; with a glass door.

24,447. (*Mr. Welford.*) Inside the shop ?—Yes ; inside the shop.

24,448. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How far is it from the door to the place where you and Mr. Curtis and Mr. Hawkins were ?—I should think about two yards from where she was standing ; it might be rather more.

24,449. Who canvassed you for your husband's vote ?—Mr. Hawkins. No; Mr. Curtis asked first.

24,450. Where was your husband at that time ?— Sitting in the coffee-room.

24,451. In the same room in which your daughter was ?—Yes.

24,452. Mr. Curtis asked you for your husband's vote first ?—Yes.

24,453. Do you remember what he said to you ?— He told me he was come to canvass for Sir Walter Carden, and he asked me if I would be kind enough to ask my husband to give him half his vote. I told him I did not think he would, as he had promised Squire Price.

24,454. Did he say at first that he came to ask for half a vote?—I am not certain whether he said half a vote ; I am not certain whether he did or did not ; but I know he asked me afterwards for half a vote, as he had promised Squire Price.

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24,455. You said he had promised Squire Price?—Yes.

24,456. Did you say he had promised any other person besides Mr. Price?—I believe not.

24,457. Did you leave him under the impression that one vote might be given to any person besides Mr. Price?—No; I did not, at that time. My husband did not think he should give a vote except for Squire Price.

24,458. Did you give him to understand that he would give a plumper for Mr. Price?—I do not know whether he understood that or not.

24,459. However, that is what you say; you said he would not do so because he had promised Mr. Price?—Yes. I told him I did not think there was any chance at all for them.

24,460. When you said that, did Mr. Curtis or Mr. Hawkins make any other observation?—He said, "Mrs. Hatton, try to prevail upon your husband to "give him a vote, and I will make you a present of a "very handsome new dress." I said, "No, sir; I do "not think there is any chance at all for you."

24,461. Could you have made any mistake about that language?—No, I could not.

24,462. You know Mr. Hawkins has said he did not make any offer or make any statement of that sort to you?—He cannot say so, and speak the truth.

24,463. What time was it that they came to your shop?—Indeed I cannot pretend to say what time it was.

24,464. Can you not tell me about the time?—No, I cannot.

24,465. Was it in the morning, in the afternoon, or in the evening?—Indeed I cannot say. I almost think it was in the afternoon, but I would not say positively.

24,466. You think it was in the afternoon?—I think so, but I would not say positively.

24,467. Did your daughter hear what took place?—She did.

24,468. What is her name?—Julia Anne.

24,469. Is she in court?—No, she is not.

24,470. Had you a son in the army?—I have now; I had not then. He has been in the army about twelve months, or rather better.

24,471. You had not been canvassed by any person, had you, before this?—No, not before; neither did I know Mr. Hawkins before.

24,472. Had you received any card of Sir Robert Carden's?—Not before.

24,473. Did you say that you would not promise Sir Robert Carden because you felt you had been slighted?—No; I could not have done such a thing.

24,474. Did you say you thought you had been slighted because nobody had come to you before to ask for your husband's vote?—No.

24,475. That you are quite sure of?—I am quite sure I did not say such a thing.

24,476. Do you remember the polling day; the day of the election?—I do.

24,477. Do you remember a person of the name of Pitt being there?—I do.

24,478. Before you were canvassed by Mr. Curtis and Mr. Hawkins, had you been canvassed by Mr. Innell?—He called there with Squire Price.

24,479. Was it then that you promised Mr. Price?—I did not see him; I was not at home.

24,480. Did you see Mr. Innell before the election?—I did.

24,481. Had you a son living with Mr. Innell?—I had.

24,482. Did you say that you could not promise to vote for Sir Robert Carden, in consequence of your having a son with Mr. Innell?—No.

24,483. Nothing of the sort?—No; nothing of the sort. My husband made up his mind to vote for Squire Price as soon as he knew he had put up.

24,484. Had he made up his mind not to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—He did not know who the others were, and he had not made up his mind except for Squire Price.

24,485. Did you not know, or did not your husband know, that Admiral Berkeley was going to be a candidate?—No.

24,486. Not at the time you were canvassed?—Squire Price was the only person he knew of at that time.

24,487. I mean, at the time when Curtis and Hawkins came to you did you not know that Sir Robert Carden was a candidate?—Yes.

24,488. And also Admiral Berkeley?—Yes.

24,489. Up to that time he had only made up his mind to vote for Mr. Price?—Yes.

24,490. Then what reason was there why your husband should not vote for Sir Robert Carden?—Mr. Innell called, and asked him if he would split his vote, and give one vote to Squire Price and the other to Admiral Berkeley.

24,491. That was before Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Curtis called?—No; not till afterwards.

24,492. On the day of the polling you say a man of the name of Pitt was at your house?—Yes.

24,493. What is his Christian name?—John.

24,494. Was there a man of the name of Wilkes there?—Yes.

24,495. Is that Samuel Wilkes or William Wilkes?—Both.

24,496. Was a man of the name of Franklin there?—He was.

24,497. Do you remember what time it was that Wilkes and Franklin came in?—I think somewhere near 3 o'clock, as far as I recollect. Wilkes came in and out two or three times in the day.

24,498. Which Wilkes was that?—William Wilkes.

24,499. William Wilkes came in and out several times in the course of the day?—He did.

24,500. He had been there before 1 o'clock, had he?—Yes; he came in about 12 o'clock in the morning.

24,501. And how long did he stop?—I cannot say, because we were busy.

24,502. Did Franklin come in with him at that time?—No, he did not.

24,503. When did he come?—I cannot say exactly the time.

24,504. Can you tell about what time he first of all came there?—I cannot.

24,505. Did Wilkes and Franklin come together?—They did.

24,506. Where did they go to when they came together?—He called for half a gallon of ale, and asked if he could go into the sitting-room.

24,507. When they had their ale, where did they go to?—They did not have their ale then. They went through the coffee-room into the yard.

24,508. Do you remember their coming back again into the coffee-room?—I do.

24,509. Do you remember Pitt being with them?—Yes.

24,510. Do you remember his saying anything to Wilkes?—Yes. He asked him who was up aloft. He said, "Is there any one up aloft?"

24,511. Did Wilkes say anything to that?—I do not remember. I went out of the coffee-room.

24,512. Did you hear him say anything more to Wilkes?—Yes; he was chaffing him about having his five sovereigns.

24,513. That was William Wilkes?—That was William Wilkes.

24,514. Did Wilkes say anything when Pitt, you say, was chaffing him about the five sovereigns?—I do not remember; I was in and out.

24,515. What did he say about the five sovereigns?—He said he could have some blue ribbons to go on his pony out of that.

24,516. Who said that?—Wilkes.

24,517. Did he say why he would?—No, he did not.

24,518. How long did Wilkes remain; up to what hour did he remain at your house?—He went out

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almost directly; in a few minutes; he went across to the polling booth.

24,519. You saw that, did you?—I saw him go across. I do not know whether he gave his vote then or not.

24,520. After that, did he come back?—He did.

24,521. And how long did he remain?—I cannot say; not long.

24,522. He came back in a short time?—Yes.

24,523. Was Pitt there during the afternoon?—Yes; he was in and out a good many times.

24,524. Was Franklin in and out?—Franklin was only there once.

24,525. On that occasion when he came there with Wilkes?—Yes.

24,526. Was Wilkes's wife there?—She was.

24,527. What time did she come?—She was there, I think, about a quarter of an hour before.

24,528. About a quarter of an hour before Wilkes came in?—I think she was.

24,529. Had you any talk with your daughter about this conversation between yourself and Curtis and Hawkins?—No. There was a party coming in at the door as they went out, and she mentioned it to them as soon as they came in.

24,530. You were taken up to London, and examined there, were you not?—Yes.

24,531. Had you any talk with your daughter then? No; she was ill.

24,532. Was not she in Gloucester before you went to London?—Yes.

24,533. Did you not know what you were going to London for?—Certainly I did.

24,534. Had you no talk with her about it before you went up?—No; we did not talk about it before I went.

24,535. Did you say to her, "You were at the door, and heard what took place"?—She did hear, and she told it to a party that came in.

24,536. Did you say to her "You were at the door, and heard all that took place"?—Yes; I might have said that very likely.

24,537. Did not you and she talk the matter over together?—No; I do not know that we did at all.

24,538. Have you never talked to her about it since?—Yes; I was speaking to her about it this morning, asking her if she recollected it, because I had no idea what business I was coming here about. Nobody spoke to me from either party. I was served with a summons, and attended here, but I did not know what business I was upon.

24,539. Do you mean to swear solemnly that Mr. Hawkins came into your shop, and offered to give you a new dress if you would induce your husband to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—He did.

24,540. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did Mr. Hawkins ask to see your husband?—He did.

24,541. Did you say your husband would not see him?—I did.

24,542. Though he was only in the next room?—Yes. My husband is quite an invalid, and whatever business is done I do myself; he is quite an invalid.

24,543. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were canvassed also in 1859, were you not?—I was.

24,544. You were canvassed on behalf of Sir Robert Carden, were you not?—Yes.

24,545. Who canvassed you?—Indeed I do not know the parties. There was Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Monk, and Mr. Butt, the iron-founder, and Mr. Maysey, the barber; there were several others, but I did not know them.

24,546. Jonah Dyer?—Yes, I believe he was there. I would not say whether he was there then or not, positively.

24,547. At the last election in 1859 had you a son in the army?—Yes.

24,548. Was he in the army at that time?—He was.

24,549. Did those persons, or some of them, who canvassed you, know that he was in the army?—They did.

24,550. Were you anxious for his discharge?—I was not.

24,551. Was anything said to you by any of them with reference to his discharge?—Not then.

24,552. Was anything said to you subsequently, before the election, about his discharge?—Yes, there was.

24,553. By whom?—By Jonah Dyer.

24,554. What did he say?—He called upon me; my son had six days furlough, and he called upon me with my son, and Mr. Maysey and others with them; I do not know who the others were.

24,555. What did they call upon you for?—To solicit the vote for Sir Walter Carden.

24,556. At that time did they say anything?—Mr. Dyer asked me if I would promise to vote for Sir Walter Carden, and I said, no, I did not think my husband would vote at all for any party. He said, "Mrs. Hatton, if you will promise Mr. Hatton's vote "for Sir Walter Carden we will buy your son out of "the army?" I said, "No; my son went in for his "own pleasure, and his father shall not give a vote "for him to be bought out."

24,557. Did he say what it would cost to do it?—No, he did not.

24,558. You refused?—I did. He said they had purchased one out then.

24,559. Who said that?—Dyer did.

24,560. Did he say who they had purchased out?—He did not say who it was.

24,561. Do you know a person of the name of Withers?—I do.

24,562. What is his Christian name?—I do not know.

24,563. Does he keep an inn?—I believe he does keep a beerhouse.

24,564. Do you know what the name of that beerhouse is?—I do not.

24,565. Were you there last Friday night?—I was.

24,566. What did you go there for?—There was a party came into the house, and told my husband that my name had been called over in court with Mr. Maysey's; that Mr. Maysey had offered him money; and I went down to Mr. Withers to ask.

24,567. To ask if it was true that your name had been called over by Mr. Maysey as having been offered money by him?—Yes.

24,568. That was the only object?—Yes; that was the only object.

24,569. How came you to go to Withers to ask that question?—We do not know anybody in the place, and Mr. Withers used to come in and out when we were in the Westgate Street as a customer.

24,570. That was the reason?—That was the reason.

CHARLES HENRY HAWKINS called and further examined.

C. H. Hawkins.

24,571. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You wish to make some statement with regard to the evidence we have just heard?—If you please. I mean to say that I never held out any inducement to that woman (*Mrs. Hatton*), or promised her a dress or anything whatever.

24,572. You deny it?—I do; and Mr. George Curtis was with me, if you will be kind enough to examine him; he was close to me during the time I was talking to her.

24,573. What time was it when you were in the shop?—About 12 o'clock; we both went together, and came out together.

24,574. How long before the election was it?—I think the Monday before the election; the election was on the Saturday; but she had not been called on by any of our party, and I will give you the reason why she was not called on.

24,575. It was on the Monday before the election

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that you called?—I believe it was. I am almost sure it was; about 12 o'clock.

24,576. You or Mr. Curtis did ask her?—Both of us asked her. She said the party had slighted her and her husband by not calling on them, and that for that reason they had made up their minds to vote for Berkeley and Price. She said we had come too late, and he should not vote for Sir Robert Carden at all.

24,577. She said that her husband would vote for Price and Berkeley?—Yes; that the other parties had called on her, and that she had promised them.

24,578. Did she say they had been slighted?—Yes; she said that they had been slighted by our party not calling on them.

24,579. When you went into the house who did you see?—She says it was her daughter; perhaps it may have been her daughter, but I do not recollect seeing her daughter.

24,580. Did you see another woman?—I could not be sure about that. I saw Mrs. Hatton directly I went into the shop. I do not believe I ever spoke to any one else.

24,581. Do you know the glass door that separates the shop from the coffee-room?—No. It appeared to me as though the shop was partitioned off.

24,582. Did you see a glass door?—No, I did not.

24,583. How long were you in the house?—Not three minutes. Directly she told me that, and that her son was with Mr. Innell, and that he was a very kind man to her son, I could see that it was useless for me to ask her.

24,584. Do you swear that she did at that time say her son was with Mr. Innell?—I will positively swear it, and that she had promised Mr. Innell. She said that he had been very kind to her son, and for that reason she had promised him to vote for them.

24,585. Was that the reason she gave?—That was one of the reasons, and that our party had slighted her. Directly she told me about Mr. Innell I was quite satisfied. I said, "Ah, you vote for them, and "he will be sure to be a kind man to your son," and off I walked, and I went up to Mr. Taynton, and told him what had taken place, and returned him accordingly. I positively swear, as I stand here, that I never promised her a dress, and said nothing at all about a dress.

24,586. Do you remember mentioning the word "dress" to her in any way?—I am positive I never did. We were not in the shop two minutes. Directly she told me about her son living with Mr. Innell I was quite satisfied how it would be.

G. Curtis.

GEORGE CURTIS called and further examined.

24,587. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been in court during the examination of Mrs. Hatton and Mr. Hawkins, have you not?—I have.

24,588. Are you prepared to swear that Mr. Hawkins did not promise Mrs. Hatton a dress?—Yes; I most positively assert that Mr. Hawkins made no promise of the kind.

24,589. Were you close by?—Mr. Hawkins and I were together during the whole time. Each heard what each said to the woman. I should state that I was the first person to ask for the vote. When I went in, I said to Mrs. Hatton, I was sorry we had not applied to or canvassed her husband before, but that I had taken a person named Hatton living on the Foreign Bridge as the voter, and that I was sorry we had not canvassed them, but it was quite overlooked, and that I hoped we were not too late. She said, "Yes, "you are too late, for my husband will vote for "Price and Berkeley." She said that she had been canvassed by Mr. Innell, and that Mr. Innell had been a kind friend to her son, and her son was in his service. Mr. Hawkins then asked, I think, for half his vote; and she said, "No; it is no use to ask "for half his vote, for he is sure to vote for Price "and Berkeley." I then said, "Come on, Charles; "if Mr. Innell has any influence here he is sure to "get the vote," and with that we left. I suppose we were in the house about three minutes.

24,590. You did not ask for half a vote?—I do not believe I did.

24,591. But Mr. Hawkins did?—He did after I had canvassed her, for Sir Robert Carden.

24,592. She said her husband was going to vote for Mr. Price?—Price and Berkeley, and that it was no use for us to think of getting half a vote.

24,593. Who did you see first?—I believe I saw the daughter first.

24,594. Was the daughter in the shop?—Yes. She went and fetched her mother. I asked to see the father, and Mrs. Hatton answered instead. We could not see the father.

24,595. How long were you in the shop altogether?—I suppose about three minutes; not more.

24,596. Did you see the door that separates the coffee-room from the shop?—Yes.

24,597. Is it a glass door?—I believe half of it is glass.

24,598. Did the daughter remain in the shop?—I believe not. I believe the conversation was with the woman only.

24,599. Did you see the daughter before you went?—She went into the room that the mother came from.

24,600. Was that the coffee-room?—I suppose so. I never was inside the room. The daughter left the shop, and went into the coffee-room. I suppose it would be called the coffee-room.

24,601. Was any offer of any sort made?—No offer of any kind, I can assure you.

24,602. Not either by you or Mr. Hawkins?—I am positive there was no offer of any kind.

24,603. Did you go out with Mr. Hawkins?—Mr. Hawkins and I left the shop together.

27,604. Did you remain in the shop close together the whole time?—The whole time.

24,605. And you are quite certain that no offer of a dress could have been made without your knowing it?—If Mr. Hawkins had made any kind of offer to the woman I should have heard it, and I positively assert that nothing of the kind was offered.

J. Dyer.

JONAH DYER called and further examined.

24,606. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you wish to contradict some part of the evidence which has been given by Mrs. Hatton?—I beg leave to contradict the statement made by Mrs. Hatton that I ever mentioned anything at all about buying her son out of the army. I deny ever having said anything of the kind.

24,607. You went to Mrs. Hatton's before the last election, did you not?—Yes.

24,608. Who did you go with?—Maysey and two or three more.

24,609. How long before the election was it?—About a week, I think.

24,610. Who were the others besides Maysey?—Franklin and Parker.

24,611. That was about a week before the election?—About a week before the election.

24,612. Had the son of any person in Gloucester been bought off?—Not to my knowledge, and I never heard talk of it.

24,613. Have you heard of the son of any person in Gloucester being bought off from the army?—I never heard it of any one.

24,614. Do you swear that?—Yes.

24,615. Do you know a person of the name of

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Tanner?—I know the man, but not to have any acquaintance with him.

24,616. Had he a son in the army?—I never knew he had a son in the army till I heard it to-day.

24,617. Do you mean to swear that at the time you went to Mrs. Hatton's you did not know that any person had been bought off from the army in consequence or not in consequence of his father being a voter for the city?—I do swear it. I do not know that there was any one ever bought off.

24,618. Have you heard since the election that there was any one so bought off?—No; not till to-day when I heard it in court.

24,619. Do you know Mr. Hatton's son?—Yes.

24,620. The one that is in the army?—The one that is in the army.

24,621. Was he with you when you went to Mrs. Hatton's?—He was in the house when we went in. He was at home, at his mother's house.

24,622. You knew him quite well before?—Yes; he was in the militia.

24,623. Was he anxious to be discharged?—I never heard him say anything at all about it.

24,624. You are quite sure about that?—Yes, I am; I undertood he was very fond of soldiering.

24,625. Was he in the Gloucester militia?—He was; he enlisted out of the Gloucester militia.

24,626. Was he present when you went in to see Mrs. Hatton?—He was not in the room when we went in; he was out in the backyard; he saw me there; he knew me, and he came in.

24,627. Do you mean to swear that nothing was said about the discharge of that young man from the army when he was present, and when you saw Mrs. Hatton?—I do swear it.

24,628. You keep "The Three Cocks," do you not?—Yes.

24,629. Did you go with Robert Dowers to Mr. Lovegrove's office?—Well, I do not know whether I did or whether I did not.

24,630. Did you?—I do not think I did.

24,631. You know the man, do you not?—Yes, I know the man very well; but I do not think I went with him to Mr. Lovegrove's office. I would not swear whether I did or whether I did not, but I cannot recollect it.

24,632. It was after the election of 1857?—Yes.

24,633. Did you know that he was going there?—I cannot recollect anything at all about it.

24,634. Did you know that Robert Dowers was going to Mr. Lovegrove's office?—I did not.

24,635. Had you heard any talk about his going? I cannot recollect that I had.

24,636. Do you remember Robert Dowers being at your house?—Yes.

24,637. And Charles Grimmett?—Yes.

24,638. How soon was that after the election?—I cannot say how soon it was after; it was some time after.

24,639. How long after?—Perhaps a month after; I could not say; some time after, I know.

24,640. Were you with them?—I was backwards and forwards in the room.

24,641. In the same room in which they were?—Yes; I think there was some one else there besides those two. Harris, I think, was with them; they were mostly together.

24,642. Who were mostly together?—Harris and Grimmett.

24,643. Did you talk about the election?—Yes; they were chaffing him about receiving money; one party and the other.

24,644. Who?—Harris and Grimmett.

24,645. They did what?—They chaffed Dowers about receiving money.

24,646. That was after the election?—Yes; it was after the election.

24,647. What did they say?—They asked him what he had had of the Tory party; and he said that he had had nothing; that he was offered 3*l.* from young Probert.

24,648. Where?—They were chaffing; but I was not in the room all the time. They asked him what he had had of the Tory party, and he said he had been offered 3*l.* by Probert.

24,649. Did he say what he had had of the Tory party?—He said he had had nothing at all of the Tory party.

24,650. How came they to chaff him as to what he had had from the Tory party?—I do not know what they commenced about.

24,651. Were you not there at the beginning?—No, I was not.

24,652. Nor at the ending?—I do not know about the ending. I was backwards and forwards in and out of the room.

24,653. Were you there during the whole time this conversation was taking place?—No; I was not there the whole time.

24,654. When they were chaffing him, and asking him what he had had of the Tory party, do you mean to swear he said he had had nothing from the Tory party?—Yes; he said he had had nothing at all from the Tory party.

24,655. That you mean to swear?—I do.

24,656. What time was it?—About the middle of the day, I think; from twelve to two; something between twelve and two.

24,657. About a month after the election?—Yes; I should think it was about a month.

24,658. In the parlour of your house?—Yes; in the front room.

24,659. There was nothing said then about going to Mr. Lovegrove's?—Not that I heard. I believe they did go to Mr. Lovegrove's, but I did not go with them, I know.

24,660. Did you hear of it afterwards?—Yes; I think Grimmett told me afterwards they had been to Mr. Lovegrove's.

24,661. How soon was it after this conversation that you heard he had been to Mr. Lovegrove's?—The next day, I believe.

24,662. Did you hear he had been the next day to Mr. Lovegrove's?—I believe I did.

24,663. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you make any communication to Mr. Lovegrove about what you had heard?—No.

24,664. You were not the cause of Grimmett and Dowers going to Mr. Lovegrove?—No.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

J. P. Wilton.

24,665. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you furnish us with any information as to the state of the register since 1852?—Yes. But before you commence to examine me again I hope you will allow me to make one or two remarks with reference to matters which have transpired since you have been sitting here. I wish to take this public opportunity of assuring you, and of assuring Mr. Whithorn, and of assuring the Tories as well as the Liberals of Gloucester, that in the observations which I felt it my duty to make in the course of my evidence with reference to Mr. Whithorn I was not in any degree actuated by any malicious or personal motive. I say this because I have been told on all sides by the Conservatives that the only matter which has occurred throughout the whole of this Commission of a disagreeable nature has been that which I have introduced to your notice, and which I only did introduce in consequence of the questions which you put to me, and from an impression that it was absolutely necessary that I should do so. I think it due to myself, as well as to those with whom I have been associated in this matter, to disclaim on their part, as well as on my own, anything like a personal or malicious feeling towards Mr. Whithorn or any other person; and I beg to assure you that if I can in any way afford

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Mr. Whithorn an opportunity of testing the accuracy of the evidence that I gave I shall be most happy to do so, and I believe he is aware that I have offered him that opportunity. I only hope it will be generally understood that I have not been actuated by any personal or malicious feeling against him. We have been political antagonists, but up to the time of the last election I have had the honour of his acquaintance, and have frequently spent many hours with him.

24,666. You were bound to answer all questions put to you, and to state anything you knew with regard to any corrupt practices in Gloucester, and if you had not done so you would have stood in a very false position?—I am much obliged to you for that observation, because it clears me from the charge of having volunteered the statement which I made to you.

24,667. Can you furnish us with any evidence relative to the state of the register since the election of 1852?—I have, with the assistance of others, prepared for you a list of the voters, in the first place, who were on the register of 1852–3, and off the register of 1856–7. I have also, to correspond with that, a list of voters on the register of 1856–7, but not on that for 1852–3; and then I have tested the political opinions of those persons by the way in which they voted in the contest of 1853 between Mr. Hope and Admiral Berkeley, and how they voted at the election in 1857, on the occasion of the contest between Mr. Price, Admiral Berkeley, and Sir Robert Carden. Shall I give you the result?

24,668. If you please?—On the register of 1852 there were voters, who were off the register in 1856, 532; of whom, in the following year, when there was a contest between Mr. Hope and Admiral Berkeley, there voted for Mr. Hope 191 and for Admiral Berkeley 246. Some did not vote at that election in 1853, and some were dead at the time when the election took place.

24,669. Then upon that you sustained a loss?—Not on that alone, because of course there were those who came on the register in 1856.

24,670. (*Mr. Welford.*) But it would appear that your party had suffered a greater loss than the other party had?—Yes; but there is the other side to be taken. We admit, at least it is generally understood, that previous to the first election of Sir Robert Carden there had been a considerable gain to the Conservative party. The statement that I made in my evidence was that there had been a considerable gain to the Liberals since Sir Robert Carden's first election. There had been one or two neglected registrations between those periods; but at the same time there was one in 1855 in which there was a great change made in favour of the Liberals, though a considerably less gain than Admiral Berkeley's majority over Mr. Hope at the previous election. Then, on the register of 1856–7, and not on the register of 1852–3, there were 410, of whom in the following year, in the contest between Mr. Price, Sir Maurice Berkeley, and Sir Robert Carden, 163 voted for Price and Berkeley, 173 for Sir Robert Carden, and 36 divided their votes between Price and Carden or Berkeley and Carden, so that it is impossible to form any opinion upon them.

24,671. For the purpose of testing the strength of the parties you exclude those 36?—Yes, I have done so.

24,672. In the numbers you have given you have excluded, I suppose, double votes?—Yes. I think I may say there is not one single error of that kind; at all events, if there are any errors of that kind they are very trifling; in fact our great difficulty has been to see that there have been no double entries made; they have been revised again and again. That shows altogether a gain to the Conservatives between the two elections of 1853 and 1857 of 65. Now I would remark here, that in the previous year, in 1853, (that is in the election of 1853,) Sir Maurice Berkeley defeated Mr. Hope by a majority, I think, of 91; and with this change of 65 in favour of the Conservative party Sir Robert Carden in 1857 defeated Admiral Berkeley by a majority of 33.

24,673. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is it true, as has been stated here, that in the election of 1853 the Conservatives did not put out their full strength?—This is the first time that such a thing has been put on record in Gloucester if they did not.

24,674. It has been stated that Mr. Hope was not present, that he took very little interest in the election, and that consequently that election is not considered by the Conservative party as a fair trial of strength?—I do not know as to that. I think it was one of their own agents who said that if a mop-stick were stuck up dressed with blue ribbons they would all rally round it; and if that evidence is true, then no matter whether the candidate is here or not. I certainly never heard that statement until it was made in court here.

24,675. (*Mr. Welford.*) There were 95 who abstained from voting or were dead at the election of 1853; is not that so?—There were some few who did not vote, and some were dead.

24,676. I was trying whether I could ascertain from your premises the number of persons who abstained from voting in 1853?—I believe I can give you that information.

24,677. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I find, on referring to my note, that the contest in 1853 was abandoned by the Conservatives at 11 o'clock?—I suppose that was in the same way that in 1859 the contest was abandoned by them at half past nine, but I have really no knowledge of that contest at all.

24,678. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you give the number of voters on the register who abstained from voting at the election of 1853?—Fifty-nine freemen and 142 householders.

24,679. That was a considerably larger number than the number who abstained from voting in 1857?—I think it is generally calculated that there are about a hundred voters who do not poll; that is the usual calculation. I know that in calculating previous to 1859 I struck off the odd 96, considering that there would be about 100 who would not vote.

24,680. To make the thing complete we ought to have the number of voters on the register in 1857 who abstained from voting, so that we might compare the number of voters who abstained from voting in 1853 with the number of voters who abstained from voting in 1857?—There were 97 who abstained from voting in 1857.

24,681. Freemen and householders?—Yes; besides 21 being dead.

24,682. Can you tell how many were dead in 1853?—No, I cannot.

24,683. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Can you state what the difference was between the numbers polled for Mr. Hope in 1852 and in 1853?—Yes.

24,684. How many did he poll in 1852?—760.

24,685. And in 1853 how many did he poll?—670; but at the same time there was a corresponding falling off in the polling of the other candidates. Mr. Price in 1852 polled 831; he was the Liberal candidate at the head of the poll; and Sir Maurice Berkeley polled 786. I should think you might take something between those two as the mean of the strength.

24,686. In 1853 Hope polled 670?—Yes.

24,687. How many did Admiral Berkeley poll?—761; so that he polled a considerably less number than Mr. Price had polled in 1852.

24,688. You say that 59 freemen and 142 householders abstained from voting in 1853?—Yes.

24,689. Can you state what the politics were of those 201 persons who abstained from voting at that election?—I could ascertain the politics of most of them by seeing how they voted at the election in 1852.

24,690. If you can give us any approximate information as to the way in which they voted we might pretty well judge what the political feeling was in

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the elective body in 1853; but as it at present stands, supposing the Conservative party retired from the contest early in the day in 1853, it might be said that those 201 who abstained from voting were for the most part Conservatives?—I have not heard that suggested before, nor do I know what authority there is for such a suggestion.

24,691. (*Mr. Welford.*) It has been so stated?—I did not know that such had been the case.

24,692. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Now with regard to the elections of 1857 and 1859?—I have here two lists, made out in the same way as those I gave you before, of voters on the register for 1856-7, but not on for 1858-9. There were 280, of whom, in 1857, there voted for Price and Berkeley 114; there voted for Sir Robert Carden 99; there voted for Price and Carden, or for Berkeley and Carden (split votes, and therefore neutral), 15; and 52 did not vote; then, on in 1858 and not on in 1856, 270.

24,693. (*Mr. Welford.*) The additions did not quite make up the loss?—No; the register had been steadily declining for some years, as long as I can find any report of it. There were 270 on in 1858 and not on in 1856, of whom there voted in 1859 for Price and Monk 141; for Carden 99; split votes, Price and Carden, or Monk and Carden, 7; and there were 23 who did not vote.

24,694. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Taking the Liberal loss at 15, and the Liberal gain at 42, the total Liberal gain would be 27?—Yes.

24,695. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you now give us the number on the register of 1858-9 who did not vote at all?—44 freemen and 102 householders, including the dead.

24,696. I see there were 11 dead?—I have included those who were dead because they are on the register. They are included in the other calculation, and therefore they should be in this.

24,697. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Taking into consideration the gain to the Conservatives between 1853 and 1857 of 65 votes, and taking into consideration the gain to the Liberal party since that time, what do you make as the upshot of your calculation?—Looking at these figures, I am bound to confess that they do not at all bear out the statement with which I went to Mr. Monk, and which was founded, not on positive facts, as these lists are, but upon claims and objections in the register court. These facts were furnished to me, and I had every reason to believe that confidence might be placed in them.

24,698. I understand you to say that these figures do not bear out the statement which you first made to Mr. Monk as to the strength of the party?—No. I stated to Mr. Monk that I believed there was a positive gain of between 60 and 70, and some portion of about 40 votes of which we knew nothing.

24,699. What do you state now, according to your figures, to be the majority of the Liberals over the Conservatives or of the Conservatives over the Liberals?—There must be several facts taken into consideration before I could arrive at a correct estimate. First of all, these are merely the gains or losses from a particular time. I believe we started with a considerable majority.

24,700. Do you mean that you started with a considerable majority at the election of 1852 or 1853?—I believe at the election of 1853. I always understood that at that time a majority of between 90 and 100 was a fair proportion to take as the difference between the two parties. I never heard that statement disputed until to-day. When I say I never heard it disputed, I do not suppose that the Conservatives would admit it; but I always understood that it was the received opinion of our party that that was the smallest number that could be claimed by us.

24,701. You go back to 1853. We hear that that was a comparatively pure election. In 1852 Admiral Berkeley polled 786, and Mr. Hope 760. The majority, therefore, for the Liberals would only be the difference between 786 and 760; that would be 26?—Yes; but I do not think that that is a fair way of putting it, and I will tell you why; that is giving all the split votes to the two Liberal candidates. The split votes are not all given by Tories. What I mean to say is this, that I think the correct numbers are shown by the plumpers polled for Mr. Hope, and the split votes between Price and Berkeley. The true tories (if I may so term them) would plump for Hope, and the true Liberals would vote for the two Liberals; and you would find that the relative numbers are 525 and 660, because the split votes that were given between Price and Berkeley were 660, and the plumpers for Mr. Hope were 525. I believe that that is the true way of testing it. I suppose that no true Conservative would ever vote for a Liberal; and certainly as long as two Liberals are in the field no true Liberal would vote for a Conservative.

24,702. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you think there were more split votes given by the Liberals to the Conservatives than by the Conservatives to the Liberals?—As Mr. Price said in his evidence, it is doubtful whether they were split Price with Carden or Carden with Price. I do think that that which I have taken is as fair a test of the state of the parties as any that could be suggested.

24,703. How many votes were split between Hope and Price and Hope and Berkeley?—The splits between Hope and Berkeley were 91.

24,704. Between Hope and Price, how many?—144.

24,705. That was in the election of 1852?—Yes.

24,705*a*. The difficulty is to determine the politics of those voters who gave split votes?—I think you may consider that their politics were not very fixed.

24,706. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Putting out of consideration the comparative strength of the two parties in 1852, what gain, either to the Conservative or to the Liberal side, has resulted during the years that have intervened from that time down to the last election?—I make it 38 in favour of the Conservatives; but at the same time, as I have said before, there are a great many votes now unaccounted for. How that would affect the calculation it is impossible for me to say, I only give you results.

24,707. You may be accurate to a considerable extent, or inaccurate, but you give the best estimate you can form on your calculations?—Yes. I attempt nothing more than the actual figures show. I do not wish to urge that of this number of votes that we cannot give an account the majority are Liberals. I make it that the majority since 1852 is 38 in favour of the Conservatives.

24,708. Supposing at the election in 1852 you had had a majority of a hundred, it would stand thus: Hope had in 1852 525, and Price and Berkeley 660; supposing that to show the true strength of the parties at that time, it would follow that there was a majority for Price and Berkeley of 135?—Yes.

24,709. But then there come split votes; Hope and Berkeley 91, and Hope and Price 144. Supposing you throw off 35 (the majority in respect of the plumpers for Hope and the splits between Berkeley and Price), it would follow that your majority would be about 62 at the last election?—It would, if you adopt that calculation, but with deference to you I do not think that is a fair calculation. I do not think you ought to throw off those 35. I think the least you could put it at would be the actual figures given here, 660 and 525.

24,710. (*Mr. Welford.*) You consider that the plumpers on both sides represent the real strength of the parties?—Exactly.

24,711. In 1853 there were only two candidates, Berkeley and Hope, and the majority for Berkeley was 91. Do you not think that a considerable portion of the voters forming that majority may have been considerably under the influence of Mr. Price?—Very likely, but that does not affect the split votes between the candidates.

24,712. In this calculation I understand you to say you take into consideration every voter who was

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removed from and every voter who came upon the register?—There may have been some who had been on the register and off again. The way in which it was done was merely taking the register of 1852 (which we had considerable difficulty in finding), and comparing it with the register of 1856. In 1855 I have been given to understand there was a considerable gain to the Liberals, although, taking the aggregate of the four years, there was a loss; there were one or two years at that time during which the registration was very much neglected. Hudson was dead.

24,713. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say that the number of electors has been declining each year?—Yes.

24,714. To what cause do you attribute that?—I attribute it to two or three causes. First of all, I think the number of freemen has much diminished; I believe it was expected that the freemen would gradually fall off; and I attribute it also to the fact of a number of persons of late years, who had previously resided in the city, going to live just outside it.

24,715. Outside the seven miles?—No. I do not mean freemen, necessarily, but householders. Within the last few years a district has sprung in the immediate vicinity of Gloucester, but not within the borough limits. Many persons who before lived in the parishes of St. Nicholas and St. Mary de Lode, which are the lower parts of the town, have, in consequence of the immense taxation in those districts, gone to live just outside the town, in order to escape the heavy rates and taxes to which they would be subject if they continued to live in the city; and by doing so they lose their votes. Many persons whose business lies in the town go and live out of the town for the sake of lower rents and lower rates and taxes.

24,716. But would not most of such persons have some business premises in respect of which they would have a right to vote?—No. I am alluding to clerks, and even working men, labourers at the docks, and so on, who had a 10*l.* house, perhaps, in the borough, but have now gone to live just outside the borough, and thereby lost their qualification.

24,717. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you tell me how many freemen there were in 1852, and how many there are at present?—I could not get a complete copy of the register of 1852 with which to make these calculations, but I believe that the number of voters on the register in 1852 was about 1,900, and of those 651 were freemen. In 1856 there were 1,743 voters on the register, of whom 548 were freemen. In 1858 there were 1,721 voters on the register, of whom 534 were freemen; so that since 1852 there has been a diminution of about 117.

24,718. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I suppose the diminution in the number of freemen is attributable in some degree to their living at a distance from Gloucester?—If freemen go away, and the freedoms of their sons are not taken up, the freedoms lapse in the family. I believe it was expected, and I should think it was hoped, that in the course of a few years the race of freemen would become extinct.

24,719. Did any other money besides that of which you gave us an account when you were examined before come to your hands at the last election?—No, not any.

24,720. Do you remember going to Mr. Cooksey for some money?—Yes.

24,721. And receiving it from him?—Yes.

24,722. At that time had you two cheques with you?—Mr. Cooksey tells me that I had; but I have inquired both of the gentleman who is said to have given me the cheques, and of the person who is said to have changed them for me, and they cannot give any account of them. The person to whom I was said to have given the cheques was Mr. Blinkhorn, and he knows nothing about them. I inquired also of Mr. Bretherton, the person who is said to have given me the cheques, and he knows nothing about them.

24,723. Do you remember going to Mr. Cooksey on the morning of the election, and asking him what money he had in the house?—I asked him if he could let me have some money.

24,724. At that time did you tell him that you had two cheques which you wished to have changed, the amount of which was about 70*l.*?—I am very certain that I did not. Mr. Cooksey told me afterwards that I did, but I am very certain I did not, because I have no recollection of having such cheques. He says I mentioned whose cheques they were, that they were Mr. Bretherton's cheques, and that I afterwards changed them with Mr. Blinkhorn. Mr. Cooksey told me of it, I think, about a day or two before the Commission sat; but up to that time I had never heard of it, and I am very certain that I had no such cheques.

24,725. You are certain that when you went to Mr. Cooksey to ask him for money you had not two cheques with you?—I am positive I had not.

24,726. How do you think Mr. Cooksey could have fallen into the error of supposing that you had?—I have not an idea how he could have made such a mistake. It is a mistake, certainly. I can see clearly what the meaning of the question is,—that if I had those cheques I must have got them cashed elsewhere. That I did not do, and therefore I can say positively that I had not the cheques referred to, because I never passed any cheques away from me.

24,727. (*Mr. Welford.*) It was stated that you received 200*l.* from Mr. Bretherton?—Yes.

24,728. May it not have been part of that sum?—That is exactly what I asked Mr. Bretherton, whether he gave me the money in cheques, and he says positively he did not; that he gave me the 200*l.* in money.

24,729. It is not a question about a cheque for 200*l.*, but about two cheques?—It is a question whether, having those cheques when I went to Mr. Cooksey, and not being able to get him to cash them, I went to somebody else, and got him to cash them. That is the question, and that question I most solemnly deny.

24,730. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you any knowledge yourself of any other money having been procured for the purpose of being used at the last election, besides that which you have disclosed to us?—I will not say besides that which *I* have disclosed, but I have no knowledge of any other money beyond that which has been disclosed here.

24,731. You believe that we are now put in possession of the total expenditure on the part of Messrs. Price and Monk at the last election?—I should think so.

24,732. As far as you know?—As far as I know you are, certainly, and I should think you must know all.

24,733. You remember those accounts that were spoken of by Mr. Moffatt, do you not? You heard Mr. Moffatt's evidence?—Yes.

24,734. He said that there were some very disagreeable and unsatisfactory documents that he had received from this place?—Yes.

24,735. Had you anything at all to do with the preparation of the accounts to which Mr. Moffatt alluded?—There were no accounts prepared. I wrote to ask Mr. Moffatt to send me 500*l.*; he sent me 200*l.* 300*l.* is still outstanding, and due to Mr. Bretherton, and there is 150*l.* to Mr. Powell Chandler, which I did not know had been received from my uncle, and 40*l.* to Mr. Cooksey.

24,736. Is that what you stated in the letter you wrote to Mr. Moffatt?—No; I merely asked him for 500*l.*, for the payment of sums which had been advanced.

24,737. But you did not specify what those sums were?—No. An extract from my letter was read, if you recollect.

24,738. He referred to some documents numbered one to five?—Yes.

24,739. Were not those documents accounts of some sort?—Most positively and emphatically, no.

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I state that there was a gross amount asked for; there were no details whatever entered into.

24,740. Do you know what the documents numbered one to five were?—There were one or two letters passed between Mr. Moffatt and myself, and among the documents that Mr. Moffatt sent to Mr. Ralli he must have sent not only my letters, but his replies, or copies of them.

24,741. Then you believe that those documents numbered one to five were only the correspondence that had passed between you and Mr. Moffatt?—Certainly; that is all they could have been.

W. Probert, jun.

WILLIAM PROBERT, junior, called and further examined.

24,742. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you produce a list showing the number of freedoms that were taken up in 1857 on both sides?—Yes (*producing it*).

24,743. Have you distinguished those taken up by the Conservatives by crosses?—Yes.

24,744. Have all the others that are referred to in this list been taken up at the expense of the Liberal party?—To the best of my knowledge they have. I was not in Gloucester when they were taken up.

24,745. Do you believe that all freemen whose names are contained in this list had their freedoms taken up by one party or the other?—Yes; to the best of my knowledge.

24,746. There appear to have been 18 taken up in 1857, 16 in 1558, and 7 in 1859?—To the best of my knowledge, that is correct.

24,747. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) The persons whose freedoms you took up were, I suppose, persons who you thought would vote on the Liberal side?—Yes, at the time; but some of them voted against us at the last election.

24,748. But at the time you took up their freedoms you supposed they would vote on your side?—Yes, I did.

24,749. And you paid for taking up those freedoms?—Yes.

24,750. How much did it cost for each freedom?—13*s.* 6*d.* for each man.

24,751. Where did you get the money from?—I had it from Brewer Monk. I did not pay the whole of them; I paid some, and he paid some.

24,752. You have been in the habit, have you not, of looking out for the sons of those freemen who have hitherto supported the Liberal interest, and have taken up their freedoms?—No; they generally came to me.

24,753. The sons of the supporters of the Liberal cause?—Yes. They frequently come, and say, "Mind "I shall be twenty-one at such a time, and must have "my freedom taken up next year."

24,754. When you have taken up their freedom, have they told you they would vote for the Liberal candidates?—No.

24,755. Have you said, "I will take up your free-"dom, but you must mind and vote for us?"—No.

24,756. Nothing has been expressed, but there has been a tacit understanding?—I should think I had some little claim on them when the election came.

24,757. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where you have put a cross against the names of persons mentioned in the list, those crosses indicate that the freedom was taken up and paid for by the Conservatives?—To the best of my knowledge, that is so. I have also a list of parties who have taken up their own freedom (*producing the list*).

24,758. I see the name of Samuel Coopey of Churcham; you mark him as having had his freedom taken up by the Conservatives?—Yes.

24,759. Had any of these men who are marked with a cross their freedoms taken up by your party, they afterwards voting for the Conservatives?—No.

24,760. Is there a registration fund?—Yes, there is.

24,761. But you have not the control of it?—No.

24,762. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What is the number of freemen who have taken up their freedoms, and paid for them themselves, during the same period?—I think about thirteen in three years.

24,763. There are thirteen who paid for themselves?—Yes. I should judge that they would pay for their own freedoms.

24,764. (*Mr. Welford.*) You do not know anything to the contrary?—No.

24,765. Do you know whether it has always been the practice to pursue the same course that you pursued?—Yes.

24,766. Both parties have taken up the freedoms of persons who they considered would be likely to vote on their side?—That I believe is correct.

24,767. In that list, for the years 1857, 1858, and 1859, how many freedoms out of the forty-one did you pay for?—I do not know; I do not think we took up a freedom at all in 1857 on our side; we were in London on the petition at the time; there were none taken up in that year.

T. Taynton.

THOMAS TAYNTON called and further examined.

24,768. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you travelled over the same ground as Mr. Wilton?—I have not heard the whole of his examination, but from what I did hear of it I am not prepared to go into it to the same extent that he has. When I was examined first, my evidence applied to the difference between the register on which the poll in 1857 was taken and that on which the poll of 1859 was taken. I told you on the first occasion, when I was examined on this subject, that the result of the revision before the barrister was no criterion whatever; and I have proceeded upon the basis I suggested, of taking the names of those persons who were put on and who were left off on the entire register, whether resulting from the acts of the overseer or of the revising barrister.

24,769. Taking into consideration the persons who have left and the persons who have come to live in the borough since the last registration?—Yes. I should say I did not take the registers of 1856 and 1857, and compare them, because the register of 1857 was an intermediate one. I took the 1856–7 register and the 1858–9, upon which the two polls took place, because the polls not having taken place on the register of 1857 the result to be arrived at is the difference between 1857 and 1859. If I had made a comparison between the register of 1856 and 1857 I should have had to repeat the same inquiries with reference to the subsequent register, and that would have only brought me to the same result as I arrived at by a comparison between the 1857 and 1859 register.

24,770. What do you start with?—I start by giving you the numbers of persons, both householders and freemen, added to the register between the two elections; new names upon the register in 1859 that were not there in 1857; those numbers I find to be 311.

24,771. (*Mr. Welford.*) Can you distinguish the freemen from the householders?—I can, within one or two. I have taken it in this way: householders added to the register, 243; freemen, 57; those are persons whose politics are supposed to have been known; then there are eleven doubtful, but whether they are all freemen or all householders I cannot tell.

24,772. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Eleven voters whose politics were doubtful?—Doubtful; that makes an aggregate of 311 new ones.

24,773. Out of the 311 there were 243 house-

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holders and 57 freemen added to the register, whose politics you say were known; how were their politics known?—Many of them from their having resided in the town for some time, and from inquiries that were made at the time, with a view to ascertain what their politics were when the lists were made out, because every year when the registration comes on inquiries are made respecting all new claims for the purpose of ascertaining whether either party should object to them or not.

24,774. You ascertained their politics by inquiry?—Yes; and I would add that as to most of those they are persons who polled in 1859, and whose politics thereby became very well known.

24,775. You tested the accuracy of your previous estimate by the result of the polling in 1859?—Yes.

24,776. Can you place any reliance upon that?—Why not?

24,777. There is a considerable list of persons who were bribed?—I can only deal with them as they voted. I am assuming that they polled in accordance to their political views.

24,778. I am testing the grounds upon which you arrive at the conclusion that their politics are known. You say that you judged what their politics were partly by inquiry and partly by the way in which they voted. I should say that the voting of those persons who were bribed would be no test at all?—That would affect the calculation to some extent; but I have no list of persons who have been proved to have been bribed. I have not gone into that matter. I have assumed the parties to have polled in accordance with their political views and opinions. I find in the same period 244 householders went off the list, and 56 freemen, making 300.

24,779. Then there went off as many as came on?—Very nearly; there is only a difference of eleven between the numbers on and the numbers off.

24,780. What do you say as to the politics of those persons who came on and went off; first of all what have you to say with regard to those who were added?—Of those, there were 105 Conservatives, and in addition to those 105 there were twenty-five persons who were claimed for by the Conservative party, and at the time the register was made out, and also up to the time of the poll, they were supposed to to be Conservatives, but they voted afterwards for the Liberal party. Those were not persons who had been put on by the overseers, but they were persons who had been put on on claims made by the Conservative party. Taking credit for those twenty-five (as we should have done before the poll showed the difference), we should have made 130. Then the Liberals added to the householders' list were 113.

24,781. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did any men who were claimed for the Liberals vote on the Conservative side?—I looked into that; not one. They lost two freemen for whom they claimed, but all their householders' claims held good. We ultimately lost 25, and they lost none.

24,782. Then as to the freemen?—Of the freemen whose freedoms were taken up by the Conservative party, and who supported that party, there were 25; there may have been one or two who paid for their own freedom. Each party looks after the addition to the freemen's list, whether they pay themselves or whether their freedom is paid for by the party. Then, in addition to the 25 I have mentioned, there were seven whose freedom was taken up and paid for by the Conservative party, who voted against them. The Liberals had 23 freemen.

24,783. And all those freemen voted for them?—They had 23 who voted for them, but they had two whose freedom was taken up by them who voted for the Conservatives.

24,784. What do you make out to have been the loss or gain to your party upon the additions?—Upon the new names on the list we claimed a gain of 24.

24,785. That is tested by their actual voting?—No; that is as we should have taken it at the time when Mr. Monk was invited to come forward. But the result would show a loss of six.

24,786. That is as tested by the voting?—Yes. First of all I have taken them as they stood, as we claimed them as partisans; afterwards there were 32 who voted against us, who were supposed up to the time of polling to be with us, and that would leave us in a minority of six.

24,787. There were only two who you had taken as against you who voted for you?—Only two who voted for us.

24,788. As tested by the election, there was a loss of six?—Yes; a loss of six. Then of Conservatives taken off the householders' list there were 100; freemen 24; Liberals off the householders' list 144; freemen 32. That makes 176 Liberals off. Then taking the 124 Conservatives from that, there is a gain to the Conservatives of 52. That, added to the gain upon the votes, would give the Conservatives a gross gain of 76, subject to the deduction of 30 from that as the difference between the estimate before the election and the polling.

24,789. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) According to your calculation, before the election you stood to have a majority of 76 upon the registration of 1859 as compared to the registration of 1857?—Yes; and in addition to those there are eleven who remain doubtful to this time; men who did not poll at the last election; who come on to these new lists, and with regard to whom it is not known to which party they belong.

24,790. Those men still remain doubtful?—Those men still remain doubtful.

24,791. How many of those persons you considered Conservatives who were added to the register did you form that judgment of from the way in which they voted at the election in 1859?—I cannot give you the actual numbers of them, but a very great majority.

24,792. You answered the question I put to you before by saying that you ascertained the politics of these persons who were added by inquiries that were made, and by the mode in which they voted at the subsequent election?—Yes. I have not taken the respective numbers of those; but if you wish it I will go through the list again, and tell you the number of the new men who actually voted in 1859.

24,793. The 11 you put down as doubtful did not vote at all?—No.

24,794. (*Mr. Welford.*) You will give us the number of men who actually voted, and how they voted?—Yes; I will give you that.

24,795. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Supposing those 11 were to be taken by the Liberals there would have to be a deduction made from your Conservative gain of 76?—Yes, there would.

24,796. And that would bring the number down to 65?—Yes; giving the Liberals the whole of the doubtful votes.

24,797. And in that case there would not be a a great difference between you and Mr. Wilton. Mr. Wilton gives you a gain of 38 upon the register between 1857 and 1859.

(*Mr. Wilton.*)—No; between 1852 and 1856. Mr. Taynton makes a gain to the Conservatives of 40, when I make a gain to the Liberals of 28.

(*The Witness.*)—Our majority arose principally from their losses.

24,798. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Wilton makes a gain of 65 votes to the Conservatives between 1853 and 1857?—Yes.

24,799. You have given us a statement of the supposed gain between 1857 and 1859. What do you consider was your strength at the time from which you started?—That would be shown by the 1857 election.

24,800. The poll of 1857 you take as showing the relative strength of the two parties in this place?—Yes; I am not aware of any better criterion that can be obtained than that.

24,801. If we find there were a number of votes

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given to Sir Robert Carden in 1857 for which there was an inducement in the shape of money, would not that very much affect your calculation?—Yes. You would have to strike a balance between the votes that had been obtained on either side in that way; but then you would have to assume that you have before you the names of all those persons who were bribed on that occasion, which I very much doubt.

24,802. Mr. Whithorn has informed us that he cannot account for a large sum, and states that he supposes that a considerable portion of that sum went in bribery. We should like to be furnished with some information about that if we could have it?—I am not able to furnish it to you.

24,803. Did you take any part in the election in 1853?—I did, but no very active part. Mr. Helps had the management of that election principally. I rendered some little assistance in the committee-room and on the polling-day, but I took no responsible part in that election.

24,804. Mr. Lovegrove just now said that the polling was abandoned, I understood him to say, at 11 o'clock, but I find that the polling was carried on down to 4 o'clock?—Yes, it was so.

24,805. And it seems to have been carried on, if I may judge from the numbers polled, with considerable ardour on both sides?—I think you will find that it was not so at that election. I acted as inspector at one of the polling booths in the early part of the day, and I remember that by 12 in the day all active steps ceased on the part of the Conservative party. A good many men were polled after that, but the voters ceased to be looked after.

24,806. It appears that there were a good many votes polled after twelve o'clock, and that the polling was continued until four?—But the number polled after twelve o'clock was but small, compared with what it would have been if the parties had been active, because from half past twelve to two o'clock is usually a very active part of the polling period. It is the time when working men go to their dinner, and those who do not devote the day to the election generally embrace that opportunity to poll.

24,807. Between twelve and four, at that election, Admiral Berkeley appears to have polled 215 votes, and Mr. Hope 149?—That shows, among other things, I think, that the Conservative party had not been active during that period.

24,808. Or it may show that the strength was greater on the other side, may it not?—It may bear that inference; but I know that no efforts were made after twelve o'clock. The numbers that had been polled showed that the contest was hopeless, and it was virtually abandoned, although persons still continued to poll.

(*Mr. Wilton.*)—May I be allowed to hand in a document which I had not in my possession at the momenwhen I was giving my evidence, but which I have since found. Mr. Taynton has shown you what I should term a hypothetical state of the register previous to the election in 1859, and I should like to show you the changes which we considered at the same time had actually taken place between 1857 and 1859. We considered that there had been an equal gain to the Liberals and to the Conservatives of 22 freemen; that is, that an equal number had been put on for each party. There were new Liberal householders on 109; there were old Liberal householders off 110; and there were dead since the last registration 6; that is since the register was made up. This calculation was made two months before the election. The result of that is, that there was a loss of six to the Liberals. Then there were new Tories on 65; old Tories off 124; dead since the last register 8. That will show that there were 67 less Tories on the register than there were at the previous election. The Tories off were 124, and dead 8; making 132; and the Tories on were 65.

24,809. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Wilton.*) Is that the calculation you acted on when you first saw Mr. Monk?—This is a copy of the statement which I put before Mr. Monk. I should have produced the original, but there is some scribbling on the other side.

24,810. According to that you would have claimed a difference in your favour of 61?—Yes. In addition to which there were about 40 votes about which we have no chance of ascertaining whether they would have voted Whig or Tory.

24,811. There were 40 votes that you considered doubtful?—Yes; and of which I have reason to believe we should have a fair proportion. Then there is one other statement I should like to make, which is, that since I was in the witness-box last I am told there is a witness in court who saw a band of music going up with the Coopeys to poll at two o'clock in the day, when the election is supposed to have been abandoned at eleven o'clock.

(*Mr. Phillpotts.*)—In the absence of Mr. Lovegrove I am requested to state, that what he meant was that the contest was abandoned only as far as the committee was concerned; they left the committee-room.

24,812. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Wilton.*) Mr. Taynton claims a Conservative gain of 76, and you claim a gain of 61?—Yes; and it appears to me that the truth lies somewhere between the two, and that there was only a Liberal gain of 27. That I think is what the actual figures show.

E. Phelps.

EDWIN PHELPS sworn and examined.

24,813. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—I live now in Alma Place.

24,814. Are you a freeman or a householder?—A freeman.

24,815. Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Price and Monk.

24,816. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing.

24,817. Were you promised anything?—No.

24,818. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—For Price and Berkeley.

24,819. Did you receive anything for your vote then?—No.

24,820. Have you ever received anything for your vote?—No, never.

24,821. Were you a messenger?—No.

24,822. Has anybody said that you received money, or offered you money?—Not that I am aware of.

H. Hinton.

HENRY HINTON sworn and examined.

24,823. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

24,824. Did you receive anything for your vote?—Not for my vote I did not; for my services I received 3*l.* 10*s.*

24,825. Who paid you?—Mr. Monk. I was employed by the canvassing party to go round with them to carry their books, and take their cards and different things.

24,826. How many days were you engaged in that way?—I can scarcely tell you; but I fancy it must have been about 21 days, or something like that; but I could not say exactly.

24,827. You did not consider that that 3*l.* 10*s.* was paid for your vote?—No, not for my vote; for my services.

24,828. Were you a messenger?—I was a messenger, and went round with the canvassing party.

24,829. Were you engaged during the whole or that time?—Yes.

24,830. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Price and Berkeley.

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H. Hinton.
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24,831. Did you receive anything then?—Not a half-penny; perhaps half-a-crown to get something to drink.

24,832. You were not employed as a messenger or canvasser?—No.

24,833. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered any money at the last election by Jonah Dyer?—No, I was not.

24,834. Were you in 1857 offered any money by him?—He did ask me if 5*l.* would be of any use to me if I would vote for Carden; but he did not say he would give it to me. He asked me if it would be of any use to me if I voted for Carden; and I said, No.

H. Arkell.

HENRY ARKELL sworn and examined.

24,835. (*Mr. Welford.*) Were you formerly agent to Mr. Goodrich?—I was for ten years.

24,836. During that time were you in the habit of taking an active part in the elections?—I used to go round with Mr. Goodrich at elections to his tenants.

24,837. Did you go round with him, and also without him?—Not without him, unless it was to the tenants to ask them for payment of rent, and such as that; not on electioneering matters.

24,838. You never went round to canvass without him?—No.

24,839. Did you ever offer to forgive any tenants any portion of rent in arrear if they would vote for the Conservative candidate?—I never offered to forgive any of the rent to any tenants. I swear I never offered a tenant a fraction in my life.

24,840. Did you ever offer that any of their rent should be remitted to them if they would vote for the Conservative candidate?—Never.

24,841. Did you ever threaten them that if they did not vote for the candidate for whom you canvassed them they should be distrained upon for their rent, or that they should suffer any inconvenience in consequence?—No, never.

24,842. Do you know a man named Charles White?—I do not; not to call him to my mind.

24,843. Was not he a tenant of Mr. Goodrich's?—Not to my knowledge. I could not say, unless I was to look through the rent-roll; it is now a year and a quarter ago since I left the estate. I do not believe there was a tenant of that name when I was on the estate.

24,844. Did you ever offer any money or any inducement to a man named Beard?—Never.

24,845. Did you ever threaten him if he would not vote for Sir Robert Carden?—No.

24,846. Are you sure of that?—I defy any tenant to say that ever I pressed him one way or the other.

24,847. Did you ever threaten a man named Fletcher?—No.

24,848. You know the man to whom I refer?—Yes; William Fletcher.

24,849. You never did?—No.

24,850. Did you never promise anything or use any threat to any tenant of Mr. Goodrich's to induce such tenant to vote for Sir Robert Carden?—I did not; I wish for every man to enjoy his own opinion.

24,851. Did you ever offer any bribe either at the last election or the election before?—Never to no man.

24,852. Or make any offer of money?—No; not direct or indirect to any man.

24,853. Did you offer any bribe at all to Ferry?—No.

24,854. Did you say anything to him to lead him to believe you intended to bribe him?—No; he never mentioned anything to me about money in his life; I have known him and his father for these ten years, and I believe him to be as honourable and independent a voter as any in the city of Gloucester.

24,855. Was anything said to him about giving him anything to go out of Gloucester?—Not in my presence; there was a conversation of that sort between Stephens and Ferry, but I was not present. Stephens was in the house when I was in, and I left him there.

J. Ferry.

JOHN TERRY sworn and examined.

24,856. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—27, Eastgate Street.

24,857. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden and Admiral Berkeley I voted for in 1857.

24,858. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

24,859. Did you receive anything for your vote at that election?—Certainly not.

24,860. Were you offered anything?—Yes; by William Stephens of Highnam.

24,861. What did he offer you?—He proposed to offer me 10*l.*

24,862. For what purpose did he offer you that money?—He wanted to; he thought he could do me a good thing. I scorned him, and laughed at him.

24,863. Did you propose to have some money to go away?—He proposed that, knowing my family affairs.

24,864. Did he offer you that 10*l.* to enable you to go away?—He waited for me to go off to the station. I said I had promised Sir Robert Carden, and to my honour as a tradesman I refused to go away.

24,865. Did you tell him you wanted to go to Windsor?—I did not. He swore to his God that it was his own money, and if he could get me to be a Liberal he would do all he could, but he could not do it.

24,866. Did you say you and your father wanted to go to Windsor, and that if you could get some money you would go?—My father told him to put his money in his pocket, and shut his mouth.

24,867. Did you tell him that?—No. He said, "Go out of town, and do not vote."

24,868. You did not say that?—No; he said that to me.

24,869. But you did not say so?—No.

24,870. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was anything said about going to Windsor?—He said, "The best thing you "can do is to go to Windsor."

24,871. And you refused?—I refused.

J. Townsend.

JOHN TOWNSEND sworn and examined.

24,872. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

24,873. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

24,874. Were you offered nothing?—No; they knew me too well to do that.

24,875. And you did not ask for anything?—No.

24,876. Where do you live?—In High Orchard.

24,877. What are you?—A master painter.

24,878. For whom did you vote in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

24,879. Did you receive anything then?—No.

24,880. Neither to vote nor not to vote?—No.

24,881. Did you offer anybody anything?—No; I neither bribed nor was I bribed myself.

24,882. Did you offer anybody any money?—Oh dear no.

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GEORGE CLEMENTS sworn and examined. *G. Clements.* 27 Oct. 1859.

24,883. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a sweep in this place?—Yes.

24,884. Were you employed by the Conservative party at the last election?—Yes.

24,885. Who employed you?—Mr. Whithorn told me I was to look round, and see what I could see.

24,886. Did he tell you what you were to look round for?—Yes.

24,887. What?—To see if I could see a voter or two.

24,888. And if you could see a voter, what were you to do with him?—I was to ask him if he would vote for Mr. Carden.

24,889. And if he would not vote for Sir Robert Carden, what were you to do?—I was to let him go by.

24,890. Were you not to take him off somewhere?—No.

24,891. Do you mean to swear that?—Yes.

24,892. Were you not to try what you could do to take him off?—No.

24,893. Do you mean to swear that that was not your instruction?—No.

24,894. Were you not one of the men who went to Orpin's when Wathen was there?—Yes.

24,895. You got hold of the man, and took him off by force, did you not?—I was not there at the very time; I was out in the backyard when he was being carried out.

25,896. Did you not go up with him to the place where he was kept afterwards?—No.

24,897. Did you not go on the Cheltenham Road with him?—No.

24,898. Did you not help to move him from Orpin's?—I was in the back yard at the time.

24,899. He was being taken out then?—No.

24,900. Did you not go there with a number of other persons—roughs?—No.

24,901. You swear you did not?—Yes.

24,902. Was Leach there?—Yes; he was out in the road.

24,903. A fighting man?—He was there at the time when I was there.

24,904. And a good many others?—I do not know how many were there; five or six, I suppose.

24,905. Did you not go to Orpin's to get hold of that man, and take him off by force?—No.

24,906. What did you go there for?—We went to look for a man named Wadley, who was from where he was at, and taken away somewhere, and we had to walk up round Alvin Street, and happened to call at Orpin's. We went to have a pint or a quart of beer, I do not know which.

24,907. Do you mean to swear you did not go there by design, intending to take that man away?—Yes, I will.

24,908. You will swear you did not do so?—Yes, I will swear I did not go there to take the man away, because I did not know he was there.

24,909. Did you not go with Mr. Maysey?—No.

24,910. Did not Maysey ask you to go?—No.

24,911. Did you see Maysey there?—Yes.

24,912. Have you a son?—I have.

24,913. Was your son there?—I believe not. Not to the best of my knowledge.

24,914. Is your son a sweep as well as yourself?—Yes.

24,915. Did you go to "The Nelson" at Rudford?—I did.

24,916. Did you go there with a party of "roughs" on that occasion?—There were only three of us.

24,917. Who were the other two besides yourself?—A man by the name of Edwin Draysey, and a man by the name of Charles Grimmett; I believe that was the name.

24,918. What did you go there for?—We had heard talk that one Mr. Wadley (that is the Wadley we are talking about) was gone out in the country, and we understood he was gone to Rudford. I said, "I have a good mind to put my pony in the cart, "and have a ride as far as there."

24,919. Did you go as far as that?—Yes.

24,920. And you took those men with you?—They said, "We will come along with you."

24,921. Did they go with you?—Yes.

24,922. Was not that for the purpose of getting hold of Wadley, so as to bring him to a place where he could be kept safe?—It was for the purpose of seeing whether he was there.

24,923. Did you not go there for the purpose of getting hold of Wadley, to bring him to a place where he could be safely kept?—We could not bring him.

24,924. Did you not go there for that purpose?—We went there to see whether he was there.

24,925. Did you not go there for the purpose of getting hold of him, and bringing him back, and keeping him safe?—No; I do not believe that we did.

24,926. Will you swear that you did not?—It was to see whether he was there; but I would not positively swear whether it was for the intention of bringing him back, or what. We went to see if he was there, and when we got to "The Nelson" we saw him there.

24,927. Did you not go there with the intention of getting hold of that man, and bringing him away, and taking care of him, so that he might not vote?—We had no chance.

24,928. Was not that the object with which you went?—Well, it might be for that.

24,929. Who told you to go there?—Why if I remember right, when we came back———

24,930. Answer me. Who told you to go there?—I said I would go myself.

24,931. Who told you to go there?—Well, I saw Mr. Whithorn.

24,932. And who else?—There were two or three together.

24,933. Who besides Mr. Whithorn told you to go there?—I think Mr. Taynton was there for one.

24,934. Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Taynton, and who else was there? Was Maysey there?—No. I am sure I do not remember who was there.

24,935. Did they tell you to go down to that place, and take that man off?—No; they did not tell me to take him off.

24,936. You went with the intention of taking him off?—It is very likely. If we could have got him in the humour to have gone most likely we should have got him to come along with us.

24,937. On your oath did not Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Taynton tell you to go down and take that man off?—They told me to go down to him.

24,938. Did they not tell you to go down and take that man off? Answer the question?—I will not swear whether they did or not.

24,939. Will you swear they did not? Did they not tell you to go, and take that man Wathen from that place?—Well, sir.

24,940. You are on your oath, and you must give an answer?—I would not swear; not to be positive.

24,941. Will you swear they did not tell you that?—To take him off?

24,942. Yes?—I would not swear to be positive.

24,943. But you must swear to be positive. You went down there with the object of taking the man off, and taking him to some place where he could not vote. Did they not tell you to do so? Answer that question?—If I remember right they told me to bring him back to Gloucester.

24,944. Did they not tell you to take that man away, and take him to some place so that he might not vote? Answer that question?—No, they did not.

24,945. Now that you swear. You are upon your oath?—Yes. I could almost take my oath of it.

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G. Clements.
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24,946. Can you swear it?—I do not believe they ever said, "Take him away."

24,947. You do not think they did say that. You said just now you went there with the intention and object of taking that man from that place, so that he might not vote. I asked you who told you to go down. You said, "Mr. Whithorn, Mr. Taynton, and "some others;" and now I ask you, did they not tell you to go down, and take that man away, and take him to some place to be safe, so that he could not vote?—No; not for to disannul him of his vote.

24,948. Were you to get him to some place where he might be kept safe? Answer the question?—I have forgotten myself. I do not believe they did.

24,949. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did they tell you?—When this here Mr. Wadley was missing from where he was at in St. Catherine's parish we said we would take a walk, and see if we could find him, and then we went to Orpin's.

24,950. What did they tell you to do?—They told me to try and find him. They said, "If you can find "him, try and bring him back."

24,951. Was that all?—I almost think it was. I would not swear that they said anything to me more than that. We were to go and look for him, and try to bring him back.

24,952. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What were you paid?—I was paid 1*l.* 10*s.*

24,953. Was that all you received?—I might have received, it may be, two or three more shillings for having a drop of beer, and the like of that.

24,954. Who paid you 1*l.* 10*s.*?—Mr. Whithorn.

24,955. What was that for?—My trouble.

24,956. In going about?—Yes.

24,957. And getting hold of the voters?—It was for that, I suppose.

24,958. Did you go to a place called Frog Mill?—I do not know where that is; not to the best of my knowledge. We went further than "The King's Head" and "The Nelson" at Rudford; but I do not know exactly where Frog Mill is.

24,959. Were you not employed during the election with that man Leach and some others as one of the roughs to go about and do what you could in taking off the voters who were going to vote for the Liberal party?—Along with Leach?

24,960. Yes?—No, never.

24,961. Were you employed with others to go about and get hold of Liberal voters, and take them to some place, or prevent them from voting?—I was never employed by anybody more than Mr. Whithorn said, "If you can speak to a friend or two to go and "give Mr. Carden a vote, I should be glad," and I did so.

24,962. You were employed, you said, to look about and see what you could see?—Yes; and Mr. Whithorn told me he would satisfy me for it, and he gave me 1*l.* 10*s.*

24,963. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are not a voter, are you?—No; I never voted for a member of Parliament in my life.

H. Ball.

HENRY BALL sworn and examined.

24,964. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Columbia Street.

24,965. Are you a freeman or householder?—I am not a householder at present.

24,966. Were you a voter in 1857?—Yes, I was.

34,967. Who did you vote for then?—Sir Robert Carden.

24,968. What did you receive for your vote then?—£2.

24,969. Who paid you?—It was put on the table; who put it there I do not know; but I believe it was Obadiah Clutterbuck.

24,970. Were you present when it was put on the table?—I was; but I did not see who it was who put it there; but I took it up.

24,971. You understood what it was for, did you not?—Yes; and I voted directly.

24,972. It was for your vote?—Yes.

J. A. Hatton.

JULIA ANNE HATTON sworn and examined.

24,973. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the daughter of Charlotte Hatton?—Yes.

24,974. Does your mother keep an eating house?—Yes.

24,975. Do you remember the election of 1857?—Yes.

24,976. Before the election did some gentlemen come to canvass for your father's vote?—Yes.

24,977. Did they come into the shop?—Yes.

24,978. Was that in Westgate Street?—Yes; two gentlemen came in.

24,979. About what time in the day?—Twelve o'clock.

24,980. Did you know them at that time?—No, I did not.

24,981. Have you known since who they were?—Yes.

24,982. Who were they?—Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Curtis.

24,983. Did they come to see your father?—They asked for father, and I said father was an invalid; and mother always attended to business, so I fetched my mother to them.

24,984. Where was your mother?—Down in the kitchen.

24,985. Did you go back again into the shop?—I went back into the coffee-room next to the shop.

24,986. Did you remain there as long as the gentlemen remained in the shop?—Yes.

24,987. What part of the coffee-room were you in?—By the door; half a glass door next the shop. The door was not closed.

24,988. Half a glass door, was it?—Yes; it was not closed.

24,989. Did you hear those gentlemen say anything to your mother?—Yes.

24,990. Did they ask about your father's vote?—Yes; they asked for him to give it to Sir Robert Carden; to give him a vote.

24,991. What did your mother say?—She said, "No." He said he would make her a present of a new dress.

24,992. When she said "No," what else did she say?—She did not say anything else.

24,993. She said nothing else?—No.

24,994. Did they say anything else?—They said they would make her a present of a new dress.

24,995. Who said that?—I am not certain which of the gentlemen it was that said it; it was one of them.

24,996. What were they to make her a present of a new dress for?—For the vote.

24,997. What did they say?—They said they would make her a present of a new dress if father would give a vote for Sir Walter Carden.

24,998. A new dress to whom?—To mother.

24,999. What did your mother say?—I did not hear her say anything. When they went out Mr. Hatton and Mr. Withers came in, and mother asked them who it was, and they said Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Curtis; so mother knew who they were; then, and not before.

25,000. Your mother knew who they were because Mr. Withers told her?—Because Mr. Withers and Mr. Hatton said who they were.

25,001. Was that Mr. Hatton your father?—No. He is a boot and shoe maker.

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J. A. Hatton.

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25,002. Who is Mr. Withers?—He keeps a public house, and he is a salt merchant.

25,003. Have you talked to your mother about this before you were examined here to-day?—No; she has not spoken to me.

25,004. She has not spoken to you about it?—No; and she did not come after me.

25,005. Do you remember your mother going to London to be examined?—Yes.

25,006. Had you any talk with your mother about it before she went?—No.

25,007. Did your mother say what she was going to be examined about?—She went to be examined about the other case; not that. She went to be examined about the money.

25,008. Are you telling us what you yourself remember, and not what your mother has told you?—She has not told me a word; she has not spoken to me about it.

25,009. That you swear?—Yes, I swear it.

25,010. How far from the door were the gentlemen standing who were talking to your mother?—By the counter.

25,011. How far is that from the door?—I do not know exactly; not far.

25,012. As far as from you to me?—Not quite so far.

R. Baker.

ROBERT BAKER sworn and examined.

25,013. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

25,014. Who did you vote for?—For Price and Carden.

25,015. Were you a servant to a Mr. Partridge?—Yes.

25,016. Did you receive anything for your vote?—Not a farthing.

25,017. Did you offer anybody anything at the last election?—No; not to the best of my knowledge.

25,018. Were you offered anything?—No.

25,019. By neither party?—By neither party.

25,020. Did you offer anybody anything?—No; except what I said to Mr. Kendall.

25,021. What did you say to him?—That I should not vote Yellow unless he would give me 10*l.*

25,022. And what did Mr. Kendall say?—He said he should see.

25,023. Did he get it for you?—No; and I did not trouble about it.

25,024. How came you to vote for Carden? Which are you; a Conservative or a Liberal?—I am a regular old Blue, and I mean to be one.

25,025. How came you to vote for Price?—On account of my master.

25,026. Mr. Partridge?—Yes.

25,027. Did he ask you to vote?—He asked me to split it.

25,028. Did he offer you anything for splitting?—No, he did not.

25,029. Did Mr. Kendall offer you 10*l.*?—No.

25,030. No part of it?—No.

25,031. I suppose you expected to get it if you voted for Price?—No.

25,032. Did you never ask for it?—No.

25,033. And you never expected to get it?—No.

25,034. Did you receive anything for your vote for Carden at the last election?—Not a halfpenny.

25,035. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

25,036. What did you get?—£2.

25,037. Who paid you that?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,038. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) After the election?—No; the day of the election.

25,039. Before you voted?—Yes.

J. White.

JAMES WHITE sworn and examined.

25,040. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In St. Aldate Street.

25,041. Do you keep "The Beaufort Arms"?—I do.

25,042. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Monk and Mr. Carden.

25,043. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I had not a vote then.

25,044. Do you remember being canvassed by Sir Robert Carden for your vote at the last election?—I do.

25,045. Was any person with Sir Robert Carden at the time?—Mr. Lovegrove was with him.

25,046. Was anything said to you at that time, about the purchase of any cider?—After I promised Sir Robert Carden, I asked him if he would take a bottle of perry. He said he would take a glass, and I fetched him up a bottle; they drank it between them, part of it, and it was very good they said.

25,047. Did Sir Robert Carden purchase any of you?—I asked him to do it, and he did not give me any answer. After he was gone away a few minutes, Mr. Lovegrove came back, and said he would take a few dozen.

25,048. A few minutes after they had gone away?—Yes. Mr. Lovegrove came back; it might be two minutes; they could not have gone far; they had found it very good.

25,049. And they said they would take a few dozen?—Yes.

25,050. How much was ordered?—They did not order any quantity. I did not send any till after the election.

25,051. Was the price mentioned?—No; nor asked.

25,052. After the election you did send some?—I did. I asked Mr. Lovegrove; and he said, "You "may send him six dozen;" and I did so.

25,053. How soon was that after the election?—I should think it was a month or five weeks; it was about that, more or less, I should think.

25,054. You sent it to Sir Robert Carden?—I did.

25,055. And you got paid for it?—I did.

25,056. Who paid you?—I had it by a cheque from London, from Sir Robert Carden.

25,057. What did you charge him for it?—18*s.* a dozen.

25,058. Were there any suppers at your house?—One dinner.

25,059. Was that all?—Yes; for eight people.

25,060. What was the cost of the dinner?—£1; half a crown apiece. I did not charge them any more than that.

25,061. Had you ever voted before 1859?—Yes; I voted for Mr. Hope once.

25,062. I see you split your vote?—I did.

25,063. Did you vote for Mr. Monk in consequence of any promise?—My landlord is a friend of Mr. Monk's, and he asked me to favour him with my vote. He knew that I had a split vote, and asked me to give him one as well as Mr. Carden, and I said I would, for I had a good landlord.

25,064. What do you generally sell your perry at?—I once sold twelve dozen at 12*s.* a dozen, and the gentleman I sold it to sold it at a guinea. I sold it at 12*s.* a dozen to the trade to sell again. If it had been any other private gentleman in London I should have charged him the same price as I did Sir Robert Carden. I sell it at 12*s.* to the trade. If it had

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been you or any other gentleman I should have charged the same price, because the price now is a guinea a dozen for such perry.

25,065. Do you sell it in the trade now for a guinea a dozen ?—If I could; some people will give it.

25,066. Do you deal largely in perry ?—I do. I sold twenty dozen to a man to sell again, and he sold it at a guinea a dozen.

25,067. Would you consider selling six dozen at a time selling it by retail, or by wholesale ?—I do not know; that is not much. Six dozen is a small quantity wholesale; that is but 1*s.* 6*d.* a bottle, and I am sure it is worth that.

WILLIAM JAMES SKINNER sworn and examined.

W. J. Skinner.

25,068. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Market Street, now.

25,069. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.

25,070. Did you receive anything for your vote ?—No.

25,071. Were you offered anything ?—No.

25,072. Were you employed as a messenger, or anything of that kind ?—No.

25,073. Did you offer anybody else anything ?—No.

25,074. What part did you take at the last election ?—None whatever.

25,075. What house do you keep ?—I have a private house now. I formerly kept "The Prince Albert" Inn.

25,076. Did you keep that inn at the last election ?—Yes.

25,077. Had you a dinner at your house ?—Yes.

25,078. Who ordered it ?—Mr. Maysey.

25,079. For how many people ?—Twelve; they were canvassers.

25,080. What was the amount of the bill ?—The bill came to 6*l.* 16*s.*; but then there was refreshments from April 20th up to the 30th.

25,081. It included dinner, and refreshments to voters besides ?—Yes; and dinners and luncheons.

25,082. Was it all ordered by Mr. Maysey ?—Yes.

25,083. Have you been paid ?—Yes.

25,084. Did you consider that you had that as compensation for your vote ?—No.

25,085. Or as a sort of inducement to you to vote ?—None whatever.

25,086. How should you have voted but for that ?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

25,087. Did you give a dinner or a supper then ?—No.

25,088. Did you receive anything ?—No.

25,089. Not in anyway ?—No. I was a messenger in 1857, or rather committee-room doorkeeper.

25,090. Did you keep the same house in 1857 ?—Yes; but no refreshments were supplied at my house in 1857.

25,091. What did you receive as doorkeeper ?—I forget; it was 6*s.* day. I charged that as my expenses.

25,092. That was for your time and your expenses ?—Yes. Eighteen days I was there.

25,093. Were you employed the whole day there ?—The whole day, and sometimes till twelve o'clock at night.

25,094. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You say refreshments and luncheons were supplied between the 20th and 30th April at the last election ?—Yes.

25,095. To all persons who came ?—To canvassers.

25,096. Canvassers and voters ?—I never saw a voter there; not that I know of; merely canvassers going round.

25,097. Did not Mr. Maysey tell you you were to give refreshments to persons who came if they were voters ?—No, he did not.

25,098. Had you got a licence before the election of 1857 ?—No, I had not.

25,099. Did you get a licence after the election ?—I got a licence afterwards; just one year from this present time.

25,100. You got a licence after the election in 1857 ?—No; it is 1859 now. I have had a licensed house twelve months. It was in 1858 I got the licence.

25,101. You have left the house, have you not ?—I lost my wife, and I left the house.

25,102. Were you promised if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden that you should have a licence got for you ?—No.

25,103. Not by any friends or canvassers of Sir Robert Carden ?—No. I knew Sir Robert Carden in London. I am a London man, and that is why I voted for him.

25,104. Whether you were a doorkeeper at the committee-room, or whether you had a supper or dinner at your house, or not, you would have voted for Sir Robert Carden ?—I should have voted for Sir Robert Carden.

W. Andrews.

WILLIAM ANDREWS sworn and examined.

25,105. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Carden.

25,106. What did you receive for your vote ?—£10.

25,107. Who paid it to you ?—Mr. Clutterbuck.

25,108. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck ?—Yes.

25,109. Who did you vote for in the election of 1857; the election before the last ?—Sir Robe Carden.

25,110. What did you receive then ?—I received nothing then.

25,111. Not anything ?—No.

25,112. Were you offered anything by the other side ?—No.

T. Allen.

THOMAS ALLEN sworn and examined.

25,113. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

25,114. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5 for my vote, and 1*l.* for my services.

25,115. Who paid you that money ?—William Payne.

25,116. The stonemason ?—No; his son.

25,117. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Price and Berkeley.

25,118. What did you receive then ?—I had my expenses paid from Birmingham. I received one sovereign.

25,119. Who paid you that ?—James Williams.

25,120. Is that Mr. Price's man ?—Yes.

25,121. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that for your expenses ?—Yes.

25,122. From where ?—From Birmingham, and for a man that I put on my boat.

25,123. (*Mr. Welford.*) You are a boatman, are you ?—Yes.

25,124. Did it cost you 1*l.* ?—It cost me more; paying a man to bring the boat in my place, and all.

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ALFRED ALLEN sworn and examined. *A. Allen.*

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25,125. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,126. What did you get for your vote?—£10.

25,127. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,128. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not poll at all then.

JAMES BARTLETT sworn and examined. *J. Bartlett.*

25,129. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,130. What did you receive for your vote?—£9.

25,131. Who paid you?—Obadiah Clutterbuck.

25,132. Who did you vote for at the election before that?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,133. What did you receive then?—Nothing.

25,134. Were you employed as a messenger?—No.

THOMAS BALLINGER sworn and examined. *T. Ballinger.*

25,135. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price.

25,136. For Mr. Price only?—Yes.

25,137. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.

25,138. Who paid you?—Mr. James Murrell.

25,139. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I never voted before.

JAMES BADDAMS sworn and examined. *J. Baddams.*

25,140. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

25,141. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,142. From whom?—Mr. Ball.

25,143. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—Mr. Berkeley and Mr. Price.

25,144. What did you receive then?—I received 30*s.* then.

25,145. For your vote?—For being on the committee, I was informed.

25,146. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is Ball, the man who gave you the 5*l.*, a tailor?—Yes.

25,147. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose you would not have voted if you had not been on the committee?—Yes, I should.

25,148. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You would have voted whether you were on the committee or not, would you?—Yes, I should.

25,149. (*Mr. Welford.*) And would you have voted the same way?—Yes. I promised Mr. Berkeley before I was put on the committee.

25,150. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you do anything for the money you received?—No, I did not.

25,151. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then you considered being put on the committee was a remuneration for your vote?—I did not consider it exactly as that.

25,152. What did you consider it was for, if you did nothing for it?—I was on the committee, but I did not know whether I should be wanted or no, but I was not wanted.

WILLIAM BAILEY sworn and examined. *W. Bailey.*

25,153. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,154. What did you receive?—6*l.*

25,155. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,156. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—Mr. Hope.

25,157. You must be mistaken. He was not a candidate?—No. I voted for Sir Robert Carden. I voted Blue in 1857.

25,158. What did you receive then?—4*l.*

25,159. From Mr. Whithorn?—Yes.

HENRY CURTIS sworn and examined. *H. Curtis.*

25,160. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,161. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,162. Who paid you?—Mr. Orpin. At the time I voted I lived in Birmingham. I came from Birmingham, and I brought my wife with me. I was away a week, and I considered the 5*l.* was for loss of time, and one thing and another; it was nothing more than paying my expenses.

25,163. Did your wife come to vote too?—No.

25,164. She came to take care of you?—I brought her with me.

25,165. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You thought you were entitled to do that at the expense of the candidate?—Yes.

25,166. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your wife had a week's holiday?—Yes.

25,167. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—I had no vote.

HENRY COX sworn and examined. *H. Cox.*

25,168. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,169. Did you receive anything for your vote?—I did not.

25,170. Were you not canvassed by Mr. Wilkes, the solicitor?—I was.

25,171. Did he not do some business for you?—Yes.

25,172. Do you know what it amounted to?—I believe the amount that he would have charged me would have been about 16*l.*

25,173. And he charged you nothing?—He did not.

25,174. Why did he not charge you anything?—Well; because he said if I could oblige him he would oblige me.

25,175. And you obliged him by voting for Price and Monk?—I did.

25,176. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

25,177. What did you receive then?—Nothing.

25,178. Were you employed as a messenger?—No, I was not.

25,179. You had no inducement to vote then offered to you at all?—No.

25,180. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did Mr. Wilkes promise to take you through the Insolvent Debtors' Court?—He did.

25,181. And did he do it?—He did.

25,182. He said he would do it if you would vote for Price and Monk?—He did.

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H. Cox.
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25,183. Did you owe any money at all to Mr. Hanman ?—Yes, I did ; but I did not receive any money. I beg to contradict that. He gave me credit on his book for 3*l.* which he received on account of my vote.

25,184. In 1857 ?—Yes.

25,185. He wrote off 3*l.* from a debt you owed him ?—Yes.

25,186. Then you had an allowance of 3*l.* ?—Yes.

25,187. Was that Mr. John Biddle Hanman?—Yes.

25,188. Was there any other person who wiped off any portion of a debt which you owed ?—No.

R. Craddock.

ROBERT CRADDOCK sworn and examined.

25,189. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—No one.

25,190. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

25,191. Did you receive anything at the last election ?—I did ; I received 6*l.*

25,192. Who from ?—Mr. Maysey.

25,193. What was that for ? — For posting and other work.

25,194. Was it not for your vote ?—No.

25,195. Was not it to abstain from voting ?—No. I did not vote at all.

25,196. Did he not give you 6*l.* in order that you might abstain from voting ?—No.

25,197. Did he not give you this employment of bill posting to prevent your voting ?—I am not aware of that.

25,198. What was it that you did ?—Posting bills.

25,199. How long were you employed ?—He paid me for my time, whether I was employed or not.

25,200. What made him pay you whether you were employed or not? What was his reason for that ?—I do not know about that.

25,201. How did you vote at the election before ?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

25,202. In 1857 ?—Yes.

25,203. What did you get then ?—Nothing.

25,204. Not anything ?—Nothing.

25,205. Were you employed as a bill-poster then ?—No. I had some bills to post then.

25,206. Were you paid for that ?—Yes.

25,207. Did you get 6*l.* then ?—No, nor yet 3*l.*

25,208. Do you mean to say that the 6*l.* paid you at the last election was not paid you as an inducement to you to abstain from voting?—I do not believe it was.

25,209. Was it not paid for your vote, and was not your reason for not voting that as it turned out you were not wanted ?—I was not wanted.

25,210. Why should he give you 6*l.* for merely posting a few bills ?—All my time was taken up for them.

25,211. How long were you employed ?—Me and my lad were employed about seven days.

25,212. You were paid pretty nearly 1*l.* a day then for you and your lad ?—No, not so much at that.

25,213. How much less do you make it ?—It is a little less.

25,214. Was not that 6*l.* given to you for your vote ?—No.

25,215. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Why did you abstain from voting; why did you not vote ?—Because the election was gone too far, and I was not required.

G. H. Cooke.

GEORGE HOBBS COOKE sworn and examined.

25,216. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,217. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing.

25,218. Did you not receive anything at the last election ?—No.

25,219. Were you a messenger ?—No.

25,220. Was no money paid to you at all with respect to the election ?—No, none at all.

25,221. What are you ?—A sculptor.

25,222. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know Mr. Butt?—Yes.

25,223. Did not he pay you a sum of money ?—He lent me some money.

25,224. How much was it ?—I think 2*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

25,225. What were the circumstances under which he lent you that?—I was distressed. I was arrested, and I met him in the street, and I asked him to get me out of it, and I went to "The New Inn," and he went and got the money for me, and I gave him an I O U for it.

25,226. Have you repaid him since ?—No.

25,227. Was anything said about your vote ?—Nothing.

25,228. Who did you vote for ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,229. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he ever ask you for the money ?—No.

25,230. And you have never offered to pay it ?—No.

25,231. And you never expect to pay it?—If he asks me I must pay it.

25,232. Did you not understand it to be for your vote ?—Certainly not.

25,233. Who did you vote for in 1857 ? — Sir Robert Carden.

25,234. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You would have gone to prison if that money had not been paid?—Yes.

25,235. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive anything for your vote in 1857 ?—No, nothing at all.

B Cooke.

BENJAMIN COOKE sworn and examined.

25,236. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,237. What did you receive for your vote ?—£10.

25,238. Who paid you ?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,239. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where did he pay you?—Over across the road ; in a little room.

25,240. Did you go there by yourself ?—No.

25,241. Somebody else took you there ?—Yes.

25,242. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—I had no vote.

25,243. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you go into the room by yourself, or did the other man go with you ?—We went in both together when we went in, but the other man went out again.

25,244. You stayed behind ?—Yes.

25,245. And then you were paid the 10*l.*?—Yes.

G. Davis.

GEORGE DAVIS sworn and examined.

25,246. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

25,247. What did you get for your vote ?—£4.

25,248. Who paid you ?—Mr. Henley.

25,249. Did you vote in 1857 ?—Yes.

25,250. Who did you vote for?—Berkeley and Price.

25,251. What did you get for your vote then ?—Nothing at all; nor at the election before.

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MATTHEW DAVIS sworn and examined. *M. Davis.*

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25,252, (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

25,253. What did you receive?—£4.

25,254. Who paid you?—Mr. Henley.

25,255. Who did you vote for at the election before?—Mr. Berkeley and Mr. Price.

25,256. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

GEORGE LEACH sworn and examin ed. *G. Leach.*

25,257. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Columbia Street.

25,258. Were you employed at the last election?—No, I was not employed. I was a messenger for the committee.

25,259. What committee?—Sir Robert Carden's.

25,260. What did you receive?—3*s.* 6*d.* a day as long as I was on.

25,261. How much did you receive altogether?—I do not know. I received 3*s.* 6*d.* a day as long as I was on the committee. I do not know the sum of money.

25,262. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many days were you there?—That I do not know.

25,263. Did you go there at all?—Yes.

25,264. Regularly?—Yes, every day.

25,265. For a week or a fortnight, or how long?—Three weeks, I should think.

25,266. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you go there for?—To take out notes.

25,267. Were you one of the persons employed with Clements, the sweep, to take voters away?—No; I was not employed.

25,268. Are you a fighting man; is that your profession?—No; I have learnt a bit. I am a labourer. What I have learnt I have learnt at Mr. Orpin's boxing school.

25,269. Your profession is not fighting. You are not a fighting man?—No.

25,270. But you do fight?—Yes. I stand on my own defence.

26,271. Do you make assaults on other people sometimes?—No.

25,272. Were you one of those men who went to take away Wathen from Orpin's?—Yes.

25,273. Who told you to go there?—On the day of the nomination Mr. Maysey called me, and I went to him, and two or three followed. He says, "I only want Leach." He says, "We have lost one of our voters, and if we can, let us get him away. Mind there is no row; let us get him out quiet."

25,274. You are sure he said, "Mind there is no row?"—Yes. He said, "Try and get him out quiet if you can."

25,275. (*Mr. Welford.*) He meant to get him out at all events, I suppose?—No; get him out quietly.

25,276. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How many went for the purpose of getting this man out quietly?—Me and Mr. Maysey and another tall man. I do not know his name.

25,277. How many more?—And Mr. Clutterbuck.

25,278. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

25,279. And Mr. Maysey?—Yes.

25,280. And you?—Yes.

25,281. And a tall man?—Yes.

25,282. And how many more besides?—I do not know. I did not notice any more. There was Clements, the sweep; I noticed he was outside.

25,283. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that old Clements?—Yes.

25,284. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) There were five of you?—Yes.

25,285. Wathen is an old man, is he not?—Yes.

25,286. Why did you want five of you to take away the old man?—I do not know that at all; there was only me and Mr. Maysey went down together.

25,287. You were not very quiet, were you?—This tall man and Clements were down there when we went.

25,288. You did not take the old man very quietly, did you?—No.

25,289. Did you not tear his coat?—No.

25,290. Did not Wathen resist?—No.

25,291. Will you swear he did not resist?—Yes.

25,292. Did you not push a woman down?—No.

25,293. Was not Orpin's wife there?—Yes.

25,294. Did you not push her down?—That I will swear I did not.

25,295. Did you not see her on the ground?—No, I did not.

25,296. Did Wathen tell you not to take him away? No, he did not.

25,297. Are you quite sure about that?—I am positive he did not.

25,298. Where did you take him to?—We took him up to Mr. Clutterbuck's, and then the cabman turned round, and took him up to Mr. Lane's on the Cheltenham Road.

25,299. And you went with him?—Yes.

25,300. To take care of him?—No.

25,301. Did you stop with him?—No, not a minute.

25,302. How came the cabman to turn round?—I do not know. I suppose some one gave him orders to go to Mr. Lane's.

25,303. It was not voluntary on his part?—No, I think not.

25,304. He was taken to Mr. Lane's?—Yes.

25,305. How long did you stop there?—I should say about three minutes.

25,306. Who did you leave in charge of him?—A man by the name of Brown.

25,307. Who is Brown?—I do not know. I think he is a labourer. He was up there.

25,308. That was necessary, in order to prevent the old man getting away, I suppose?—No; I did not leave any man in charge. I think Brown was up there.

25,309. He was left in charge of the old man, was he not?—Not to my knowledge.

25,310. You left Brown there with him, did you not?—Brown was up there, and two women.

25,311. Who went with him in the fly?—Me and that tall man.

24,312. Surely you know the name of the tall man?—No, I do not. I should know him if I was to see him.

25,313. Who else?—Clements.

25,314. You and the tall man and Clements went with him in the fly?—Yes; and Clements got out on the way, and came back again.

25,315. Of course if Wathen had tried to get away he could not have got away from you three, could he?—No, he could not; but he came very quietly. He did not seem to resist; he did not seem to want to go back again.

25,316. Did you go down to "The Nelson" at Rudford?—No.

25,317. Did you not go with Clements, the sweep?—No.

25,318. Were you not paid this 3*s.* 6*d.* a day for the purpose of heading the roughs, and going about and assaulting voters, and making rows at different places?—No.

25,319. You will swear that, will you?—I will swear that.

25,320. Who put you on the committee? Who employed you?—Mr. Griffiths.

25,321. Who is Mr. Griffiths? Is he Mr. Lovegrove's clerk?—Yes.

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G. Leach.

27 Oct. 1859.

25,322. Who paid you ?—Mr. Griffiths.

253,23. What were you doing on the day of the election ?—I went to Lane's. No; that was the nomination day. On the day of the election I was at home pretty well all day. I was up in town walking about part of the day.

25,324. But you were at home nearly all day ?—I was up in town different times, walking about.

25,325. Doing nothing ?—Doing nothing.

25,326. Were you told to look round, and see if you could see a voter ?—No.

25,327. You were never told by Mr. Whithorn to do that ? — No ; I do not recollect seeing Mr. Whithorn.

25,328. You say you were doing nothing on the election day. Were you not fighting on the day of the election opposite Sir Robert Carden's committee-room ?—That was at 11 o'clock at night.

25,329. You were fighting ?—Yes; there was a bit of a row ; a man upset a pint of ale over me, and I struck him for it.

25,330. Were you not fighting in the day, during the time the polling was going on ? — I was not fighting ; there was a bit of a skirmish; I did not strike a blow.

25,331. What were you having a skirmish about ? —I do not know ; I had a little drink, and it got up in my head.

25,332. Were you not skirmishing with the object of preventing the Liberal voters going up and voting ? —I was not ; I did not insult or stop any one from going up to vote.

25,333. Who were the skirmishers ?—The skirmish was between me and some voter ; he insulted me.

25,334. You were always the injured party, were you ?—No.

25,335. (*Mr. Welford.*) Your lessons in the boxing school do not prevent people putting insults upon you, do they, according to your account ?—No.

25,336. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it not a part of your duty and were you not paid to fight with the supporters of the Liberal party ?—No.

25,337. That you swear ?—I swear it.

T. Davis.

THOMAS DAVIS sworn and examined.

25,338. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is your name ?—Thomas Davis, or Davis Thomas, whichever you like.

25,339. What are you generally called ?—Thomas Davis.

25,340. Who did you vote for at the last election ? —For Sir Robert Carden.

25,341. What did you receive for your vote ?—Nothing at all, except my good will.

25,342. You received nothing ?—Certainly not.

25,343. Were you employed as a messenger ?—No.

25,344. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,345. Did you receive anything then ?—1*s.*; and that was beforehand, when I wanted something to drink.

25,346. Who gave you that ?—That was Mr. Whithorn.

25,347. Was that all you received ?—That was all I ever received.

25,348. Did you ask for anything ?—I did not.

25,349. Do you know Mr. Henley, the bookseller ? —Yes, I know him.

25,350. Did he ever offer you 5*l.* 10*s.* for your vote ?—He did not. If he had I should not have accepted it.

W. Day.

WILLIAM DAY sworn and examined.

25,351. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk.

25,352. What did you receive at the last election ? —Mr. Lea made me a present of a sovereign in the morning.

25,353. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) For your vote ?—I do not know whether it was for my vote.

25,354. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did he say ?—I was just going to the poll, and I told him it was a poor Saturday night ; and he said, "Well," says he, "here is to make up something for you." He never asked me for a vote, and I never promised him.

25,355. How were you going to vote before ?—The same.

25,356. For Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk ?—Yes.

25,357. Who canvassed you ?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,358. Who had you promised your vote to ?—To Mr. Carden and Mr. Monk.

25,359. Mr. Lea gave you this 1*l.*?—Yes.

25,360. Did you tell him how you were going to vote ?—Yes. He did not know that I had a vote till some time after I had promised my vote.

25,361. But on the morning when Mr. Lea gave you the 1*l.* did you tell him how you were going to vote ?—He knew before.

25,362. What made you say it was a poor Saturday night ?—Because I had not done much work.

25,363. What did you think the sovereign was for? —It was a present.

25,364. He did not usually give away sovereigns in that way, did he ?—Not that I know of.

25,365. Which party does Mr. Lea belong to ?—I do not know ; I believe he belongs to the Liberal party.

25,366. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you not consider that that sovereign was paid you for your vote?—I do not.

25,367. (*Mr. Welford.*) If you had not been going to vote do you think you would have had the sovereign?—I do not know ; it is according to circumstances. If Mr. Lea thought I wanted a sovereign I have not the least doubt he would have given me one.

25,368. Do you think he would have given you a sovereign if you had not had a vote ?—I do not believe that he would.

25,369. Do you not believe that it was given to you for your vote ?—I cannot say.

25,370. Can you say it was for anything else ?—It might have been for that.

25,371. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—Sir Robert Carden and Admiral Berkeley.

25,372. Did you get anything then ?—Nothing.

25,373. Not on either side ?—No.

25,374. What are your political opinions ?—Well, Sir, I vote for my own sake, where my bread lies mostly.

25,375. You vote for your own interest ?—Yes.

J. Emmings.

JOHN EMMINGS sworn and examined.

25,376. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for in 1859 ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

25,377. What did you get for your vote ?—£6.

25,378. Who gave it you ?—Mr. Payne.

25,379. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Berkeley.

25,380. What did you get for your vote then ?—£6.

25,381. Who gave it you ?—Thomas Evans.

25,382. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is Thomas Evans ? —A boot and shoe maker.

25,383. (*Mr. Welford*) What time in the day did he give it to you ?—It might be a quarter to three or a quarter after three.

25,384. The latter end of the day ?—Yes.

25,385. Are you sure it was 6*l.* or 6*l.* 10*s.* ?—£6.

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JOHN EDWARDS sworn and examined. *J. Edwards.*

27 Oct. 1859.

25,386. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last elestion ?—Sir Robert Walter Carden.
25,387. What did you receive ?—£10.
25,388. Who from ?—Mrs. Gainey.
25,389. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.
25,390. What did you receive then ?—I forget whether it was 1*l.* or 30*s* ; but it was one of the two, I am certain.
25,391. From Mr. Whithorn ?—Yes ; but I cannot recollect whether it was 1*l.* or 30*s*.
25,392. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) How much did you receive at the last election ?—£10.
25,393. You received it yourself ?—Yes.
25,394. The whole money ?—Yes.
25,395. Did you pay any money out of that to Stamper ?—No.
25,396. No money ?—No ; I cannot recollect paying him anything.
25,397. Did you make him any allowance out of it ?—No.
25,398. Are you sure of it ?—Yes, I am quite sure of it.
25,399. Did you make any allowance to anybody ?—I made some little allowance to a man that called me up the night before the election. I gave him 5*s*.
25,400. Who was that ?—Newth.
25,401. Did you give Mrs. Gainey anything ?—I think I gave her 1*s*., or something like that.
25,402. Did you not give her 10*s*. ?—No, I did not.
25,403. Did you pay for some drink ?—Yes ; I paid for some drink.
25,404. Out of the money ?—Yes.
25,405. You stood treat ?—Yes.
25,406. How much did you pay ?—I cannot tell.
25,407. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many did you treat ?—I cannot tell.
25,408. Were there a good many people there who you treated ?—I do not know.
25,409. Did you pay 1*l.* in treating ?—No, I should not think it was.
25,410. What should you think it was ?—I cannot tell exactly.
25,411. Was Stamper there when you treated those people ?—No, he was not ; not to my remembrance.
25,412. Are you quite certain that you did not give any money to Stamper ?—I am quite certain.
25,413. Are you quite certain that you got the 10*l.* which you say you received for your vote ?—I did.
25,414. The whole money ?—I did.
25,415. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you give this 5*s*. on the day of the polling ?—Yes ; after I had polled. I did not receive anything till after I had polled.
25,416. You received the 10*l.* after you had polled?—Yes.
25,417. And you immediately gave the 5*s*. ?—Yes.
25,418. And 1*s*. to Mrs. Gainey ?—Yes.
25,419. Did this treating other people take place on the same day ?—Yes.
25,420. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At Mrs. Gainey's ?—Yes.
25,421. How much did you have when you got home ?—I cannot say.
25,422. Were you drunk yourself that night ?—No.
24,423. How much had you next morning ?—Something like 7*l.* or 8*l.*
25,424. Are you a married man ?—Yes.
25,425. Did you give it to your wife ?—No.

WILLIAM FLETCHER sworn and examined. *W. Fletcher.*

25,426. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.
25,427. What did you receive for your vote ?—£5 from Mr. Hawkins.
25,428. Mr. Hawkins, the draper, do you mean ?—Yes.
25,429. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,430. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.
25,431. Were you a messenger ?—No.
25,432. You got nothing either before or after the election for your vote ?—No.

CHARLES FORD sworn and examined. *C. Ford.*

25,433. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.
25,434. What did you receive ?—£2.
25,435. From whom did you receive it ?—From Mr. Ayres.
25,436. Who did you vote for at the election before ?—Price and Berkeley.
25,437. Did you receive anything then for your vote ?—No.

JAMES GRAY sworn and examined. *J. Gray.*

25,438. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at he last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,439. What did you receive for your vote ?—£9 13*s*.
25,440. From whom did you receive it ?—From Obadiah Clutterbuck.
25,441. Who did you vote for at the former election ?—Price and Carden.
25,442. In 1857 ?—Yes.
25,443. What did you receive then?—Not anything.
25,444. Not on either side ?—Not on either side.
25,445. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are your principles; Blue or Yellow ?—I have voted on both sides; Blue principally.
25,446. How came you to vote for Mr. Price in 1857 ?—I had voted for him previous to that.
25,447. (*Mr. Welford*) Was that because he was a neighbour ?—Because he was a citizen of the town.

CHARLES HARDING sworn and examined. *C. Harding.*

25,448. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden.
25,449. What did you get for your vote ?—I got 2*l.* 10*s*. some time after the election.
25,450. Who gave it to you ?—Mr. Brimmell.
25,451. Was not that for your vote ?—I suppose if I had not given my vote I should not have had it.
25,452. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—I did not vote at all.
25,453. Had you no vote then ?—No.

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H. Harris.

27 Oct. 1859.

HENRY HARRIS sworn and examined.

25,454. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,455. What did you get for your vote?—Nothing at all.

25,456. Where do you live?—In Berkeley Street in the city of Gloucester.

25,457. Is there another Henry Harris in Berkeley Street?—There is another Henry Harris.

25,458. You voted for Sir Robert Carden?—Yes.

25,459. And you received nothing for your vote?—No.

25,460. Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden in the election before?—Yes.

25,461. You never received anything?—No.

25,462. Have you given any bribe, or offered any bribe to anybody on either side?—No.

25,463. I rather think you are the wrong Henry Harris?—There are several persons of the name of Henry Harris.

G. Hunt.

GEORGE HUNT sworn and examined.

25,464. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

24,465. What did you receive for your vote?—£2.

25,466. From whom did you receive it?—It was sent to me by Mr. Maysey.

25,467. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,468. What did you receive then?—30*s.*

25,469. Who did you receive it from?—I was paid at the committee-room, because I lit the fire and slept there at nights.

25,470. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who paid you the money?—I was paid at the committee-room; I picked it off the table.

25,471. Nobody gave it to you?—No.

25,472. You picked it off the table?—I picked it off the table.

25,473. That was for your vote, was it not?—That was what I had.

25,474. It was for your vote, was it not?—I suppose so; unless it was for my time and trouble.

25,475. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What time and trouble had you?—I was there at night, and I was there in the morning lighting the fires.

25,476. You had to sleep there?—Yes.

25,477. That 30*s.* was for your vote and your trouble?—You may call it so, if you please.

E. Harman.

EDWARD HARMAN sworn and examined.

25,478. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,479. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,480. Who paid you that?—Richard Webb.

25,481. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

25,482. Had you no vote then?—No.

25,483. Is Richard Webb a pork-butcher?—Yes.

J. Husbands.

JOHN HUSBANDS sworn and examined.

25,484. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,485. And who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

25,486. Did you receive anything for your vote at the last election?—No. I received 8*l.* this last election; that was for damage done to the house from the water coming in. £5 was due from Mr. Helps, part of 10*l.* which had been owing four years, and the other 3*l.*, making the 8*l.*, was for the use of my house for the municipal election. £5 was part of the 10*l.* which had been owing four years. £5 he paid in March last, and the other 5*l.* was left unpaid; and Mr. Whithorn brought it me the night previous to the election, and put it on my table, and says, "Off early to-morrow morning;" meaning that I was not to vote all.

25,487. He said that in words?—He said that in words, in the presence of my wife and daughter.

25,488. You did not choose to go off?—I did not, and I voted for Price and Monk.

25,489. You understood that that 3*l.* was for the use of your house?—Yes; for the municipal election.

25,490. That was a sum due to you?—Yes; and the 5*l.* was due also. I had been waiting four years for it.

25,491. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) On what account was it due to you?—Four years ago, I should tell you, that I lived next to St. Michael's Church, and we had a very heavy storm of rain, which destroyed or injured part of my goods, and it was agreed at the vestry meeting that I should have 10*l.* allowed me for the loss, which I applied for several times to Mr. Helps during the four years. He was one of the churchwardens; and in March last he paid 5*l.* in part payment; the other 5*l.* was left unpaid; until the last election the other five was not paid.

25,492. Who was your claim against?—The churchwardens.

25,493. Was it against the churchwardens?—Yes; it was against the churchwardens of the parish.

25,494. Then that 5*l.* was paid you, you think, to induce you to vote on Mr. Whithorn's side?—My opinion is that the 8*l.* was given, thinking I should go out of town. He came round at ten o'clock at night, and placed the money on the table, and he says, "Is it any good asking you to vote for us?" and I said, "No; do not ask me, because I shall "not." Then he says, "Off early to-morrow morn-"ing;" and instead of going off early to-morrow morning to serve the Conservative party I went off and polled for Price and Monk.

25,495. You received nothing for voting for the Liberals?—No.

25,496. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You had no claim against Mr. Whithorn, had you? A claim of 3*l.* and the remaining 5*l.* from our mayor.

25,497. (*Mr. Welford.*) The 5*l.* was against the parish?—Yes; and Mr. Helps is one of the churchwardens.

25,498. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you understand, when Mr. Whithorn gave you this 8*l.*, that he gave it you out of monies belonging to the candidate?—He did not say that, but he placed it on the table. I should say a fortnight before that, he came in and said, "How is this election to be?" I said, "I do "not know which way it is to be, I have nothing to "do with your party;" and he said, "I shall make "that all right," meaning that he should give me some money; and the night previous to the election, he came in about a quarter to ten. I was then smoking a pipe; and he put the money on the table.

25,499. Where did you understand that that money came from?—I should say from the party; there is no doubt it did.

25,500. Up to that time you had allowed him to be under the delusion or under the belief that you might vote for them if you received this money?—I think he thought I should go out of town.

25,501. Not that you would vote, but that you would go away, and not vote at all?—Not vote at all.

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JESSE HOOPER sworn and examined. *J. Hooper.* 28 Oct. 1859.

25,502. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Walter Carden.

25,503. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 8*l.*

25,504. From whom?—From Mr. Whithorn.

25,505. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—I did not vote at all at the election before.

25,506. Had you no vote?—No.

GEORGE IRELAND sworn and examined. *G. Ireland.*

25,507. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Messrs. Price and Monk.

25,508. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,509. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Roberts, of the Albion Hotel; he paid me 5*l.*

25,510. Mr. Roberts keeps the Albion Hotel, does he?—Yes.

25,511. Who did you vote for at the election of 1857?—I did not vote at all; whether I had a vote or not I did not know. I went and claimed my vote, and I had a notice of objection, and I did not trouble myself any further about it.

25,512. You did not vote in 1857?—No.

GEORGE KENT sworn and examined. *G. Kent.*

25,513. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election in 1859?—Sir Walter Carden and Mr. Monk.

25,514. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

25,515. Do you live in the Island?—I did; I have removed now.

25,516. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive no money at the last election at all?—No, I did not.

25,517. Did you receive no money from Mr. Wilkes?—I did not receive any money for my vote; I never did in my life. I received some afterwards.

25,518. Tell us the circumstances under which you received it?—About a month after the election I received my own money from him. Sir Robert Carden came, and I promised to vote for him. Mr. Monk came, and I told him if I voted for Sir Robert Carden I would give him the other. Some time after that Mr. Wilkes, my solicitor, calls, and he asks me to favour him with a vote for Price and Monk. I said, "No, I shall not do that; I have "promised."

25,519. That was before the election?—After I had been canvassed by Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk, Mr. Wilkes says, "I want you to favour me "with a vote for Price;" and I said, "I shall not "do that." I did not say I had promised either. I told him about the money he had kept back of mine. He gave me a cheque for 10*l.* less than he ought to have done; and he said, "If you will vote for Price "and Monk I will hand over your 10*l.*" I said, "No; I shall not do that. I shall vote for Monk "and Carden, as I have promised;" and he said, "Then I will hand you over the 10*l.*"

25,520. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was not Mr. Wilkes your attorney?—He is.

25,521. Had he not got a bill of costs against you?—I did not know what he had got against me.

25,522. Did you not owe him money for law charges?—Not that I was aware of at that time.

25,523. Did he not say that he retained 10*l.* to satisfy law charges?—No, he did not. The clerk said Mr. Wilkes would see me upon it. He had got a debt in his hands which he had got for me from Dimmock.

25,524. Did he not pay you all the money except 10*l.*?—Yes.

25,525. Had you paid him anything for law expenses?—No.

25,526. Did he not afterwards pay you 10*l.*?—Yes; my own 10*l.* he handed over, which of course he had.

24,527. You had paid him nothing for law expenses?—No; because I had not had his account; he had made no claim.

25,528. Do you expect to pay him law charges?—Yes, of course; what he charges.

25,529. You quite expect it?—Yes.

25,530. You did not at all understand that that 10*l.* was handed back to you because it was not intended by Mr. Wilkes to make you any law charges?—I do not know what you mean. Of course I expected he would make a charge upon me for what work he had done for me before.

25,531. Do you swear that you did not understand that if you would vote for Mr. Monk and Mr. Price he would not charge you anything for the law business he had done for you?—Certainly not; he never put it so to me. If I had been aware it was going to be treated as a bribe I would not have received anything from him. I consider I have received my own money, and nothing else.

25,532. And you consider that whatever charge Mr. Wilkes has against you for that business is still owing by you?—Yes, I do.

25,533. And you are liable to pay him?—Yes.

25,534. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you always considered so?—Yes.

25,535. Did you vote in 1857?—I did not. I would not be troubled with them.

25,536. You did not vote on either side?—No. I have had a vote these ten years; but I have never had a penny for my vote.

25,537. Do you know that Mr. Wilkes some time ago in this court said that he gave you this 10*l.* in satisfaction of charges to that amount?—No. I heard he said that he stopped back 10*l.* of my money.

25,538. Hearing that Mr. Wilkes said that, have you been to him?—No, I have not. I saw him last week, and I blamed him for wanting to put it upon that, because of course it was my own money. I thought if I could vote the way I had promised him and have my own money I might as well.

25,539. Did you offer to pay him the money you owed him?—No.

25,540. Do you expect that he has squared the account with you?—No; I wish he had; he has done several things for me.

25,541. But with respect to this transaction?—No. It will be added together. I shall have a bill, no doubt.

WILLIAM LLOYD sworn and examined. *W. Lloyd.*

25,542. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,543. What did you receive for your vote?—£8.

25,544. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,545. Where did you receive that?—In the committee-room.

25,546. Who was present when you received it, besides Mr. Whithorn and yourself?—Two more of us.

25,547. Who were they?—Cooper and Cooke.

25,548. Did they see the money paid to you; or did they go out of the room, and leave you?—They saw the money paid.

25,549. Who did you vote for in 1857?—I had no vote then.

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J. Lodge.

JOSEPH LODGE sworn and examined.

27 Oct. 1859.

25,550. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for in 1859?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,551. What did you get for your vote?—£7.

25,552. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn and Mr. Hanman.

25,553. Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

25,554. Did you get anything then?—Yes.

25,555. How much did you receive?—£6. from Mr. Whithorn.

25,556. In 1859 did you get 3*l.* from Mr. Whithorn or 4*l.*?—£4.

25,557. And 3*l.* from Mr. Hanman?—Yes.

T. Lapington.

THOMAS LAPINGTON sworn and examined.

25,558. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,559. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,560. Who paid you?—James Jeffs.

25,561. Was that Mr. Jeffs the carver and gilder?—Yes.

25,562. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Berkeley and Price.

25,563. What did you receive then?—Thirty shillings as a messenger.

25,564. What did you do for that?—Well, I tried to get as many votes as I could.

25,565. You did not attend at the committee-room, did you?—Several times I did.

25,566. To report what you had done in the way of canvassing?—Yes.

25,567. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you paid the 30*s.* by Brewer Monk?—I was.

Adjourned to to-morrow at ten o'clock.

Twenty-fourth Day.—28th October 1859.

F. Lines.

FREDERICK LINES sworn and examined.

28. Oct. 1859.

25,568. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,569. What did you receive for your vote?—£2 10*s.*

25,570. Who paid you?—Mr. Brimmell.

25,571. Who did you vote for in 1857?—This last election was the first time I voted.

25,572. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in a house of your own?—Yes.

25,573. Are you the tenant of it?—I am the tenant of the house.

25,574. Is it in Gloucester that you live?—Yes; High Orchard.

25,575. What is the rent of your house?—£10 a year.

M. Mathews.

MATTHEW MATTHEWS sworn and examined.

25,576. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,577. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,578. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,579. Who did you vote for at the election before?—Sir Robert Carden and Admiral Berkeley.

25,580. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

25,581. Nothing from either side?—No.

J. Miles.

JOHN MILES sworn and examined.

25,582. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,583. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,584. Who paid it?—Mr. Bryon.

25,585. Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—Yes.

25,586. Who did you vote for at the election before?—I had no vote then.

25,587. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Gloucester?—Yes.

25,588. What do you pay for your house?—Ten guineas a year.

T. Meadows.

THOMAS MEADOWS sworn and examined.

25,589. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Carden.

25,590. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

25,591. Who from?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,592. Who did you vote for at the election before?—Mr. Carden.

25,593. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all. My expenses I charged, but I was never paid.

25,594. What did you charge?—Half a sovereign.

25,595. But you did not get it?—No.

25,596. (*Mr. Vauyhan.*) How came you to charge that?—I charged it for my expenses, because I came eight miles.

25,597. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a 10*l.* householder?—Ten guineas.

J. Meredith.

JAMES MEREDITH sworn and examined.

25,598. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,599. What did you receive?—Nothing at all for my vote.

25,600. What did you receive for anything else?—£9 12*s.* 4*d.*

25,601. What was that for?—For drink that was supplied at my house.

25,602. Do you keep a public-house?—Yes.

25,603. What is the name of it?—"The Star," in Alvin Street.

25,604. Who gave you the order for that 9*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*?—I was asked by Mr. Maysey and others whether I would get up a supper, and I told them I would not, and they told me to supply some drink.

25,605. Did they give you an unlimited order?—

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No; I was to go on according as the people were sent. Canvassers and one person and another called in and had some.

25,606. Voters and canvassers?—Yes; at different times.

25,607. How long was that going on?—It was going on a week, or it might be a fortnight.

25,608. Before the election?—Yes.

25,609. Was it in consequence of that order that you voted for Sir Robert Carden?—No; I always voted Blue.

J. Meredith.

28 Oct. 1859.

25,610. Did you vote for Carden in 1857?—No. I happened to be out of the city at that time, but I voted twice for Mr. Hope, and promised him once.

25,611. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was all drink that you supplied, which amounted to 9*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*?—There was one that had tea and breakfast and something before the election.

25,612. What you supplied was supplied to messengers and voters?—Yes.

HENRY MEADOWS sworn and examined.

H. Meadows.

25,613. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Mr. Carden.

25,614. What did you receive for your vote?—£4.

25,615. Who from?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,616. Who did you vote for at the election before in 1857?—Mr. Carden.

25,617. What did you receive then?—£2, and I gave 5*s.* back.

25,618. Who gave it you?—Thomas Miles.

25,619. Does he live at Stonehouse?—Yes.

25,620. What did you give the 5*s.* back for?—I do not know; for getting the money for me.

25,621. Did he canvass you for your vote?—No.

25,622. Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a shopkeeper.

25,623. What is your rent?—£15.

25,624. In what street do you live?—Westgate Street.

25,625. What are you?—A fruiterer and fishmonger.

CHARLES NEWTH sworn and examined.

C Newth.

25,626. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,627. What did you receive for your vote?—£10.

25,628. Who from?—Mrs. Gainey of "The Pilot."

25,629. Who did you vote for at the election before?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,630. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.

25,631. Nothing of any kind?—Not of any kind.

25,632. Are you a householder?—Yes.

25,633. How much is your rent?—£16 a year.

25,634. What are you?—A plumber.

25,635. Whereabouts is your house?—In the Bristol Road.

25,636. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you give anything back out of that 10*l.*?—No, I did not.

25,637. You received the whole of the money?—Yes.

25,638. And put it in your pocket, and went home?—Yes.

25,639. Did you spend any money in treating?—Yes; about 3*s.* or 4*s.*

25,640. Not more than that?—Not more than that.

ELIZABETH PARRY sworn and examined.

E. Parry.

25,641. (*Mr. Welford.*) You are the wife of William Parry?—Yes.

25,642. Where does he live?—In Long Smith Street.

25,643. Is he a householder or a freeman?—A householder.

25,644. What is his business?—He works on the water.

25,645. In the boats?—No; he is the captain of a vessel.

25,646. Who did he vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,647. Do you know what he received for his vote?—I received 5*l.* for his expenses.

25,648. Who paid you?—Mr. Evans.

25,649. Mr. Thomas Evans?—Yes.

25,650. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where was your husband then?—He was at Stourport the day before.

25,651. Where did he come from?—He came from Bollow the polling morning; but he came from Stourport the day before, and then he had to pay a man to take charge of his boat.

25,652. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How much was that?—I do not know.

25,653. Did it cost him altogether 5*l.*?—It may have cost him more, because it put him out of his work.

25,654. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did he go back?—He went back next day.

25,655. In what way did he come home?—He came home by train.

25,656. That could not have cost him much out of the 5*l.*?—No.

25,657. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you hear your husband say how much he had to pay the man for taking charge of his boat?—No.

25,658. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who promised you the 5*l.*?—It was I who received the money.

25,659. Mr. Evans came and told you, that if your husband would vote he should be paid?—Yes.

25,660. What did he say?—He should be allowed his expenses.

25,661. Was that before he voted?—The evening before.

25,662. You did not give in any account of his expenses, I suppose?—No.

25,663. But they gave him 5*l.* for his expenses and his vote?—Yes.

25,664. Who did he vote for in 1857?—He had no vote.

JOHN HYETT PHELPS sworn and examined.

J. H. Phelps.

25,665. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,666. What did you receive?—£7 10*s.*

25,667. From whom?—Mr. Hawkins.

25,668. Mr. Hawkins, the draper?—Yes.

25,669. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not vote at all; I was not on the register.

25,670. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A tailor.

25,671. Where do you live?—In Longsmith Street.

25,672. What is your rent?—£13 8*s.*

25,673. Are you a master tailor or a journeyman?—I work; I am a journeyman.

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H. Rees.

HENRY REES sworn and examined.

28 Oct. 1859.

25,674. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are you a householder or a freeman ?—A householder.

25,675. What are you ?—I am a rope manufacturer.

25,676. Are you a master ?—Yes.

25,677. What is your rental ?—£13 a year.

25,678. Does that include your workshop ?—Yes ; part of it.

25,679. That is all the rent you pay ?—No ; I have another rental besides that.

25,680. Is that in the borough ?—No ; it is a little way out of town.

25,681. That is your workshop ?—Yes ; a shop.

25,682. Who did you vote for at the last election? —Price and Monk.

25,683. What did you receive for your vote ?—I received nothing for my vote.

25,684. What did you receive ?—I had 2*l.* given to me as I was going up the Westgate Street.

25,685. Who by ?—By John Ayers, junior.

25,686. Was that given you for having voted ?—I do not know ; there was no word said ; there was 2*l.* put into my hand.

25,687. You understood that that was for having voted, did you not ?—I demanded nothing, and never did, at any election.

25,688. You considered this as a gratuity for having voted, did you not ?—I supposed it was for that, but I did not demand it.

25,689. But you accepted it, and kept it ?—It was very acceptable.

25,690. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You did not look upon it as an insult ?—By no means.

25,691. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Price and Berkeley.

25,692. Did you receive anything then ?—No; I received nothing at any other election, and I did not demand anything at this.

25,693. But still, being offered it, you accepted it? —Certainly.

J. Rea.

JAMES REA sworn and examined.

25,694. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

25,695. What did you receive for your vote ?— Nothing at all.

25,696. Not for anything?—No.

25,697. Not as a messenger ?—No.

25,698. Did you receive nothing for expenses ?— No.

25,699. You were not paid at all ?—No, not at all.

25,700. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you mean to say you did not receive 10*l.* from Mr. Whithorn ?—No. I was promised 5*l.* by him, but I was not paid it.

25,701. (*Mr. Welford.*) How was it that he did not give it you ?—Because I did not run after him.

25,702. You voted for Price and Monk ?—Yes.

25,703. Had you promised Mr. Whithorn to vote for Carden ?—No.

25,704. How came Mr. Whithorn to promise you 5*l.*?—He came to "The Nag's Head," and called me out of the house, and promised me 5*l.* to vote for Carden, and I would not promise him.

25,705. He told you he would give you 5*l.* if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.

25,706. And you did not ?—No.

25,707. Did you not get anything from the other side ?—No.

25,708. Are you quite sure of that ?—Yes.

25,709. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Price and Berkeley.

25,710. Did you receive anything then ?—No, nothing of any sort.

25,711. What are you ?—I am a porter for Price and Company.

25,712. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you quite sure you did not ask Mr. Whithorn for 10*l.*?—Yes.

25,713. Where did you see him ?—At "The Nag's Head."

25,714. Did he come to you, or did you go to him? —He came to me, along with one Edwin Draysey; he offered me 5*l.*

25,715. Did you ask him for it ?—No, I did not. He offered it me.

25,716. And you would not take it ?—I would not have it. I did not like the colour.

F. Reece.

FREDERICK REECE sworn and examined.

25,717. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—For Price and Monk.

25,718. What did you receive for your vote ?— £10.

25,719. Who from ?—Jefferson Bryon.

25,720. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—Price and Berkeley.

25,721. Did you receive anything then?—Not a cent.

25,722. Nothing ?—Nothing.

25,723. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—A householder.

25,724. What rent do you pay ?—£10 a year.

25,725. Exactly ?—Yes.

25,726. What is your business ?—I am a pilot.

H. Rees.

HENRY REES sworn and examined.

25,727. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election in 1859 ?—Price and Monk.

25,728. What did you receive for your vote ?—I received 2*l.* after I had voted.

25,729. Who gave you that ?—John Ayers.

25,730. John Ayers, junior ?—Yes.

25,731. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—I had no vote then.

25,732. Are you a freeman or a householder ?—I am a householder.

25,733. What is your rent ?—Ten guineas.

25,734. What is your business ?—A rope-maker.

25,735. Do you carry on rope-making at your own house ?—No ; not lately.

J. Richards.

JOHN RICHARDS sworn and examined.

25,736. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,737. What did you receive for your vote ?— Ten guineas.

25,738. Who from ?—Mrs. Gainey.

25,739. Did you receive all the money yourself, and keep it ?—I did.

25,740. Did you spend any in treating, or did you give anything back ?—No.

25,741. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—I did not vote at all.

25,742. Had you no vote ?—Yes ; but I did not vote at all.

25,743. What are you ?—A carpenter.

25,744. Are you a householder ?—Yes.

25,745. What is your rental ?—12*l.* 10*s.*

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GEORGE STERRY sworn and examined. *G. Sterry.*

28 Oct. 1859.

25,746. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,747. How much did you get?—£5.
25,748. Who from?—Mr. Whithorn.
25,749. Did you vote in 1857?—No.
25,750. Had you no vote at that time?—No.
25,751. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—A beer-house keeper.
25,752. What is your rental?—£22 a year.

BENJAMIN SCHOLLAR sworn and examined. *B. Schollar.*

25,753. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.
25,754. What did you receive for your vote?—£4.
25,755. Who gave it to you?—John Ayers.
25,756. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Price and Berkeley.
25,757. What did you receive then?—Nothing.
25,758. What are you?—I work for Mr. Price, the timber merchant.
25,759. Are you a householder?—Yes.
25,760. What is your rental?—It is lower now; it was 13*l.* a year; it is 9*l.* a year now.
25,761. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were you struck off the list this year?—Yes.

WILLIAM TYLEY sworn and examined. *W. Tyley.*

25,762. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,763. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 2*l.* after I had voted; but I did not consider it anything of a bribe.
25,764. Who paid it you?—Mr. Parker.
25,765. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) William Parker?—Yes.
25,766. (*Mr. Welford.*) You kept it, I suppose?—Yes.
25,767. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,768. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all.
25,769. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You had no objection to be paid for your vote, had you?—If they offered me I was not against taking it; but I never had it before.
25,770. What are you?—A baker.
25,771. A master baker?—Yes; I do a little for myself.
25,772. Do you not think that having been paid once you will consider yourself entitled to it on another occasion?—If I was offered anything I should receive it; not without.
25,773. What is your rental?—£16 a year.

JAMES WILLIAMS sworn and examined. *J. Williams.*

25,774. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—No one; I did not vote at all.
25,775. For whom did you vote at the election in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.
25,776. What did you receive for your vote?—30*s.*
25,777. Who paid you?—I had it of one of the men that came with me.
25,778. Who was that?—William Shott gave it to me.
25,779. Was he to take you up to the poll or to the committee-room?—Yes; we both went together. I had it brought to me after I had polled.
25,780. The same day?—Yes.
25,781. Who did he get it from?—I do not know.
25,782. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a householder.
25,783. What is your rent?—£10.
25,784. What are you?—I am a labourer.
25,785. You work at the docks, I suppose?—Yes.
25,786. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you not receive ten guineas?—No.
25,787. If Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck says he gave you ten guineas, that is not true?—It was not me, then; that is another Williams.
25,788. What Joseph Williams is that?—I do not know whether it is him that is at the docks.
25,789. Do you know Mr. Jefferson Bryon?—Yes; I know him.
25,790. Did he give you anything?—No.
25,791. Did he give you ten shillings?—No.
25,792. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who do you work for?—For the canal company.
25,793. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who is Mr. Shott?—He works for Mr. Blizzard, a provision merchant.

RICHARD WRIGHT sworn and examined. *R. Wright.*

25,794. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.
25,795. What did you receive for your vote?—£8.
25,796. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Gregory.
25,797. Who did you vote for at the election before?—I had no vote.
25,798. Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a householder.
25,799. What is your business?—I am a china and earthenware dealer.
25,800. What rent do you pay?—My rent is 26*l.*
25,801. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive the whole of that 8*l.*?—Yes.
25,802. You did not give back any part of it?—No.
25,803. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you offered money on the other side?—Yes; I was offered 10*l.*
25,804. By whom?—By Mr. Isaac James of "The Talbot" Inn.
25,805. What public house does he keep?—"The Talbot."
25,806. That was to vote for Sir Robert Carden, was it?—Yes.

JAMES WEAVER sworn and examined. *J. Weaver.*

25,807. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.
25,808. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.
25,809. From whom did you receive it?—From Mr. Lea, the grocer.
25,810. Who did you vote for in 1857?—For Mr. Carden.
25,811. What did you receive then?—A sovereign.
25,812. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Whithorn.

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J. Weaver.

28 Oct. 1859.

25,813. What are you ?—I am a plasterer.

25,814. Are you a householder ?—Yes.

25,815. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Where did you get that sovereign from Mr. Whithorn ?—In the committee-room.

25,816. (*Mr. Welford.*) In a little room ?—Yes; it was in a room.

25,817. Was anybody else there ?—Yes.

25,818. Did you go in by yourself ?—Yes.

25,819. Did you find Mr. Whithorn there, or did he come to you ?—He came in. Somebody told me I could see him if I went in that room, and I went there, and he came in.

25,820. Were there other people standing about?—No.

25,821. It was on the day of the election ?—Yes.

25,822. What is your rental ?—£10.

L. Whittington.

LUKE WHITTINGTON sworn and examined.

25,823. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ?—I am a plasterer.

25,824. What rent do you pay ?—£12 a year.

25,825. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

25,826. What did you receive for your vote ?—£6.

25,827. Who did you receive it from ?—Charles Winfield, a shoemaker.

25,828. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857 ?—I had no vote then.

D. Windo.

DANIEL WINDO sworn and examined.

25,829. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Messrs. Price and Monk.

25,830. What did you receive for your vote ?—£4.

25,831. Who did you receive it from ?—From Mr. Lea, of Alvin Street.

25,832. Mr. Lea, the grocer ?—Yes. I considered that that was for my expenses for my coming out of the country.

25,833. Where did you come from ?—Herefordshire.

25,834. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How did you come ?—By coach.

25,835. Did it cost you that, or what did it cost you ?—It cost me 4*s.* from Ledbury. I walked the other part.

25,836. How much did it cost you to go back ?—The same.

25,837. How long did you stay in Gloucester ?—I stayed a good while, because I was laid up with the rheumatics.

25,838. Was that in consequence of your journey ?—No; I do not know that it was exactly; it may have been some part of it, because it was a very wet morning.

25,839. When did you get the money ?—On the polling morning.

25,840. You had not the rheumatism then ?—Yes, I had, because I was fetched out of bed.

25,841. It was for your expenses and your vote, then ?—Yes.

25,842. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Berkeley and Price.

25,843. Did you receive anything then?—Nothing.

25,844. Are you a freeman ?—No, I am not.

25,845. Are you a householder ?—Yes.

25,846. What is your rental ?—Ten guineas.

25,847. What is your business ?—I am a joiner.

J. Cooper.

JOHN COOPER sworn and examined.

25,848. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Alvin Street.

25,849. What is your business ?—I am a bricklayer and builder.

25,850. For whom did you vote at the last election ?—For Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Monk.

25,851. Did you pay or receive any money in respect of the last election ?—None whatever.

25,852. Did you pay anybody anything ?—No.

25,853. Did you offer anybody anything ?—Nothing whatever.

25,854. What part did you take in the voting ?—I lay neuter. I did not even know where the committee-rooms were of either party.

25,855. You split your vote between the two parties ?—I did.

25,856. May I ask what was your inducement to divide your vote in that way ?—I proposed to vote for Mr. Price; but Mr. Price being, I suppose, pretty well off, the parties wished me to transfer his vote to Mr. Monk.

25,857. You intended to vote for Sir Robert Carden and Mr. Price ?—I did, because I did not wish Mr. Price to be put out.

25,858. You wished to secure Mr. Price's return at all events ?—I did.

25,859. And also Sir Robert Carden's ?—Yes.

25,860. Who was it who requested you to vote for Mr. Monk instead of Mr. Price ?—Mr. Bretherton.

25,861. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Have you been long a voter for Gloucester ?—For twenty-eight years.

25,862. Have you always been a Blue ?—Yes.

25,863. You used to vote for Mr. Hope, I suppose ?—I did.

25,864. Did you ever receive anything in those days ?—No; never as a bribe, in my life.

25,865. Did you ever receive any money ?—Yes.

25,866. What was that for ?—I have worked for Mr. Davis; Tom Davis, Esquire, in Bell Lane. I daresay you remember him, gentlemen; and I believe it was the day after the election,—after the carrying,—Mr. Davis said, says he, "Cooper, there is 3*l.* 15*s.* for "you at 'The Chronicle' Office, if you will go and "fetch it." I said, "Is it so ?" (says I). "I did "not know anything of the sort;" and he says, "Yes, it is" (says he). "There it is. If you go "you can have it, and if you do not have it" (says he) "Mr. Hope will not."

25,867. Did you go and get it ?—I did.

25,868. Who gave it to you ?—I do not know who it was now; I cannot recollect; I do not know whether it was not a man of the name of Washbourne that was here then that gave it me.

25,869. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was Mr. Washbourne ? Is it the Mr. Washbourne who is living here now ?—No; I think it was Mr. John Washbourne.

25,870. What was his business ?—I think he was a bookseller, or something of that sort.

25,871. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You did not know a man of the name of Kemp in those days, did you ?—I have seen the man.

25,872. It was not he ?—No.

25,873. Was that the only time you got money ?—The only time.

25,874. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When did you receive that money ?—I believe it was the second day after the election.

25,875. Where ?—At "The Chronicle" Office; it was a public thing; a great many had it as well as myself.

25,876. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) £3 10*s.*?—£3 15*s.*

25,877. It was head money, was it not ?—It was intended as 5*s.* a day, and 6*s.* for the carrying day. It was fourteen days then.

25,878. It was a sort of head money, was it not ?—I do not know what they termed it.

25,879. What election was this ? In what year ?—

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Whether it was Mr. Hope's first or second election I am not certain.

25,880. It was about 1837?—It was somewhere thereabouts; I cannot say; for I took no account of it.

25,881. Did you ever get a Christmas-box?—No.

25,882. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a householder.

25,883. (*Mr. Welford.*) You have not told us who you voted for in 1857?—I voted for Sir Robert Carden, a plumper.

J. Cooper.

28 Oct. 1859.

25,884. Was anything paid you then?—I never received a fraction in my life of either Sir Robert Carden or Mr. Price or Mr. Monk; and the only money that ever I did receive was what I have told you.

25,885. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) £3 15*s.*?—Yes.

THOMAS DORN sworn and examined.

T. Dorn.

25,886. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—I am a hairdresser.

25,887. Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a householder.

25,888. What is your rental?—£17 a year.

25,889. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,890. What did you receive for your vote?—£4.

25,891. Who did you receive it from?—Mr. Whithorn.

25,892. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,893. What did you receive then?—Nothing at the election. I received 1*l.* 1*s.* from Mr. Lovegrove the week after.

25,894. What for?—For committee work.

25,895. What were you? A messenger?—Yes.

25,896. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You gave a receipt for it, I suppose?—Yes.

25,897. (*Mr. Welford.*) What did you do for that?—Anything that was required.

25,898. Did you attend the committee-room?—Yes.

25,899. How long?—About a week.

25,900. Was it 3*s.* 6*d.* a day?—Yes.

WILLIAM GREEN sworn and examined.

W. Green.

25,901. (*Mr. Welford.*) For whom did you vote at the last election?—For Sir Robert Carden.

25,902. What did you receive for your vote?—I received money for my expenses; 6*l.* in all.

25,903. Who paid you?—Mr. Maysey gave me 5*l.*, and Mr. Whithorn 1*l.* I was on the committee. The 1*l.* was for being on the committee, and I was in London at the time. My mother died, and expenses were incurred then; and likewise my wife's brother died; so I had two funerals to attend, and I was in London to attend those funerals.

25,904. How long were the funerals before the election?—In the same week.

25,905. Before the election?—Yes.

25,906. The election was on the Saturday?—Yes.

25,907. How long before?—It was on the 22d of April. Good Friday my mother died.

25,908. How much did you expend in coming down here?—I reckoned it to be rather under than over, what I received, 5*l.* expenses, because there was a little business I had to settle. I was in London eight days afterwards.

25,909. So that you had to come down and go up again?—Yes; and there was my keep there.

25,910. You were in London to attend to your own business?—Yes. There was a little furniture to be settled for, and divided between us.

25,911. You would have had to go up to London and settle about that?—Yes; but then I should not have had to go backwards and forwards.

25,912. How much did it cost you altogether?—It was above what I received.

25,913. You must have lived in London, you know?—Decidedly.

25,914. The utmost your expenses could have come to would have been your fare up and down. Did you travel first or second class?—Second class.

25,915. Who did you vote for at the election before?—I had no vote; I was not registered. I had promised Sir Robert Carden then, but I found afterwards that my name was not on the register.

25,916. What are you?—I keep an oyster and coffee shop.

25,917. What is your rental?—£12.

GEORGE JENNINGS sworn and examined.

G. Jennings.

25,918. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,919. What did you receive for your vote?—£5. It was paid to my wife; not to me.

25,920. Who paid it?—William Cole, the tailor.

25,921. Did you vote in 1857?—No.

25,922. Had you a vote then?—No.

25,923. What are you?—A grainer and painter.

25,924. You vote as a householder, I suppose?—Yes.

25,925. What is your rental?—£14.

CHARLOTTE PRICE sworn and examined.

C. Price.

25,926. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Are you the wife of Richard Price?—Yes.

25,927. Of Littleworth?—Yes.

25,928. Who did he vote for at the last election?—Price and Monk.

25,929. What did he get for his vote?—He got nothing at all for his vote. I had 5*l.* for his expenses, but nothing for his vote.

25,930. Who did you get that from?—Mr. Payne, the stonemason.

25,931. What do you mean by his expenses?—He was between Bristol and Cardiff; on the road for Cardiff; and he was forced to pay his expenses for a man to get his vessel into Cardiff, and for him to come backwards and forwards from Cardiff to Gloucester, and down again.

25,932. Did that cost him 5*l.*?—There was very little left indeed.

25,933. When did you get this money?—I got it a few days before the election, time enough for me to get him up here.

25,934. He would not come unless his expenses were paid?—No; for it would have taken all his money that would have gone to support me.

25,935. Who paid the 5*l.*?—Mr. Payne paid it to me.

25,936. Had he a vote in 1857?—He has voted a great many years, but I cannot tell how long.

25,937. Who did he vote for in 1857; do you know?—I do not; I do not know who put up at that time.

25,938. Did he ever receive any money before?—

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C. Price. 28 Oct. 1859.

No; and he would not have received anything at all now if he had been at home.

25,939. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is your husband a boatman?—No; he works a trow.

25,940. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is he a householder?—Yes.

25,941. What is your rental?—£13 now.

25,942. Your husband is a captain?—Yes; he has been so for a great many years. He has lived in Gloucester all his lifetime. He was bred and born here.

C. Brookes.

CHARLES BROOKES sworn and examined.

25,943. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you?—I am a hairdresser.

25,944. Are you a householder?—Yes.

25,945. What is your rental?—£20. I am shifting now.

25,946. That was your rental at the time of the election?—Yes.

25,947. What street was that in?—In Barton Street.

25,948. Who did you vote for at the last election? For Sir Robert Carden.

25,949. What did you receive for your vote?—I received 5*l.* about a week after.

25,950. Who from?—James Maysey.

25,951. Who did you vote for in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,952. What did you receive then?—30*s.*

25,953. Who from?—Mr. Clutterbuck.

25,954. Mr. Obadiah Clutterbuck?—Yes.

25,955. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What did you get in 1857?—30*s.*, to the best of my knowledge.

25,956. Did you, in 1857, promise to vote for the other party?—No; I promised no one.

25,957. Were you not carried off by the Blue party?—No, I was not.

25,958. Did not something of that sort take place?—No. I kept up straight by myself to the Cross, and there I was met with by Mr. Clutterbuck and Miles, and taken to "The Fleece" Inn, and that is where I had the money.

25,959. They offered you the money there?—Yes; that is where I had it.

25,960. Were you willing to go there?—Of course I was, or else I should not have went.

25,961. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You received the 30*s.* for your vote at that election?—Yes.

G. Miller.

GEORGE MILLER sworn and examined.

25,962. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Hampden Place.

25,963. Where did you live at the last election?—in Oxford Street. At least I was in Hampden Place when the election took place.

25,964. Who did you vote for?—Price and Monk.

25,965. That is at the last election?—Yes.

25,966. Did you receive anything for your vote? I received 2*l.* from Mr. Bowers for expenses, but I had previously promised both Mr. Price and Mr. Monk.

25,967. Was that George Bowers?—Yes.

25,968. What were the expenses you received that money for?—It was not for anything I did. I spent among the voters some portion of it on the day of polling.

25,969. When did you receive it?—On the voting morning.

25,970. Before you voted?—Yes; it was before I voted.

25,971. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Some portion you spent, and some portion you kept?—Yes.

25,972. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—I was not on the register.

25,978. What are you by business?—A railway clerk.

25,974. In what parish do you live?—Saint Owens.

25,975. You are a householder?—Yes

25,976. What is your rent?—£16.

G. H. Bower.

GEORGE HENRY BOWER sworn and examined.

25,977. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live?—In Alvin Street.

25,978. What are you?—I am a mason by trade.

25,979. Are you a householder or a freeman?—I am a freeman.

25,980. And are you a householder too?—Yes.

25,981. What is the rental of your house?—I do not give above 8*l.*

25,982. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,983. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing.

25,984. What did you receive for anything else?—Nothing.

25,985. Did you not receive any money at all?—Nothing at all whatever.

25,986. Nothing in the way of expenses?—No.

25,987. Were you employed as a messenger?—Not at all. I stuck to my work.

25,988. You did not leave your work?—I did not.

25,989. You merely went up and gave your vote?—I did.

25,990. Who did you vote for at the election before, in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

25,991. You received nothing then?—I did not.

R. Binning.

ROBERT BINNING sworn and examined.

25,992. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—At Kingsholm.

25,993. What are you?—I am a painter and glazier.

25,994. Who did you vote for at the last election?—Carden and Price.

25,995. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all. I received 10*s.* of Mr. Lovegrove as a messenger.

25,996. Have you given a receipt for it?—Yes. Mr. Lovegrove paid me at his office.

25,997. How long were you employed as a messenger?—About two days.

25,998. You had 5*s.* a day then?—Yes.

25,999. And that is all the money you received?—Yes, every fraction.

26,000. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—Carden and Berkeley; I was employed then as a messenger, and paid.

26,001. On which committee were you employed then?—On the Blue; I always promised that party, and always stuck to it.

26,002. You belong to the Blue party, and gave split votes?—Yes.

26,003. Did you receive anything then?—Only as a messenger.

26,004. What did you receive as a messenger?—I was on two days, I think.

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R. Binning.

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26,005. That was 10*s.* ?—Yes.

26,006. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you receive that as a messenger from the Liberal party ?—No ; I received it from the Blue party.

26,007. Do you live in the hospital ?—My mother does ; in St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

26,008. Did she ask you to vote ?—No ; I voted of my own accord.

26,009. Did she ask you to vote ?—Yes.

26,010. Was it not in consequence of your mother having asked you that you voted ?—Not in the least.

26,011. Do you swear that ?—Yes ; I could take my oath of it.

26,012. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was it in consequence of your mother being got into the hospital ?—No.

26,013. You are a freeman ?—Yes.

26,014. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did your mother get anything at all for your vote ?—No, not a fraction.

26,015. As far as you know ?—No ; I have not the least recollection of it.

T. Haviland.

THOMAS HAVILAND sworn and examined.

26,016. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you ?—I am a builder.

26,017. Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

26,018. Who did you bribe at the last election ?—No one at all.

26,019. What money did you receive ?—None at all.

26,020. Did you not receive any money for the purpose of bribing others ?—Not at all, from any one.

26,021. You are quite sure of that ?—I am quite sure of it.

26,022. Did you receive any money at the election in 1857 ?—No.

26,023. For whom did you vote then ?—For Price and Berkeley.

26,024. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you not pay a voter 5*l.* at the last election ?—There was a balance due to him for work he had done for me in the winter.

26,025. What was his name ?—Cox.

26,026. Henry Cox ?—No ; Enoch Cox.

26,027. (*Mr. Welford.*) You paid Enoch Cox at the election 5*l.*?—I gave him 5*l.*; but he has paid me by work ; there was a balance due to him, and he asked me to let him have 5*l.*, and I gave him 5*l.*; he has paid me since in work done for me this summer.

26,028. Has that 5*l.* been settled when you were settling with him ?—Yes.

26,029. Are you certain of that ?—Yes.

26,030. He has said that that 5*l.* amounted to a gift, and that the work he had done for you before and since had been paid for by you independently of that 5*l.*; that is his evidence ?—No. There was a balance due to him, but not amounting to 5*l.*, and he had a lot of work to do for me. He has paid me since, for he did the work.

26,031. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) At the time of the election, when you let him have that 5*l.*, did you owe him 5*l.*?—No ; not quite that amount.

26,032. Was it a loan ?—Yes ; a loan.

26,033. Did you make that loan to him in consequence of your belief that by doing so you should get his vote ?—No ; I did not, for I never named Mr. Price, Mr. Monk, or Sir Robert Carden at all to him.

26,034. Have you ever made an advance to him of that sort before or since ?—Never, and never to any one.

26,035. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know he was a voter ?—I knew he was a voter.

26,036. Did you know on which side he would vote ?—Yes ; but I never spoke to him respecting his vote.

26,037. But did you not lend this money to him as an inducement to him to keep his promise, and vote for Price and Monk ?—I did not. He told me he wanted to make up a little money, and I lent it him on account. He was going to do work for me in the summer.

26,038. Did you not tell him you would let him have it, but that you were not certain you should get it back again ?—I never used such words.

26,039. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you in the habit of advancing monies in that way to your workmen ?—If they wanted a pound at any time I had no objection to do it.

26,040. What is that man Cox ?—A plasterer.

26,041. When did you employ him ? How long after the election did he begin his work ?—About a fortnight after.

26,042. You advanced him 5*l.*?—I did.

26,043. Do you swear that if the election had not been coming on you would have advanced that man 5*l.*?—I should if he had wanted it.

26,044. You swear that ?—I do.

26,045. (*Mr. Welford.*) How much did you owe him at that time ?—I think between two and three pounds.

26,046. About half the money ?—Yes.

26,047. Had you engaged him to do other work ?—I had ; to plaster out four houses for me.

26,048. And you are quite sure that that sum has been carried into the account between you ?—It has, and he has paid me.

26,049. By work ?—By work.

26,050. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Cox swears that he received that money for his vote ?—No. When I gave him that 5*l.* I never mentioned any name to him.

26,051. Did you receive any money for your expenses ?—I did not.

26,052. If any person has said you were paid a sum of money for expenses it is untrue ?—It is untrue.

26,053. At the election in 1859 you mean to swear you received no money from any person in connexion with the election ?—I do. I never spoke to Cox respecting his vote. He asked me to let him have 5*l.*, and I let him.

26,054. His account is, that you let him have it, but said you did not know whether you should get it again. He said he understood that it was for his vote ; that he did work for you afterwards, and that you paid him the money, and did not deduct the 5*l.* ?—Since he finished the work for me I have settled with him, and I deducted the overplus that I paid him ; the overplus of the balance that was due to him before the election.

26,055. When did you make the settlement ?—I suppose about two months ago.

26,056. In settling with him, what money did you deduct?—I cannot say exactly whether it was 2*l.* 10*s.* or 3*l.*

26,057. You did not deduct the whole 5*l.* ?—No; because there was a balance due to him before for work he had done in the winter time.

26,058. (*Mr. Welford.*) The man fancies he got 5*l.* more than he did get, according to your account. Did you claim the 5*l.* from anybody ?—No ; not from anybody at all.

26,059. Then if you have paid him the 5*l.* you have lost it ?—No. I deducted it out of the work he had done for me.

26,060. You are sure of that ?—I am certain of it.

26,061. Did you make any entry of it in your book ?—Nothing more than that there was the balance I had overpaid him.

26,062. When you paid him this 5*l.* did you enter it in your book as a payment to him ?—Not in my book. I made a kind of memorandum of it on a bit of paper, and when we came to settle I deducted that out of it, and paid him the overplus of his bill.

26,063. Did you make a contract with him for the

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T. Haviland.
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work he was to do for you, or did you pay him by the day?—By measure work.

26,064. After he had done the work you measured it?—Yes.

26,065. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do your books show the transaction?—No.

26,066. (*Mr. Welford.*) Will your books show when you paid him this *5l.*?—No. I have not got it in my book.

26,067. There is no entry of it?—Not in my books.

26,068. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Suppose Cox were to bring an action against you for all the work he has done, how would you show that you had paid for it?—I have got his bill.

26,069. Is that bill receipted?—Yes.

26,070. Does it appear on that bill when you paid any portion of it?—No.

26,071. I suppose he had money from time to time?—He drew on account.

26,072. Where do you show that?—He has got it on his bill.

26,073. Has he got this *5l.* on his bill?—No, he has not.

26,074. Have you got that bill?—I have not got it with me.

26,075. *Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How came that *5l.* not to be entered?—Well, I do not know.

26,076. (*Mr. Welford.*) Let us see the bill, will you?—Yes.

26,077. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And will you let us see the book?—I have not got it in my book at all. I have no entry of his work in my book at all.

26,078. (*Mr. Welford.*) How do you show in your accounts that you have paid him anything for his work?—I have got his book.

26,079. Was his work done to your own houses or anybody else's?—To my own houses.

26,080. It is only by referring to that bill that you can tell how much your house costs you?—Yes.

26,081. You did not make any entry of it in any book?—No, I did not.

26,082. Not of the amount you paid for plastering?—No, I did not.

26,083. Bring us if you please that bill, and all the bills you have got from Enoch Cox, including the bill for that work that was due to him at the time of the election?—I will.

26,084. Is it all in one bill?—No, it is not.

26,085. Then bring both bills.—I will.

E. Houldey.

EPHRAIM HOULDEY sworn and examined.

26,086. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,087. What did you receive for your vote?—£9.

26,088. Who paid you?—Mr. Whithorn.

26,089. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote in 1857?—Yes.

26,090. What did you get then?—Nothing at all.

26,091. Who did you vote for?—Berkeley and Price.

26,092. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a householder.

26,093. What rent do you pay?—£10.

26,094. What is your business?—A blacksmith.

C. Perris.

CHARLES PERRIS sworn and examined.

26,095. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the election in 1859?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,096. What did you receive for your vote?—£5.

26,097. Who gave it to you?—Mr. Whithorn.

26,098. Who did you vote for at the election in 1857?—I did not vote at all.

26,099. You had no vote then?—No.

26,100. Are you a freeman or a householder?—I am a freeman.

26,101. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you keep a public house?—No.

26,102. A beerhouse?—No. I am a smith.

C. Grimmett.

CHARLES GRIMMETT sworn and examined.

26,103. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

26,104. For whom?—For Sir Robert Carden.

26,105. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all.

26,106. What did you receive in any other way but for your vote?—I received *6l. 6s. 6d.* from Mr. Lovegrove.

26,107. What was that for?—For my services as a canvasser.

26,108. When?—About three weeks, I think, after the election.

26,109. As a canvasser?—Yes.

26,110. What are you?—A sawyer.

26,111. Do you know a man named Robert Dowers?—I do.

26,112. Do you live near him?—I live within about 150 yards of him. I lived for these eight years next door to him.

26,113. Do you remember the election in 1857?—I do.

26,114. For whom did you vote at that election?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,115. Did you receive anything for voting then?—I did not.

26,116. Did you receive anything for your services?—I did.

26,117. How much?—£3.

26,118. From whom did you receive it?—Mr. Whithorn.

26,119. When did you receive it?—Soon after the election.

26,120. Was it the same day as the election?—No; a fortnight or three weeks after. I cannot say positively to a few days.

26,121. Do you remember having any conversation with Robert Dowers after the election in 1857?—I do.

26,122. How soon after the election was that?—I suppose it might be ten or eleven weeks.

26,123. How far were you living from him?—About 150 yards.

26,224. Were you in the habit of meeting him frequently?—Yes; we used to be always together, in general.

26,125. Had you any talk together about the election?—No; not about the election.

26,126. After the election in 1857 had you no talk with him about the election?—Some time after the election; but that was upon the subject of the petition; not upon the subject of the election.

26,127. Had you had no conversation with him about the election until ten or eleven weeks after the election, when you had a conversation with him about the petition?—I have no recollection of it.

26,128. How came you to be talking with him about the petition?—I was employed to get evidence for the petition, and there was a public house that a person, a friend of mine, kept, named Dyer.

26,129. You were employed to get evidence?—Yes.

26,130. Who employed you?—Mr. Taynton; he was with Mr. Lovegrove at that time.

26,131. He employed you to get evidence?—Yes.

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26,132. On the petition?—On the petition.

26,133. Did he tell you from whom you were to get evidence?—Any one that we could.

26,134. Did he mention any names to you?—No.

26,135. What were you to have for your services?—I was not promised anything.

26,136. What did you afterwards receive?—I am sure I cannot say now.

26,137. About how much?—I should say somewhere about 12*l.* We were out altogether, I should think, nearly nine weeks.

26,138. You received that for getting up evidence?—Yes, and going to London and back; it was all included.

26,139. Do you mean that all the money you received was 12*l.*?—I cannot speak to within a few shillings; but I think it was something near 12*l.* The day we were sent for to go to London I was not subpœnaed.

26,140. Did you pay your own expenses?—I paid part.

26,141. Was that part which you paid afterwards repaid to you?—It was, in this way: I had drawn a sovereign at Mr. Lovegrove's office the day I was going away, to leave something with my wife and family, and I had 10*s.* with me, and a party named Harris, who was with me, lent me 7*s.* 6*d.*, and that paid my expenses going up to London.

26,142. You had received money for the purpose of paying your expenses up to London besides the 12*l.*?—No; that was all included.

26,143. From first to last, all you received was about 12*l.*?—Yes; I cannot speak to a few shillings; it may have been from 12*l.* to 13*l.*

26,144. Did you pay your own expenses in London?—No; they were all paid.

26,145. You received altogether about 12*l.*?—It may be more; I cannot speak positively to it.

26,146. Who else was employed besides you to get up evidence?—There was George Harris, and, I think, Mr. Jonah Dyer was employed. I will not speak positively.

26,147. You were all employed by Mr. Taynton?—It was through Mr. Lovegrove, I believe. It was from Mr. Lovegrove's office.

26,148. Then, being employed to get up evidence, did you get into conversation with Dowers upon the subject of the petition?—I was in at "The Three Cocks" having a glass of ale; me and Harris.

26,149. Was Dyer there?—I believe Dyer was there.

26,150. You were all together at "The Three Cocks?"—Yes.

26,151. And you got Dowers there, did you?—Dowers came in.

26,152. What time was this?—Sometime in the early part of the afternoon; I cannot speak positively to the hour.

26,153. When he came in did he come into the same room where you three were?—Yes.

26,154. What took place?—We were in conversation; I cannot recollect what the subject was now; but it turned upon the subject of the petition, and Dowers asked us how we were getting on.

26,155. Was he the first to ask you that question?—Yes, he was.

26,156. Dowers first asked you that question?—Yes.

26,157. How did he know you had anything to do with the petition?—That I do not know.

26,158. Had you had no conversation with him upon the subject before?—No.

26,159. You had never mentioned the subject to him?—No. I could not account for it.

26,160. You are quite certain he was the first to say, "How are you getting on with the petition?"—I am quite certain of it.

26,161. You said nothing about it?—Not till he began.

26,162. How he came to know you had anything to do with the petition you cannot tell?—I cannot tell any more than this: he might have heard, being in the neighbourhood, that we were employed.

26,163. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did he hear it from you; you say you and he were always together?—He did not hear it from me. I cannot say that he did.

26,164. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When he asked you how you were getting on with the petition, what did you say?—I said we could not tell but very little about it; not yet.

26,165. Had you been some time employed then by Mr. Taynton?—I think we had been on about three or four days.

26,166. What took place afterwards?—He said he had a statement that he should wish to make.

26,167. Well?—That a party had offered him 3*l.*; (that was William Probert).

26,168. Well?—At three o'clock on the morning of the poll, to vote for Price and Berkeley. He said that he had promised Sir Robert Carden, and that he should be as good as his word.

26,169. He said that to you?—Yes; he said that he had told Probert that.

26,170. Well?—I asked him, "What did you get "from the other party; did you get anything from "the other party?" And he said, "No, I did not; "and I was never promised anything.

26,171. That was by your own party?—By our own party.

26,172. But you wanted to get up evidence for your party against the other party?—Just so.

26,173. What occasion then was there for you to ask him what he had got from your party?—My object was to know whether his hands were clean or not.

26,174. (*Mr. Welford.*) Whether he was a safe witness?—Yes.

26,175. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you told by Mr. Taynton to be sure to see that the witnesses you got had clean hands?—No.

26,176. You were not told that by Mr. Taynton?—No.

26,177. You are quite sure that yourself and Harris and Jonah Dyer were present at that time?—Yes; we were all three present.

26,178. At the time when this conversation took place?—Yes.

26,179. Was there more than one occasion, or was that the only occasion, on which any conversation took place between you and Dowers, at "The Three Cocks," on the subject of the petition?—He came in a day or two previous to that, and mentioned the same subject, but the subject dropped then; and then the second time, which I have now related, he came and wanted to know where we was all day yesterday.

26,180. He came in a day or two before, and mentioned the same subject; did he mention about the petition?—Yes.

26,181. And did he ask you then how you were getting on with the petition?—Yes.

26,182. Did you not swear just now that he had never mentioned the subject at all to you until the conversation took place which you have been relating to us?—Not till he spoke to me about it.

26,183. Did you not say just now that he never mentioned the subject of the petition before the conversation which you have been relating to us?—Not before he spoke to me about the petition.

26,184. You say he came in a day or two before, and mentioned the same subject?—He asked us how we were getting on.

26,185. I asked you before whether or not he had known from you that you were getting evidence for the petition, or whether you had had any conversation with him upon the subject, and you said, "No;" and I then asked you how he came to know that you were engaged in getting up evidence for the petition, and you said you did not know?—He did not know till I related it to him on that occasion.

26,186. You now state that two or three days

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C. Grimmett.

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before that he came in and mentioned the same subject?—Yes.

26,187. Which is the true story?—It is both true; it is true that he spoke to me first, and then the subject dropped, and passed off; and then he came a second time, and commenced it again. He said he had been looking about for us all day yesterday, and that as he had nothing to do, because it rained, he could have gone to Mr. Lovegrove's, and made the statement without losing any time.

26,188. When was that?—On the second occasion. He said, "It rained all day yesterday. I was looking "about for you, and if I had seen you I could have "went to Mr. Lovegrove's, and made my statement "without losing any time." He was at work at the Asylum then.

26,189. He said that himself?—Yes. It had rained all the day before, and he could not work.

26,190. On the first occasion he mentioned the subject, you say, and then it dropped?—It did.

26,191. How many days was it before he mentioned the subject again?—About two or three days.

26,192. Had he said, "How are you getting on "about the petition?" on the first occasion?—Yes.

26,193. And then the matter dropped?—Yes. I said, "We know but very little about it."

26,194. All he said to you then was, "How are "you getting on about the petition?"—Yes, that was all.

26,195. Nothing more was said by him?—Not regarding the petition. He did not stop many minutes after, to the best of my recollection.

26,196. Nothing was said to him upon that occasion about the election or about the petition?—Not to the best of my recollection.

26,197. And he made no statement to you then?—Not on the first occasion.

26,198. How came he to say to you that he had been looking about for you on the day before?—He said he wished to go to make a statement to Mr. Lovegrove, and that if he had seen us on the day it rained he could have gone down without hindering time, as he could not work then on account of the wet.

26,199. Did he say himself that he wished to make a statement?—Yes; and he asked me and Harris if we would go with him on the morrow morning to Mr. Lovegrove's office.

26,200. That was after the conversation on the second occasion?—Yes; on the same day.

26,201. There had not been a word said by you to him, or by him to you, about a statement, on the first occasion?—No, not a word.

26,202. Did you not ask him to go to Mr. Lovegrove's to make a statement?—I did not.

26,203. He himself said it?—He did.

26,204. Do you know how it came to pass that he said he should like to go to Mr. Lovegrove's to make a statement?—I understood from him that he knew that that was where the evidence was being taken.

26,205. Did you tell him you were employed by Mr. Lovegrove or by Mr. Taynton to get up evidence?—I did not say it. I dare say he knew it from some parties or other.

26,206. He knew you were employed for that purpose?—Yes; he knew that.

26,207. Did you say to him that you would go with him to Mr. Lovegrove's office next day?—He asked me if we would come there at nine o'clock in the morning, and would we meet him, and go down with him.

26,208. He asked you that himself?—Yes.

26,209. How long did all this conversation last?—It might have lasted half an hour or three quarters, or it might have been an hour. I cannot say.

26,210. You are quite sure that Harris and Jonah Dyer were there on that occasion?—Positive.

26,211. Should you be surprised to learn that Jonah Dyer knows nothing of any such conversation?—I should be surprised to hear it.

26,212. But Jonah Dyer has told us so?—He was there then, in the house.

26,213. Aye?—He was there in the room.

26,214. If he was there he must have heard what passed, must he not?—I cannot say whether he might have heard it or not.

26,215. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You were examined before the committee of the House of Commons?—I was.

26,216. Did you tell the committee that Jonah Dyer was with you?—I cannot recollect that now.

26,217. You were asked the question, were you not, "Who was there?"—Well, I am sure I cannot say. Harris and me was the parties that generally went together. Dyer did act on his own self; he was not out with us in a general way.

26,218. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Dyer collecting evidence as well as you at this time?—Yes.

26,219. He was not waiting upon his customers?—Yes, he was, when he was in the house.

26,220. And he was employed in collecting evidence too?—I believe he was.

26,221. Did you see Mr. Taynton between the time when Dowers first spoke to you and the second time?—No.

26,222. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who first mentioned the subject of the petition?—Dowers.

26,223. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had you and Dowers been as much together between the election and the time you have been telling us of as you had been before?—I cannot say that we had, exactly.

26,224. Had you been in the habit of meeting him?—Not so much during that time, because I was employed in business; I was out.

26,225. You say this conversation took place with Dowers 10 or 11 weeks after the election?—Yes.

26,226. And you had then been employed in getting up evidence for five or six days?—Yes; when this conversation took place, in the first place.

26,227. Between the election and the time when you were employed on the petition, did you and Dowers meet as usual?—Not so often; we did not.

26,228. But you had seen him?—Repeatedly.

26,229–30. And spent your time together?—Not much; I was employed, and had not the chance of doing it.

26,231. What were you employed in doing?—My work lies sometimes out at a distance from the town.

26,232. Do you swear that you had no conversation with him about the election till the conversation of which you have been telling us?—Yes.

26,233. You swear that?—Yes.

26,234. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Jonah Dyer has told us that he does not know at all that Robert Dowers was at the "Three Cocks?"—He may not; he might be attending to other things. I cannot say.

26,235. At the time when you had that conversation with Dowers of which you have been speaking, must not Jonah Dyer, who you say was present, have been aware that you were going to Mr. Lovegrove's office with Dowers?—He might not hear it.

26,236. You have sworn that Jonah Dyer and Dowers and Harris and you were all together?—Yes; and so we were, in the parlour.

26,237. When you saw that man Dowers, did you and Harris begin, as they say, to chaff Dowers about receiving money?—We did not.

26,238. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing of the sort.

26,239. And you are positive that the conversation between you and Dowers took place from ten to eleven weeks after the election?—I think so; I cannot say positively.

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JOHN BROWN BROWNE sworn and examined. *J. B. Browne.* 28 Oct. 1859.

26,240. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you the registration agent for the Conservative party?—Yes. I have been since the passing of the Reform Bill.

26,241. Since that time have you been employed to pay for taking up the freedoms of persons who were the sons of freemen?—Yes. Persons are entitled to their freedom both by birth and by servitude.

26,242. Have you been employed to take up the freedoms of such persons?—Yes; for some years. In some years we have not taken up any, and in other years we have taken up a good many.

26,243. Have you selected those persons who you thought would probably vote for the Conservative party?—Of course we have; but I have always thought it a bad system, and should not have done it if the other side had not done it. It has proved since to be a bad system, for nine persons whose freedoms I took up in 1837 and 1838 voted against us at the last election.

26,244. In paying for taking up these freedoms I understand you to say you only followed the example of the other party?—Yes.

26,245. What is the amount you have paid for each freedom you have taken up?—It was formerly 1*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* by birth, and 1*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* by servitude; but eighteen or twenty years ago the duty to the Government was 1*l.*, and that was taken off, so that it is now 13*s.* 6*d.* by birth, and 17*s.* 6*d.* by servitude.

26,246. From what source have you derived the money to pay for these freedoms?—Sometimes I have collected the money from friends of the party; sometimes, I suppose, it came from Mr. Hope, and since his time from Sir Robert Carden; but I did not receive it from them. I have no doubt that was the result of it. I remember writing to Mr. Hope upon it, thinking it a bad system, and he said he did not like it. He said that when we had taken their freedoms up we had not done with them.

26,247. He did not like it, and you did not like it?—No.

26,248. He said you had not done with them when you had taken their freedoms up?—Yes; that, I suppose, is twenty years ago.

26,249. And I suppose your experience enables you to say that they are not done with when their freedoms are taken up?—Yes; I am afraid it is too much so. I remember some years ago four or five persons whose freedoms I had taken up between the elections voted against us when the elections came on; that is many years ago.

26,250. In those cases in which you have taken up freedoms have you applied to the parties to have their freedoms taken up, or have they applied to you?—No; I think they apply to me generally. They have said that their fathers were freemen, and that they should like to have their freedoms taken up.

26,251. And according to the antecedents of the fathers you did or did not take them up?—Yes. I should say that this year I have not taken up one; not myself.

26,252. You say the people came to you. If you had not paid for their freedoms do you think they would have paid for them themselves?—No, certainly not; not a great part of them. Eight or ten persons have applied to me this year to take up their freedoms; but I did not take them up. One or two of them went to the other party, and they took them up; two or three, I believe.

26,253. You say you have been employed in this way since the passing of the Reform Bill?—Yes.

26,254. Can you give us a list of those persons whose freedoms you have taken up?—No.

26,255. Have you kept no account of them?—No. I dare say if I were to see the roll I could tell.

26,256. Could you go through a list of the freemen, and state whose freedoms you have paid for?—No, I could not; and perhaps half or three parts of those whose freedoms I have taken up are dead and gone, for in the course of twenty-seven or twenty-eight years there are great changes.

26,257. But you could, by looking over a list of the freemen who are still alive, give us the names of those whose freedoms you have taken up, could you not?—I daresay I could do that, by a great deal of labour and application.

26,258. Would your memory enable you to say, on going through the list, "The freedom of such a man "I took up"?—I dare say I could do so, as to a great many of them.

26,259. Could you not do it in an hour or so?—No; there are 500 or 600 names. I could not do it in that time.

26,260. Can you tell us how many there are whose freedoms you have taken up from the beginning?—No, I am sure I could not.

26,261. Should you say there were 100?—I should say quite 100.

26,262. Or there might be more?—There might be more. I should think so, according to the best of my opinion.

26,263. During the time you have been employed as agent have you also acted generally for your party?—Certainly.

26,264. Have you had anything to do with the distribution of money?—No; not at all.

26,265. Have any charitable donations been dispensed by you?—No; I do not remember anything of that kind at all.

26,266. You had nothing to do with that?—No, nothing; I have never had anything to do with money affairs. I have never given a man a farthing since 1832. I would not give them even a glass of beer. I have been asked by a good many in the street to do it, and I would not.

26,267. You have not been employed in any way for the purposes of corruption at any parliamentary election?—Except in 1832, the first election after the Reform Act. I have never given a farthing since to any one or promised anything.

26,268. In 1832 you did?—I did.

26,269. On whose part?—On Mr. Hope's. I had 30*l.* then, and I gave it to six men, and took their notes of hand for it. That is all the bribery I ever did.

26,270. I suppose you never got paid?—No; certainly not. I never wanted to be paid.

26,271. Do you know whether 5*l.* apiece was the sum usually paid for votes at that election?—I received 30*l.* of Mr. Kemp, and I gave it to six men; that is, I professed to lend it, taking their notes of hand for the money.

26,272. Did you understand that that was the sum which was usually paid to voters for their votes at that election?—No. I had nothing to do with it, but that, and did not know anything at all about it.

26,273. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The men you paid, I suppose, were persons you knew something of?—Yes; and four of them were members of the celebrated family you have had here,—the Coopeys; the fathers and uncles of the men who have been examined here.

26,274. The fathers and uncles were corrupt, and the sons followed their example?—I think there are many much worse voters in Gloucester than the Coopeys, although they have the character of being the worst. They have got a bad name; but, as I have told them themselves, there are many worse than they are. I am quite satisfied of that.

26,275. Do you mean that people who are worse than the Coopeys are to be found among the freemen and householders in Gloucester?—Yes; I think there are a great many worse.

26,276. When you say there are many who are worse than the Coopeys, do you mean that the Coopeys, when they have got their money, always perform their promise, while others do not?—Yes; and I believe they have voted many times without

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receiving a farthing. I believe that in 1833 they voted for Mr. Hope without receiving a farthing.

26,277. (*Mr. Welford.*) What is the process by which a man takes up his freedom?—He must go before the mayor and the town clerk. There used to be three aldermen present before the Corporation Reform Act.

26,278. What is the process that is now gone through? Supposing a man is going to take up his freedom by birth, does he go and make an affidavit?—No. He produces another person to identify him as the son of a freeman.

26,279. And that being done he is entitled to his freedom?—He is admitted, on producing the certificate of his baptism, showing that he is 21.

26,280. Is evidence given by affidavit?—No; it is given on oath generally; they do not require that always. Most of the mayors require it to be given on oath; but sometimes they do not require it.

26,281. Sometimes they are satisfied by proof of identification?—Somebody must answer that the party is the son of a freeman. It used to be done before three magistrates under the old law.

26,282. I suppose that in the majority of cases the fathers of the parties applying for their freedom are known?—Yes; but very often the fathers or mothers, or some friend who knows them, will go and identify them.

26,283. Suppose a man were to claim a birth freedom when his father was not alive or resident in the neighbourhood?—Then the party applying for his freedom must satisfy the mayor by some means that he is the son of a freeman.

26,284. What evidence is required in that case?—Evidence that he is the son of the party whose son he asserts himself to be. If he says he is the son of Thomas Jones or William Jenkins, the roll is looked to, and he has to prove that he is the son of that man.

26,285. Supposing a man comes and claims his freedom by birth, his father not being present, what course is taken?—Some other person must prove him to be the son of the person whose son he says he is.

26,286. They never would be content with the evidence of the man claiming his freedom?—I never remember seeing a case of the sort.

26,287. Have you ever known of a case in which a man has got upon the roll of freemen without being entitled to it?—I have heard of cases in which, under the old system, they used to come from London and different parts, and take up their freedoms; but that was before the Reform Bill. I suppose you are referring to the case of Mr. Taynton.

26,288. What was that case?—I was present when he took up his freedom; it was done in the regular order of things.

26,289. Was it done by the production of evidence that he was the son of a freeman?—Yes; of a certain freeman.

26,290. And that did not turn out to be the case?—That did not turn out to be the case. Whether the party who identified him took the oath or not I am sure I do not know.

26,291. It rests with the mayor to accept such evidence as satisfies him?—Of course it does.

26,292. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Is the evidence given by declaration or by affidavit?—The party who identifies the applicant for admission appears before the mayor, and on admission he swears or affirms that he is the party. I was not the person who identified Mr. Taynton.

26,293. It is possible, then, for persons to get on the roll of freemen who have no right to be there?—It is of course possible.

26,294. Do you know whether before the passing of the Reform Act a great number of persons were made freemen for political purposes?—I do. There were 88 in 1817.

26,295. Were there any made after that time?—No. I think it was in 1817, after the election of 1816.

26,296. You only remember that one occasion?—No; only that one occasion. Every one knew it at the time, in Gloucester.

26,297. You only know of one occasion on which freemen were created for political purposes?—No. Perhaps the Commissioners will allow me to state that I remember hearing Colonel Webb state on the hustings that his election in 1816 cost him 27,500*l.*

26,298. The poll then lasted fourteen days, did it not?—It lasted seven or eight days. I heard him on the hustings charge Mr. Phillpotts with its having cost him 27,500*l.* He was his manager.

26,299. You had the charge, had you not, of the bills of publicans when Mr. Hope was a candidate?—Yes; in 1835 I believe it was. I had not the general management of them.

26,300. Had you not the inspection of them?—There was a sort of committee appointed to see what should be allowed, if there were over-charges.

26,301. That was in 1835?—Either in 1835 or 1837; but I believe it was in 1835.

26,302. Do you remember whether in those bills there were charges for a very large number of dinners?—Yes. I know it was said that there were 8,000 dinners charged for.

26,303. We have heard that Mr. Hope was a very popular candidate in 1852?—I think he was always a popular candidate. I think there never was a better member than Mr. Hope.

26,304. Do you think that his popularity was in a large measure ascribable to his liberality?—No; I do not think Mr. Hope was particularly liberal.

26,305. Not in respect of the sums he expended in Gloucester?—No. I do not think he was a liberal man at all with his money. I think he had a vast deal of money, but he knew very well how to take care of it.

26,306. Do you think he was a parsimonious man?—No; but he was not so liberal as other men have been. I think that the statements that have been made in the city as to Mr. Hope's expenditure have been very much exaggerated. Mr. Hope is a very particular man in his expenditure of money, and wishes to know where all of it goes to; but a cry has been made about Mr. Hope, because of its being known that he was immensely rich; and I have no doubt that houses were opened, and all that sort of thing done, because of its being known that he was a very rich man.

26,307. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Is it the custom on your side to have dinners?—It has not been of late. Formerly it was, under the old system, till we had the petition in 1837.

26,308. Have you had no dinners since Sir Robert Carden has been a candidate?—Only for the committee.

26,309. No dinners for which tickets were given away?—No. I heard of nothing of the sort.

C. F. Cooksey.

CHARLES FREDERICK COOKSEY sworn and examined.

26,310. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you remember the polling morning, when Mr. Wilton called upon you?—Yes.

26,311. You lent him on that occasion 40*l.*?—Yes.

26,312. Do you remember Mr. Wilton saying that he had two cheques which he wished to have changed?—I have an impression on my mind relative to some cheques. It was a conversation relative to the bank not being open, or not cashing such cheques. I have an impression on my mind that such was the case.

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26,313. You have an impression on your mind that something was said about some cheques? — That something was said about some cheques.

26,314. And about your being asked to cash them in consequence of the bank not being open?—I have an impression on my mind that that was the observation.

26,315. Do you remember, with reference to that impression, whether any amount was stated as the amount of those cheques?—No. I think I may safely say I saw no cheques; I do not recollect seeing any cheques, or hearing any amount stated. I believe I saw no cheques; I think I may safely say I saw no cheques.

26,316. Did you learn from Mr. Wilton whose cheques they were?—No.

26,317. You let him have 40*l.*? — I let him have 40*l.*

26,318. Did you not expect to receive one or both of the cheques? — Yes. If he had had a cheque for 40*l.*, I should certainly have taken the cheque in preference to the I.O.U.; but I saw no cheques, and I do not believe Mr. Wilton offered me any cheques.

26,319. From the circumstance of your taking the I.O.U., would that lead you to the conclusion that you did not see any cheque on that occasion?—Yes.

26,320. You heard something said about cheques. Do you remember anything at all as to what was said? — I have an impression on my mind that Mr. Wilton did talk of cheques.

26,321. Can you remember what it was that he did say about cheques?—No, I cannot. He did not say anything at all, to my knowledge. The impression on my mind was, that either he wanted money before the bank was open, or cash for a cheque. What the conversation was I am not prepared to say, more than I have stated to the court.

26,322. You are quite certain that no sum was mentioned?—Yes.

R. F. Hughes.

ROBERT FITTLER HUGHES sworn and examined.

26,323. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In the College Green.

26,324. What are you? — I am a clerk to my father.

26,325. What is your father?—High Bailiff of the Gloucester County Court.

26,326. Were you employed in the committee-room at the last election? — No. I was not employed in the committee-room. I was a cheque clerk on the day of the election.

26,327. For the Liberal party? — For the Liberal party.

26,328. Did you receive any money before the election, at the election, or after the election, for the purposes of bribery?—Decidedly not.

26,329. Did you give any money at all to any person for a vote?—No; I had nothing at all to do with it.

26,330. You did not receive any money, and did not give any money for any vote?—Decidedly not.

26,331. Does your father bear the same name that you bear?—No; his name is John Fittler.

26,332. You only received the money which you were entitled to as a cheque clerk?—I only received a guinea, and I received that after the election,—about a week after the election, — for my services as a cheque clerk.

26,333. That was at the last election?—That was at the last election.

J. Bragg.

JAMES BRAGG sworn and examined.

26,334. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—I did not vote at the last election. I voted for Berkeley and Price at the election before.

26,335. Did you get anything for your vote?—£1.

26,336. Who from?—From Henry Merrett.

26,337. (*Mr. Welford.*) When did you receive that?—On the polling day; after I had polled.

26,338. Were you on the register at the last election?—No.

26,339. Were you promised the 1*l.* in 1857 before you voted?—No.

J. M. Pitt.

JOSHUA MEFFEN PITT sworn and examined.

26,340. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—I live in Alvin Street now.

26,341. Did you vote at the last election?—Yes.

26,342. For whom did you vote?—Price and Monk.

26,343. Did you get anything for your vote?—I never received anything.

26,344. In 1857 who did you vote for?—Price and Berkeley.

26,345. Did you receive anything then?—No.

26,346. Are you the man who was at Hatton's on the polling day?—I was there.

26,347. At the eating-house?—No; I was never at Hatton's.

26,348. (*Mr. Welford.*) He kept an eating-house in the Westgate Street?—Yes.

26,349. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not there on the polling day?—No.

T. Haviland.

THOMAS HAVILAND called and further examined.

26,350. (*Mr. Welford.*) Have you now got the bill?—Yes (*producing a paper*).

26,351. Was this all that was due at the election?—No. He never put any date to it at the first part, when he sent in the bill.

26,352. When was the work for this portion of the bill that is dated in 1859 and before the 5th of August done?—Between the bill you have got in February and the election.

26,353. This bill was settled?—Yes, that was settled.

26,354. On the 5th February?—Yes, it was.

26,355. Then that had been done and settled before the election? — Yes; and then there was a small amount, 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, done between February and the election.

26,356. Then at the time of the election 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* was due to him?—Yes.

26,357. And then this plastering, amounting to 14*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, was done subsequently?—Yes.

26,358. After the election?—Yes.

26,359. The election came in between those two items?—Yes, it did.

26,360. This bill amounted to 19*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* altogether. This bill does not show when he received any sums on account?—No.

26,361. Can you in any way show what he received, or how much remained due to him, when you paid to him the balance of the 19*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.*?—No, I cannot.

26,362. Have you no means of showing the various sums you paid to him at different times? — I have not.

26,363. You expected to find them marked on the bill? — I did expect to have it marked on the bill but he has not done so.

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T. Haviland.

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26,364. This is a receipt for all claims ?—Yes.

26,365. And you cannot recollect how much you paid him then ?—I do not.

26,366. It was only the 17th of last month. Are you quite sure you charged him with the 5*l.* which you paid him at the election ?—Yes.

26,367. You swear that ?—Yes.

26,368. Against the 19*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* you charged him that 5*l.*?—Yes ; there was the 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* due to him, and the balance of the 5*l.* is deducted.

26,369. This 19*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* includes the 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*?—Yes ; that was the full amount of his bill, and I deducted it.

26,370. What did you deduct ? — It would be 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

W. Wellstead.

WILLIAM WELLSTEAD sworn and examined.

26,371. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election ?—Price and Monk.

26,372. What did you receive for your vote ? — I did not receive anything myself ; it was my wife who received it.

26,373. What did your wife receive?—£6, according to what she told me.

26,374. Who did she receive it from ?—Of Mr. Jeffs. I was in the house at the time.

26,375. Mr. James Jeffs ?—Yes.

26,376. That was for your vote ?—I suppose it was ; but independently of that my mind was to go for Price and Monk.

26,377. You kept the money ?—I did not have it; my wife had it.

26,378. She told you she had it, and you allowed her to keep it ?—Yes.

26,379. Who did you vote for in 1857 ?—Carden.

26,380. What did you receive then ?—I did not receive anything.

26,381. Neither before nor after the election ?—No.

26,382. Were you a messenger ?—No, I was not ; but I was promised to be paid as if I was one by Mr. Whithorn, but I never received anything for it.

26,383. Did he not perform his promise ?—No.

26,384. You voted for Sir Robert Carden in consequence of that promise, I suppose, did you not ?—And other things. I had been promised the school for my boy; the Blue School.

26,385. Who promised you that ; Mr. Whithorn?—He promised me, and Mr. Castree, the auctioneer, promised to do all they could for me.

26,386. When was that ?—In the election that Mr. Castree put up for.

26,387. In 1857 ?—Yes.

26,388. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was that when Mr. Castree was a candidate for the corporation ?—Yes.

26,389. He was seeking to become a town councillor ?—Yes ; or before that ; on that occasion, I think.

26,390. How long is that ago ?—I do not know how many years it is, not exactly.

26,391. Did you vote for Sir Robert Carden in 1857 in consequence of those promises ?—Yes, I did, mainly.

26,392. What were those promises ?—That they would do all they could for my boy to have the Blue School.

26,393. Who were they ?—Mr. Castree and Mr. Whithorn, and Mr. Matthews ; I think he promised me as well.

26,394. Mr. Matthews, the solicitor ?—Yes.

26,395. They would do all they could to get your son into the Bluecoat School ?—Yes.

26,396. What are you ?—A carpenter and joiner.

26,397. Where do you live ?—In Half Street.

26,398. Are you a householder or a freeman ?—A householder.

26,399. What rent do you pay ?—£9. I put up a house on an agreement that I should have the premises at 9*l.*, and they are worth more considerably.

26,400. You built the house ?—Yes.

26,401. You got 6*l.* at the last election for voting for Price and Monk ?—Yes; but if the money had not been paid I should have voted that way. I had made up my mind months before the election.

26,402. Were you offered any money on the other side ?—Yes. I was promised if I would vote for Mr. Carden I should be paid for the old and the new; it was in our house that I was promised that, and the mistress heard that as well as myself.

26,403. Who promised you that ?—Mr. Whithorn.

26,404. What was meant by "the old and the new"?—For the old election, I suppose he meant.

26,405. For the election when you got nothing ?—Yes.

26,406. Was Mr. Whithorn accompanied by any other person when he made you that promise ?—He was by himself ; he met me opposite "The Pelican," and he signed to me, and wanted me to go in, and I said, "No, I will not go in there ; if you want to "say anything to me you may come to my house;" and he came to my house.

26,407. Did Mr. Matthews canvass you at the last election ?—He was in his phaeton, and he drove past my house, and he nodded his head to me, and I went to him, and he asked me how I was going to poll. I said I was going to poll for Mr. Price and Mr. Monk; and he said, "How is that ?" So I told him he had not acted, nor any of the party, according to what they had promised me, and I should not vote for them any more ; and he says, "Don't you be a fool ;" and that was all that passed, and he went off in his phaeton.

26,408. That was all he said, "Don't you be a fool"?—Yes.

26,409. That was not a promise ?—No; that was what he said.

26,410. Was that all that Mr. Matthews said ?—Yes.

W. Strafford.

WILLIAM STRAFFORD sworn and examined.

26,411. (*Mr. Welford.*) What are you ? — I am foreman to Mr. Mayer of the Westgate Street soap works.

26,412. You are chairman of the Conservative Association ?—I am.

26,413. How long have you been so ?—I cannot recollect whether I have been chairman six or seven times. The laws require that there shall be a president elected every six months. I was elected about five years ago, and I have been re-elected several times since then.

26,414. Do you know who was chairman five years ago ?—I cannot answer that question.

26,415. How long have you been a member of the association ?—Ever since its establishment. I was one of the first to form the society.

26,416. Have you been chairman of the association several years ?—The three last years, and six months previous to that.

26,417. One of your rules is, is it not, that the members shall be of sound Conservative principles ?—Yes.

26,418. If you find a man voting for Liberal candidates do you consider he is not of sound Conservative principles ?—I do.

26,419. And then do you eject him from your society ?—We have not ejected any one yet.

26,420. The members of your association, generally speaking, voted for the Conservative candidates, did they not ?—As far as I am aware, till this last election.

26,421. Upon the last election many of your

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members voted on the other side, did they not?—As many as seven, to the best of my knowledge. I have not seen the poll books, but from what I have heard I think as many as seven.

26,422. Did you take any measures for the purpose of ejecting any of those members?—On the first meeting, the night after the election, the thing was talked over, and there was some kind of resolution come to by the society in a body that money should be refused from those members who had voted opposite to the rules of the society. That was to be until the thing was further considered.

26,423. A resolution was come to that money should be refused from those who had voted for the Liberal candidates?—That their contributions should be refused.

26,424. If you did not accept their contributions, should you regard them as no longer members of your society?—No; because then it would be for the committee to decide afterwards.

26,425. It was only preliminary?—Quite preliminary.

26,426. Was it referred to a committee afterwards?—Yes; that is how we settle all disputes among ourthat vessel require any sort of arbitration.

26,427. Was it referred to a committee?—No; because the committee did not come round in the time.

26,428. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Has any committee sat since that time?—There have been two quarterly committees, I think.

26,429. Has the matter been brought before the committee?—No.

26,430. It still remains in suspense?—No. On the following meeting night I advised the society that under all considerations they had better take no more notice of it, and from that time the matter dropped.

26,431. Did you consider that you would have had the power to eject them?—I consider that our No. 2. rule stands good in that respect, that a member shall be of sound Conservative principles.

26,432. If a man fails to vote for the Conservative candidate he fails, therefore, to be a man of sound Conservative principles, and you think he ought to cease to be a member of your association?—I think he breaks rule No. 2., which says that he shall be of sound Conservative principles.

26,433. You consider that that rule would be violated if any member of your association voted for a Liberal candidate?—Yes.

26,434. What are the contributions to that association?—We have lowered them this last two years; we worked five years with a higher rate, and the last two years we lowered it.

26,435. What is the rate now?—6*d.* a week, and 9*d.* every quarter; that is 6*d.* for the surgeon, and 3*d.* for the secretary.

26,436. If you were to act upon your views with regard to those members who had voted for the Liberal candidates, and those members had ceased to be members of your association any longer, what course should you adopt with regard to the money they had contributed?—Of course it remains in the fund. Any member throwing himself out of the society,—I presume that is the meaning of your question,—any member choosing to leave the society, forfeits, of course, all claim to any money he may have paid in.

26,437. Is that the case if you reject him on account of his having voted for a Liberal candidate?—If a man breaks the rules, of course he forfeits all claim; that is, if the committee expel him upon his breaking the rules.

26,438. He forfeits his contribution, and that goes to the fund?—It remains in the fund.

26,439. You think a man does break the rule you have mentioned if he votes for Liberal candidates?—Yes. I consider that rule No. 2. compels a man not to do it.

26,440. That association of yours is an organization for the support of Conservative principles as well at municipal as at parliamentary elections?—The chief object of the association is more a benevolent one than anything else, for our voters are so few that they cannot have any great influence either way.

26,441. How many are there?—I think there are about 54 or 56. I am not sure to a figure or two, but I do not think it exceeds 56.

26,442. Out of how many?—126 members; that is for the city elections.

26,443. (*Mr. Welford.*) In the 126 do you include honorary members?—No.

26,444. How many honorary members have you?—I think about ten; the secretary told me so about a fortnight ago.

26,445. Your association, you say, is principally intended as a benefit society, but it is also intended as an association for the support of Conservative principles, is it not?—I cannot take it in that meaning. I take it in this way: it is a sort of brotherhood of feeling. We take no part nor work in the election; no more than that many of us are pledged to those principles, and as a united lot of brothers are pledged to go in that way. We do all we can, of course, to assist, as far as our individual selves go, but we do not work from head quarters or anything of that kind.

26,446. Have any of the funds of your association been expended in elections?—Not a farthing, that I am aware of.

26,447. Not a farthing of your funds has been expended in that way?—Not that I am aware of.

26,448. If any had been so expended should you have known it?—I think I should, as chairman. They generally consult me on most matters, as chairman. In fact I am a very regular attendant of the society.

26,449. If a voter becomes a member of your society you get a sort of guarantee that he will continue a Conservative voter, do you not?—It is my duty to initiate all members. The first question I put is, "Are you of sound Conservative principles, and are you willing to abide in them?" And they pledge themselves to me on that.

26,449*a*. And you point out to them that if they do not continue to vote for the Conservative party they lose the benefit of their contributions to this benevolent society?—I read the second rule, to explain to them that if they break any rules they forfeit all right and claim to the society.

26,450. And you consider it is quite as much a political as benevolent society?—It is in that respect; but still I consider the providence of the society stands first, because the majority of the members are non-electors.

26,451. You have considerably more than a third voters; nearly one half?—Yes.

26,452. For what reason did you advise the committee to let the matter drop as to the expulsion of members who had voted for the Liberal candidates?—I heard that one member, Lane, had taken money from the opposite side; and from what I heard or understood I found that he had received it to give evidence against the Yellow party, and I thought it would not be fair to turn him out.

26,453. So you advised them to let it drop?—Yes.

26,454. Following out, therefore, the political aspect of your society?—Yes.

26,455. Had you not also heard that somebody had written to Mr. Tidd Pratt on the subject of your rule No. 2.?—Yes.

26,456. And that he had given an opinion that it was not a breach?—He did not give a direct opinion.

26,457. But he gave some opinion?—He gave, what I should term, more an evasive opinion than a direct negative.

26,458. At all events he did not encourage you to turn the member out?—No; we could not expect it.

26,459. Has your society fallen off of late?—No.

26,460. Has it increased?—We have initiated two or three members since the election.

26,461. And how many have gone out?—None that I am aware of. At the last quarterly meeting we were paid by the full complement of 126 members for the secretary and surgeon.

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W. Strafford
23 Oct. 1859.

26,462. Have you any county voters among your members?—Very few, that I am aware of.

26,463. I think you have an annual dinner of the society?—We have.

26,464. How are the members admitted; have they tickets?—Before the two last dinners the members had to pay for themselves, and it was voluntary on the part of any member to dine.

26,465. When does the dinner take place?—It ought to take place the second or third week in July.

26,466. Not in February?—No; but it did not take place this year till after the petition was heard.

26,467. The members, for the last two dinners, have not paid?—No. The dinners have been paid for out of the contingent fund; the last two dinners.

26,468. Out of the funds of the society?—Not out of the sick fund; the sick fund is separate; but there is a large fund raised from fines; sometimes the book will be gone through twice every quarter before we can get men to stand as stewards, and each time they refuse they are fined a shilling, and that forms a large fund; and the little we receive from the honorary members and other fines will satisfy the sum spent for dinners.

26,469. The sums paid for fines and from honorary members go to the contingent fund?—Yes.

26,470. All sums paid by honorary members go to the contingent fund?—Yes.

26,471. And that is expended in giving an annual dinner?—Yes; the two last years; before that time it was quite voluntary on the part of any member dining. If he did not dine he had to pay his two shillings and sixpence.

26,472. But for the last two years out of the contingent fund you have given every man a ticket?—Every man is entitled to it.

26,473. And that is made up from the contributions of the honorary members?—The contributions from honorary members are nothing, comparatively speaking, to what we receive in the shape of fines.

26,474. What is the amount of your contingent fund, made up in the way you speak of?—I cannot tell, for I do not keep the books.

26,475. Cannot you give us some notion what the contingent fund is?—I cannot indeed.

26,476. Is it exhausted by the annual dinner?—No, I think not, because we have other expenses that have to be met out of that.

J. B. Browne.

JOHN BROWN BROWNE called and further examined.

26,477. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We understand you wish to make some statement?—If you please. I wish to make a statement with respect to Mr. Taynton, that as soon as he knew he was not entitled as a freeman he gave notice to the town clerk that it would be necessary to have his name taken off.

26,478. What was the ground of his not being entitled?—He thought his father had been a freeman. There were many of the same family, and he thought his father had been a freeman of Gloucester.

26,479. And he was not?—And he was not; and as soon as he knew he was not so he gave notice to the town clerk.

26,480. You know that, do you?—Yes; but I did not know that his father was not a freeman. I know that the family of the Tayntons were free for 100 years or more in Gloucester.

26,481. It turned out that his father was not a freeman?—Yes; there was a man of the same name as his father who lived in Bristol at the time.

26,482. Were you present at the time when that statement was made, and when Mr. Taynton applied for his freedom?—I was present.

26,483. Were you yourself present when the statement was made, that his father was a freeman of the city?—Yes.

26,484. Did you know that that was so or not?—No; I had no knowledge at all about it.

26,485. There was a Mr. Taynton who was a freeman?—Yes, there was.

26,486. He was down on the list of freemen?—He was on the roll of freemen.

26,487. Did he bear the same name as Mr. Taynton's father?—He did.

26,488. The same Christian name as well as surname?—I am quite sure of that.

26,489. The name that appeared on the freemen's roll was the same in all respects, Christian and surname, as the name of Mr. Taynton's father?—So I understood; I believe it to be so; I have not the slightest doubt of it. You spoke to me about honorary freemen; the 88; I believe the only one left of that batch is Mr. Carter. They were all taken off the next year by the Court of Queen's Bench, and then they made them again. The next year after they made a fresh batch of them.

C. White.

CHARLES WHITE sworn and examined.

26,490. (*Mr. Welford.*) Who did you vote for at the last election?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,491. What did you receive for your vote?—I did not receive anything, but my mistress received 6*l.*

26,492. From whom?—From Charles Hawkins.

26,493. For your vote?—Yes.

26,494. Who did you vote for at the election before; in 1857?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,495. What did you receive then?—Nothing at all; this was the first I ever did receive. I have always voted for that party these twenty years.

26,496. What are you?—I am a carpenter and joiner.

26,497. Are you a householder?—Yes.

26,498. What rent do you pay?—10*l.*

26,499. Exactly 10*l.*?—Yes.

26,500. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Who is your landlord?—George Buchanan at the Spa.

26,501. Were you in arrear for rent at the last election; did you owe him any rent?—Yes, I did, and do now.

26,502. Was there any promise made to you that if you would vote for Sir Robert Carden any part of that rent should be forgiven you?—No. I asked my landlord, when I first went to rent under him, if it made any difference to him which way I voted and he said "No;" and I have rented under him the last twenty years, and voted as I liked, and always went the same way.

W. Withers.

WILLIAM WITHERS called and further examined.

26,503. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you live in Bell Lane?—No; in Quay Street.

26,504. Do you keep "The Lamb and Lark"?—No; it is "The Anchor" now.

26,505. Do you remember going into Mrs. Hatton's shop, the eating-house in Westgate Street, during the election of 1857?—Yes.

26,506. Was that a day or two before the election?—Yes; it was some time before the election, but I cannot say how long.

26,507. Do you remember, as you went in, meeting any persons coming out of the shop?—Yes; I met Mr. George Curtis and Mr. Hawkins, the draper, coming out.

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W. Withers.
28 Oct. 1859.

26,508. Upon your going into the shop did Mrs. Hatton and her daughter ask you who they were?—She did.

26,509. Who was it who asked you the question?—Mrs. Hatton asked me the question.

26,510. Did you tell her?—I told her who they were, and she told me that one party had offered her the best new dress in his shop if she would promise her husband's vote for Sir Robert Carden.

26,511. Did she say who the party was who made the promise?—No, she did not; but of course I knew the party well; it was Mr. Hawkins.

26,512. For what was the dress to be given?—If she would promise her husband's vote for Sir Robert Carden. There is one statement I should wish to make before you, and that is this: I have since ascertained that Mr. Hawkins was the party who was with the Drinkwaters at "The Victory" with William Curtis; he was the party that took them to the poll, and also he has been a candidate for the West Ward, I believe, and he has come out on purity principles. The first thing he does here is: a voter will not promise him in a certain house, and he says, "Perhaps your wife and you can take a glass of ale.' I want to know what sort of purity principles they call that.

26,513. Was the Mr. Curtis you speak of the party who was connected with the Hatton's affair?—No.

26,514. Where did he take the Drinkwaters?—I do not know where he took them; he put them in a fly, and took them off, I suppose, to poll. In justice to Henry Collingburn, I do not think the man had any money about him to give the Drinkwaters anything in 1857.

26,515. How do you know that Mr. Collingburn had no money?—Because he said, "If I had the "money about me, before I would lose these men I "would pull it out of my own pocket."

26,516. Was that on the day of the election?—Yes; in 1857.

T. H. Drinkwater.

THOMAS HENRY DRINKWATER sworn and examined.

26,517. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you vote at the last election?—No.

26,518. Did you vote at the previous election in 1857?—Yes.

26,519. For whom did you vote?—Sir Robert Carden.

26,520. What did you receive for your vote?—Nothing at all from Sir Robert Carden.

26,521. What did you receive from any one else?—I received 3*l.* from Henry Collingburn.

26,522. When?—On the morning of the election.

26,523. Where?—In "The Fountain" kitchen.

26,524. Where did you receive it?—In the kitchen.

56,525. What part of the kitchen?—It was the far side of the kitchen, away from the fireplace, over against the long table.

26,526. Was there a screen there?—Yes.

26,527. And a settle?—There was a settle in the place, but not where I received the money; I received the money up in one corner.

26,528. Up in one corner of the kitchen?—Yes.

26,529. Did you receive any money besides that?—Not a farthing.

26,530. You have no doubt about that?—Not a farthing, I will swear.

26,531. What time did you come to Gloucester?—I came to Gloucester the night before by the third-class train from Worcester.

26,532. Were you about at the public houses all the night?—The first two men I met was a man of the name of Williams and a man of the name of Spyers.

26,533. Were you about all night at different public houses?—Yes.

26,534. Did you go back to your father's that night?—No; not that night, I did not.

26,535. Did you go back to your father's the next day?—Early in the morning I went.

26,536. What time?—Between seven and eight, as near as I can guess.

26,537. You were examined in London, were you not?—In 1857 I was.

26,538. You cannot say what time it was, but you believe it was between seven and eight?—Yes; it was as near about that as I can guess.

26,539. You were not examined before the committee of the House of Commons, were you?—Yes, in 1857 I was.

26,540. Where was it you received this money?—It was on one side of the kitchen.

26,541. Was there a settle there?—It was in one corner of the kitchen, but it was behind the settle.

26,542. Did you receive it behind the settle?—It was in one corner of the kitchen; that was behind the settle.

26,543. Was your father there?—Yes.

26,544. Did your father see you receive the money?—Yes; he saw me receive some money, and I shook it in my hand after I had got it.

26,545. Was your brother there?—Yes.

26,546. Did he see you receive the money?—Yes; they were all stood together.

26,547. Do you know that your father has sworn you received the money in the yard?—No. I have never seen my father till lately.

26,548. Do you know that he has sworn you received what money you received in the yard?—No.

26,549. What is the name of your brother who was there?—George William.

26,550. Your brother was examined in London, was he not?—Yes, I believe he was.

26,551. Do you know that your brother swore in London that he did not know you received any sovereigns at all?—No, I do not.

26,552. Should you be astonished to hear that he did?—I should not be the least surprised.

26,553. He swore he did not know you received it till he heard it a day or two before?—There were plenty in the kitchen who saw me have the money, and shake it in my hands.

26,554. You say your father saw you receive the money, and your brother saw you receive it. Your brother in London swore that he did not know till he was told a day or two before that you had got any money at all, and your father swore that you received the money in the yard?—I received the money in the kitchen.

26,555. Did you ever swear that you had received a crown piece also?—Not to the best of my recollection. I received ever so many shillings and half-crowns.

26,556. Did you ever swear that you received a crown piece?—I would not swear; but I think I had a crown piece of him in a public house called "The Victory." I would not swear it, but I think I had.

C. W. Lovesey.

CONWAY WHITHORN LOVESEY sworn and examined.

26,557. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Where do you live?—In Barton Street.

26,558. What are you?—An innkeeper.

26,559. Did you vote at the last election?—I did.

26,560. For whom?—Price and Monk.

26,561. Did you receive any money for the purpose of bribery?—I did not.

26,562. Did you bribe any one?—I did.

26,563. Who did you bribe?—A person of the name of Francis Jellyman.

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C. W. Lovesey.
28 Oct. 1859.

26,564. How much did you give him ?—*£5.*
26,565. Was that your own money ?—Yes.
26,566. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was that to vote for Price and Monk ?—Yes.
26,567. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you instructed by any one to give that money to him ?—I was not.
26,568. It was entirely your own free will ?—Certainly.
26,569. Do you expect to be repaid it ?—No, I do not.
26,570. Did you expect to be repaid it ?—No; I took the risk, of course.
26,571. You thought it would come back ?—I did not know from what source.
26,572. You do not expect to be repaid now ?—I do not.
26,573. It was a contribution in fact to the Liberal cause ?—Yes.
26,574. Have you got a bill against the candidates? —No.
26,575. There was nothing expended at your house in the way of refreshments ?—I cannot say but what there was people backwards and forwards several times.
26,576. But they paid for what they had ?—Yes.
26,577. Did you treat any of them ?—No. I might have treated them with a pint of ale or a quart; that is a common daily occurrence with me.
26,578. In 1857, did you vote for Price and Berkeley ?—I did.
26,579. Did you give any money to any persons then ?—I did not.
26,580. You gave no money in 1857 at all ?—I did not.
26,581. Was there a committee for Price and Monk held at your house at the last election ?—There was.
26,582. What is the name of your house ?—"The Crown and Thistle."
26,583. Was Mr. Moss one of the committee-men ? —He was.
26,584. Was any arrangement come to there as to the prices that should be given for votes ?—Not that I am aware of.
26,585. You do not know of any such arrangement having been come to ?—Certainly not.
26,586. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you attend that committee yourself ?—I was backwards and forwards. I did not sit down and discuss the business with them. I was backwards and forwards in the room.
26,587. But you heard no such arrangement come to ?—I did not.

W. Clegram.

WILLIAM CLEGRAM sworn and examined.

26,588. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you connected with the Gloucester and Berkeley Canal?—I am superintendent and engineer to it.
26,589. Do you know a man named Joseph Clark, a pilot ?—Yes; I know the man.
26,590. Did you know him in the year 1857 ?—Yes. I have known him for some years.
26,591. Had you any conversation with him with regard to the election of 1857 ?—No. I have never interfered with elections for the last thirty years; I have had nothing to do with them.
26,592. After the election of 1857, did Clark say anything to you with regard to any payment that had been made to him for his vote ?—Never. I think it is a mistake altogether. You must mean my son. You must have made a mistake entirely with regard to me.
26,593. Is your son in Gloucester ?—He is ten miles from here, but will be very glad to attend without a summons, if you request him.
26,594. Is he here now ?—No.
26,595. Do you know whether any communication was made to your son by Joseph Clarke ?—I never heard anything about it.

I. James.

ISAAC JAMES sworn and examined.

26,596. (*Mr. Welford.*) Where do you live ?—In Southgate Street.
26,597. You gave some money at the last election to some one, did you not ?—No.
26,598. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) What had you to do with the election ?—Nothing at all.
26,599. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you offer any money? —A person named Wright came tipsy to our house one night, and said one of the other party had offered him 10*l.*; and I said, "If you will go and vote for Sir "Robert Carden I will give you 10*l.*;" that was all that passed. I said it in joke, and never intended to give him 10*l.* or 10*d.*
26,600. Who did you vote for at the last election ? —I voted for Sir Robert Carden.
26,601. You offered 10*l.* to Wright ?—Yes.
26,602. To vote for Sir Robert Carden ?—Yes.
26,603. You say you had no intention to give it him ?—Not the least.
26,604. Did you offer any money to any other person ?—No, to no other person.
26,605. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) He was drunk, was he? —Yes, he was.
26,606. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It was all a jest on your part ?—Yes. He was just come from the other party down to the house.
26,607. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you think he took it seriously ?—Oh, he knew quite well I was not going to give it to him.

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called, and further examined.

26,608. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you prepared with the information with which we requested you to furnish us ?—Yes. You directed me yesterday to prepare you an analysis of the 201 unpolled voters at the election of 1853. I have done so to the best of my ability, consulting the poll-books of other years, though I still find that there are some voters as to whom I am unable to make any return. If you remember, it was suggested that the contest had been abandoned by the Conservatives early in the day. I find that there were unpolled at four o'clock 92 Liberal voters, and at the same time 57 Conservative voters.
26,609. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How do you get at the fact that those 92 were Liberals ?—By consulting the poll-book both of the previous and subsequent elections. There were 21 electors who had voted on other occasions one and one; that is, for one Conservative and one Liberal, and who did the same on this occasion; that makes 170 votes. As to the political opinions of the other 31 I can learn nothing to guide me in forming an estimate; but if you gave those all to the Tories there would still be a smaller number of Tory voters unpolled than there were Liberal voters. Then, if you will allow me, I should wish to correct some of those figures which I went through yesterday, because it appears to me that the Commissioners would be likely to come to a false conclusion if they were to act upon those figures alone. I will explain to you, if you please, what I mean. With reference to the election of 1852 I suggested that it would be fair to take, as the relative strength of the two parties at that time, the plumpers for Mr. Hope, on the one hand, and the split votes between Price and Berkeley, on the other. Now, on looking into the matter, I find that on that occasion

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there were 27 plumpers given for Mr. Price, and 35 plumpers for Admiral Berkeley. Of course those must be taken into the calculation.

26,610. (*Mr. Welford.*) You claim to add those 52 voters to the Liberal strength?—Yes, because those must undoubtedly be considered as Liberal votes.

26,611. You mean that that number ought to be added to the votes that were split between Price and Berkeley for the purpose of showing what the Liberal strength was in the election of 1852?—Yes; and I do not think that that is quite all that ought to be added; there are, you see, 144 split votes between Price and Hope, and there are 91 split votes between Berkeley and Hope. Now, in making this calculation, I have added those 144 and the 91 together, and then divided them, and given 117 to each party.

26,612. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You divide the total of the split votes?—Yes; 144 and 91. I divide those, and add 117 to the Tory and 117 to the Liberal party.

26,613. On what principle do you do that?—Because it appears to be as likely that they were Whig votes as that they were Tory votes that were split. It must remain a matter of doubt which they were, and I think the Liberals are as much entitled to the benefit of that doubt as the Conservatives are, especially as it is well known that Mr. Hope was extremely popular; there is no doubt of that. I do not wish to say it ironically, but he was a very charitable man in the town. He was a large benefactor to our public charities, and I have no doubt that that secured him a great many split votes from the Liberal party, and I believe that at any time he would secure a greater number of votes than any other Conservative candidate.

26,614. Have you ascertained how those persons who split their votes between Hope and Berkeley and Hope and Price in 1852 voted at other elections?—No, I have not.

26,615. You might find that at subsequent elections a much larger number than 117 voted either for the Conservative party or for the Liberal party?—I might find that, and therefore I thought the fairer plan was to strike an average.

26,616. (*Mr. Welford.*) Or to take them out altogether?—Yes; that would be the same thing; it would not affect my calculation at all. You will see that that would make the Liberal strength at that time, after the pure election of 1852, 839.

26,617. Out of what number on the register?—I do not know. I have not got a perfect register for 1852.

26,618. How many voters were there unpolled at the election in 1852?—116.

26,619. You have no means, have you, of getting at the opinions of those 116 voters?—I do not know that I could find a poll-book previous to 1852. Then the plumpers for Mr. Hope were 525; and if you add the 117 which I have added to the other, that makes 642. Then I deduct 642 from 839, and get a majority at that time of 197. Between 1852 and 1857, according to the returns that I gave you in yesterday, I make out that the Tories gained 67. I think that was the figure. That reduces the majority in 1857 to 130. Then between 1857 and 1859 I make out, by the same figures, that the Liberals gained 28, which, added to the 130, makes 158, which is the majority I claim now; and that corroborates the idea I have entertained from the first that there was a Liberal majority of 150. I must say I believe most conscientiously that that is a fair and correct statement; and although I had not before gone into the figures so minutely as I have now done, the calculation which I have now given you gives an additional proof of the correctness of my former estimate.

26,620. You consider that the elaborate calculations which you have now gone into bear out the calculations which you made previous to the last election?—I do most conscientiously believe that they do. At all events there cannot be a difference of more than 20 or 25 one way or the other.

26,621. Mr. Lovegrove I suppose will not admit the accuracy of your conclusion?

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*)—No; I am afraid there would be some difficulty in agreeing to Mr. Wilton's calculation.

(*The witness*).—I do not think there can be any doubt that Mr. Lovegrove and myself would materially differ upon that point when you bear in mind that Mr. Tayuton and myself differed so much yesterday that he claimed a gain to the Conservatives of 70, when I said that the Liberals had gained 28. I do not know whether the Commissioners think it worth while to investigate the matter; but I have given you the figures, and you will judge for yourselves what the result of them is. The only thing that can affect the calculation at all is one as to which you will be able to form an opinion as well as either Mr. Lovegrove or I could; and that is the question as to venality.

26,622. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) According to your calculation there could have have been no necessity for resorting to bribery in 1859?—I am extremely obliged to Mr. Lovegrove for suggesting that question. We had a conviction that there had been very extensive bribery in 1857. We had failed, however, to prove it, and I had said again and again (I will admit it) that rather than be placed in a similar position to that in which we were placed in 1857 we would prefer being defendants to being plaintiffs in a petition, because it was so much more difficult to unseat a member than to retain the seat. We laid before the committee of 1857 the evidence of Mrs. Hatton, which there was no mistake about, which you have heard, and which, I am quite sure, you must believe.

26,623. You must not state that?—I believe it myself, at any rate.

26,624. You must not express your belief?—We laid before the committee also the case of Beckley, and our petition, which was founded on that evidence, being unsuccessful, we felt it was necessary to fight the Conservatives with their own weapons; and, carried away by our enthusiasm, we did that which was extremely wrong, no doubt, as well as foolish, and bribed to a much larger extent than was necessary. There is one other observation I should wish to make, and that is, that although we bribed largely in 1859, it has been proved that the Conservatives bribed largely also; and that being the case I would ask how did it happen that we had the large majority that we had of 185 for Mr. Monk, and 212 for Mr. Price.

26,625. Do you know whether in 1857 more plumpers were polled for Sir Robert Carden than were polled in 1852 for Mr. Hope?—I daresay it was so, because the one was a pure election and the other was not.

26,626. You have not the figures before you, have you?—Yes. I see Sir Robert Carden in his speech said, "I have had 612 plumpers, a circumstance un-"paralleled in the history of Gloucester."

26,627. Are you enabled or would you be enabled to inform us what the rental is of the various persons who have been bribed either on one side or on the other?—I will endeavour to learn it, if you wish it.

26,628. We have put some questions to-day to some of the witnesses with reference to the rentals paid by persons who were householders, and who have come before us and stated that they received money; and we should be glad to be informed as to the rental of other persons occupying houses in Gloucester who voted, and who were bribed?—The difficulty would be to get a perfect list of the bribed voters..

26,629. We can supply you with that by and by, and if we do perhaps you and Mr. Lovegrove will be able to agree, and return us the list filled in and signed by yourselves?—I shall be very happy to do so.

26,630. (*To Mr. Lovegrove.*) Will you have any

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J. P. Wilton.
28 Oct. 1859.

objection to assist Mr. Wilton in doing that which we suggest ?—I shall be very happy to do so. Perhaps you will allow me to say that I do not at all agree with the deductions of Mr. Wilton as to the relative strength of the two parties. I stated yesterday that in 1853 the contest was abandoned at an early part of the day by the Conservative party ; in point of fact we had partially abandoned the contest at 11 o'clock, and at 1 o'clock we had altogether abandoned it as hopeless. From the calculation which has been put in by Mr. Wilton this morning it would appear that there were only 57 Conservative voters unpolled at the close of the poll at four o'clock ; that may be the fact ; but in Gloucester it so happens that when an election takes place, and it is abandoned by one party or the other, there are an immense number of voters, whether Liberals or Conservatives, who will go with the winning horse ; they like to see their names on the poll, and so in 1853, after we had left the committee-rooms, which was about one o'clock, and abandoned the election, we found the election still going on, and the voters polling ; and I have no doubt it would be found on an analysis of the poll that a great number of those who would be generally styled Conservatives would be found in Admiral Berkeley's ranks as voters on that occasion; and, so vice versâ, if we had been in a different position, many Liberal voters would have polled for us.

(*Mr. Walker.*)—In answer to Mr. Lovegrove's statement, perhaps the Commissioners would allow me to mention this fact, that at one o'clock, when Mr. Lovegrove says his party virtually abandoned the contest, Captain Berkeley was only eighteen ahead.

[Adjourned to Thursday next (the 3d of November) at 12 o'clock, at the chambers of Mr. Vaughan, No. 4, Paper Buildings, Temple, London].

Twenty-fifth Day.—24th November 1859.

(At the House of Commons.)

R. W. Carden.
24 Nov. 1859.

Sir Robert Walter Carden called and further examined.

26,631. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were examined by us at Gloucester, and upon that occasion you told us that you had no reason to believe what the expenditure of your election was in 1857 ?—Yes.

26,632. And you told us upon that occasion that no statement of account had ever been returned to you of the expenditure of your election in 1857. Do you adhere to those statements ?—I do.

26,633. After your examination we had an opportunity of examining Mr. Lovegrove, and Mr. Lovegrove informed us that he had returned you a statement, and that he had given you information of the expenditure of your election, and of the expenditure which was incurred in the petition ?—I have no recollection of that sort at all.

26,634. Would you be inclined to think that Mr. Lovegrove's memory upon that subject is more likely to be accurate than your own ?—No, I think not ; I am convinced that I never had any statement whatever. Mr. Lovegrove may have brought up a statement to me, and may have said to me, " Would you like to " see the accounts ?" that is very likely; but I never saw any statement to my knowledge of the expenditure, as far as regards the election, or of the expenditure as far as regards the petition ; and I can safely say that, until the examination at Gloucester, I believed sincerely that my election was pure and honourable ; and I have expressed to many parties the extraordinary anomaly that my election should have cost so much money, and that defending my seat, which was declared pure by a committee of investigation in the House of Commons, should have cost me three times as much as the election itself had cost.

26,635. Mr. Lovegrove upon that occasion stated that he gave you the information, and that he had an account before him at the time when the final settlement of the accounts in 1857 took place ?—I have no recollection of it ; it is very likely that he had an account before him.

26,636. He said he had an account similar to the one which he had at the time of his examination at Gloucester, in which the expenditure incurred in the election was set out, as contradistinguished from the expenditure incurred in the petition ?—If that was the case I never saw it. It is probable that Mr. Lovegrove had quite sufficient evidence to prove what my election and petition had cost, and if I had required such a document to be produced, I have no doubt that he was prepared to satisfy me ; but I never had any doubt upon the subject. I declare that I never had the slightest doubt about my election in 1857 until the examination in Gloucester, and I had no reason to have any doubt about it, and I will tell you why: when I first went to Gloucester I had the register shown to me, and fair proof given to me of the excess of Conservatives over Liberals. I canvassed the constituency, and I found that the replies which were given to me were just in accordance almost with the register. I went to Gloucester several days before the election, and Mr. Lovegrove, at the Bell, I think, asked me for some money for preliminary expenses, and I remember perfectly well drawing him a cheque. I did not ask him how much he wanted, but as it was mentioned to me that my election would cost from 500*l.* to 700*l.*, I drew a cheque immediately for 500*l.* Mr. Lovegrove said, " Oh, that is too much, 300*l.* " will be quite sufficient," and I then gave him a cheque for 300*l.*

26,637. That is what you stated to us before ?—Yes, but that gave me grounds to suppose that the election would cost me just exactly what they said it would, or about that. Then again, with regard to the investigation which has taken place, although stringent measures were taken to elucidate the truth with regard to the petition which was presented against me, I say that 10*l.* and 20*l.* were offered at Gloucester to any parties who could come forward to prove a case of bribery against me or my party, and they not only could not find one single case against me, but they could not find a single case against any of my party; and when a thorough investigation took place in Parliament, and when Parliament declared my election to have been fair and honourable, and that there was not a single act that could be doubted as far as regards my election, what right had I to suppose that anything improper had taken place ?

26,638. You were examined before the Committee of the House of Commons with reference to your expenditure, and with reference also to the statement made by the deputation that waited upon you in London as to what your expenditure would probably be ; do you remember stating to the committee that you understood from them that the probable amount of your expenditure would be 450*l.* ?—No ; I think it was between 500*l.* and 700*l.*

26,638a. We have before us the minutes of the evidence which you gave before the Committee of the House of Commons ?—I do not recollect at all ;

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I think I stated in my former evidence that I was told that the sum that my election would cost varied between 400*l.* and 700*l.*

26,639. I will draw your attention to the evidence which you gave before the Committee of the House of Commons; do you remember upon that occasion stating that the expenditure, as represented by the deputation to you, would probably be about 450*l.*?—I do not remember that; I stated, I think, that between 400*l.* and 700*l.* was the amount.

26,640. This question was put to you before the Committee of the House of Commons, "Do you re-"member any amount being fixed on?" and your answer was, "I think the probable amount was "stated to be about 450*l.*" You were then asked, "Was that stated to you in London?" and you said, "Yes;" the next question was, "Was anything said "about 700*l.*?" and your answer was, "No." "Not "a word?" "Not a word; I think what was said "about it was this, I said, 'I do not know what about "'Gloucester; I should like to know something "'about the expenses,' and they said they would be "very moderate, almost nothing, something like "450*l.*, which confirmed me in the idea that only "legitimate expenses would be required;" that is the evidence which you gave before the Committee of the House of Commons?—That does not differ very materially from what I have stated; I said between 400*l.* and 700*l.*

26,641. I suppose you have no reason to doubt that that was the answer which you gave to the committee on that occasion?—I suppose it is.

26,642. That being the sum which, according to your evidence, was stated to you by the deputation, how was it that you paid upwards of 4,000*l.* without making any inquiry at all as to the mode in which that money had been expended?—Because I did not consider, judging from the cost of the petition at St. Albans, that the expenditure was very excessive; I knew what the cost of previous petitions had been.

26,643. Is that the only explanation you can offer upon the subject?—That is the only explanation I can offer.

26,644. You did not consider it material to inquire whether that 4,000*l.* had been all expended upon the petition or the major portion of it, or what portion of it had been expended upon the election?—Not at all.

26,645. You did not consider that it was necessary for the purpose of carrying into effect the professions of purity which you made on becoming a candidate for Gloucester you should inquire what the expenses of your election had been?—No; because I had no doubt about it; the idea of bribery never came into my head at that time, and it never came before me therefore to inquire.

26,646. Do you say you had no reason to doubt it from the time of your election down to the time of the settlement of the accounts?—Down to the time of the investigation at Gloucester.

26,647. I called your attention, when you were examined at Gloucester, to a correspondence which had taken place between yourself and a gentlemen of the name of Phillpotts?—You did.

26,648. At first you denied that you had any recollection of any such correspondence having taken place?—I said I had no recollection of it.

26,649. We have since that time had Mr. Phillpotts before us, and he has furnished us with a copy of the correspondence which passed between you and him upon that occasion; the first letter is a letter dated the 30th of March 1857?—Is that a letter addressed to me?

26,650. Yes; it is addressed to you, and it is in these terms:—"Mr. A. Phillpotts respectfully pre-"sents his compliments to Sir Robert W. Carden. "Mr. Phillpotts was in Gloucester to-day, and found "the city free from personal ill-feeling as the conse-"quence of the late election; but the very humiliating "fact was admitted on all sides, that Saturday's elec-"tion was entirely decided by 'bought votes.' All "respectable blues, acquainted at all with what was "passing, admit it as freely as any other portion of "the constituency; hence the absence of angry dis-"putes. But this unanimity does not prevent the "most grave imputations being heard against Sir "Robert from those who do him (as Mr. Phillpotts "believes) the great injustice of supposing, that in "the face of his recent public avowals, and his ex-"pressed proud satisfaction for his former course at "St. Alban's, Sir Robert can wish now to hold a seat "for Gloucester upon any other terms than 'upon "'the basis of his own character, and from the free "'and unbiassed votes of the electors.' Those who "take the less generous view very naturally shudder "at the future, since all know too well, from past ex-"perience, what must be the consequence should a "gentleman of Sir Robert's wealth and position throw "himself into the hands of those who have been the "most active in the last election. Mr. Phillpotts "respectfully invites Sir Robert's attention to the "enclosed suggestion;" then there are some suggestions as to the course to be adopted, which I need not read; to that you reply by a letter, which I will now read?—I do not, I think, do I, myself?

26,651. Yes; so it is stated. We have a copy of the correspondence before us; Mr. Phillpotts said he had an answer from you to that letter; it is dated, "2, "Royal Exchange Buildings, 1st April 1857," Mr. Phillpotts's letter to you being dated on the 30th of March:—"Sir, your letter of the 30th ultimo, reached "me only this morning. Believing most sincerely "that its allegations have not an atom of truth in "them, I have transmitted it to my agent in Glou-"cester, I am, sir, your obedient servant, Robert W. "Carden." To that letter, it is stated, there was this reply, dated,—"Gloucester, 2nd April 1857. Mr. A. "H. Phillpotts presents his compliments to Alderman "Sir Robert Carden. Mr. Phillpotts begs to acknow-"ledge the receipt of Sir Robert's note of yesterday's "date, in answer to Mr. Phillpotts' communication of "Monday evening (posted, Tuesday morning from "Minsterworth), and begs to state, that unless he "hears to the contrary from Sir Robert, he shall feel "himself at liberty to make both letters public;" and you are said to have replied to that letter by a letter, dated the 3rd of April 1857, in these terms:—"Sir, I "have to acknowledge your further letter of the 2d "instant, which I have likewise transmitted to my "agent at Gloucester. As regards any publication "you may choose to make, I shall hold you respon-"sible." That is the correspondence which is said to have taken place between you and Mr. Phillpotts immediately after the election in 1857. There was a statement there made, by Mr. Phillpotts, which directly charged that your election had been obtained by bought votes; how was it that, that correspondence having taken place, you made no inquiry upon the subject?—I certainly had overlooked that letter; there could have been no motive for it, for there was the evidence against me. I entirely overlooked it; but Mr. Phillpotts was a violent partisan; I considered his allegations most impertinent, as from one gentleman to another, and I thought my only duty was to send his letter down to my agents, and let them deal with it as they thought right. In every constituency there is one impertinent man to be found ready to do the work which he did. I consider that if every member of Parliament was bound to have a private investigation made on the result of which his right to the seat was to stand or fall, merely on the representation of some man who came forward and wished to have an investigation, there would be an investigation into almost every election of a member of Parliament throughout the country.

26,652. Do you not think that you stood in rather a peculiar situation with respect to Gloucester, seeing that when you went there as a candidate you went there professing principles of purity and a determination that you would not be elected if it would cost you a single sixpence?—In the first place I would say I believe there was at that time a petition against my seat.

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R. W. Carden.
24 Nov. 1859.

26,653. This was only three days after the election?—But a petition was then threatened; it was threatened at the time of the election, the day after the election.

26,654. I am referring to a correspondence which commenced on the 30th of March, immediately after your election in 1857?—That was after the threat of a petition.

26,655. The election took place on a Saturday, and on the following Monday the letter which I have read to you was written by Mr. Phillpotts?—And on the same day as the election, I think, they said they would have a petition against me.

26,656. Did you make any inquiry in consequence of receiving that letter from Mr. Phillpotts?—I did not; I sent it to my agent who was the proper person to make any inquiries that might be considered necessary.

26,657. Did you make any inquiries first or last of Mr. Lovegrove, whether there was any foundation for the charge contained in the letter which was sent to you by Mr. Phillpotts?—Do you think I should have been justified in making an investigation merely because a person made that statement?

26,658. I simply asked you the question whether you did or did not?—I did not.

26,659. Had you known Mr. Phillpotts prior to the receipt of that letter?—I do not know him personally now; I daresay I have had communication with him.

26,660. Did you know at that time that he was a political opponent of yours?—I think he showed it at the election; I understood so.

26,661. Did you know him to be so at the time you received that letter from him?—I do not know that I did.

26,662. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did not Mr. Phillpotts second Sir Maurice Berkeley on the hustings?—I really do not know, but I think he did, now you mention it.

26,663. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were not acquainted with the position of Mr. Phillpotts in Gloucester as a politician?—I do not know that I knew him; I do not even know him personally at the present moment, but I understand that Mr. Phillpotts was on the bench at the time when the question was asked me about the letter; and if I had been in Mr. Phillpott's position, as one gentleman to another having two or three answers from a gentleman, I would have made some suggestion to him to remind him of the letters, instead of acting as if I meant to entrap him. I had no desire to deny the fact; I mean to say that if Mr. Phillpott's was on the bench and suggested the inquiry about that letter, if I had been in Mr. Phillpott's position I would have made such suggestions as would have shown that answers were sent to it, if I knew such to be the fact.

26,664. With regard to that I would state that a note was sent to me by Mr. Phillpotts, in consequence of which I put questions to you in which the name of Mr. Phillpotts was directly mentioned. I asked you whether you had any correspondence with a gentleman named Phillpotts; you did not recollect that you had had any correspondence with him, but I think you said that if you had received a letter of the sort suggested from Mr. Phillpotts, you would not have taken any notice of it because he was a political opponent?—If he seconded Sir Maurice Berkeley, of course I should have considered him so, but I really do not know him.

26,665. That letter having been written to you, you having been informed when the deputation came to you in London that 450*l.* was the amount that you might probably be called on to expend for your election, and you afterwards paying 4,000*l.* for defraying the expenses of the petition and of the election, were you not under the belief that a portion of that money had been expended for purposes of bribery, and did you not in consequence of that abstain from putting any questions to Mr. Lovegrove upon the subject?—Certainly not

26,666. Are you aware that that is not the conclusion at which Mr. Lovegrove, your agent, has arrived?—I cannot tell what his conclusions are.

26,667. You do not know what Mr. Lovegrove's opinion is upon the subject?—No, I do not; I never asked him.

26,668. Mr. Lovegrove has said that you are a man of the world, a good man of business, and a man as well acquainted with figures as any man in London?—And a bad politician.

26,669. You remember making the payment of 200*l.*, do you not, to Mr. Bernard, in London, in 1857?—Yes, I have no doubt I did.

26,670. We understand that you expressed no surprise, irritation, or annoyance when the subject of the 200*l.* was mentioned to you?—I really do not remember the circumstance; but I daresay I was annoyed.

26,671. Do you remember Mr. Bernard telling you that he had given the money to Mr. Lovegrove?—I do not remember it; I did not remember anything about the 200*l.* till it was brought to my recollection.

26,672. Mr. Bernard has told us that he informed you he had given 200*l.* to Mr. Lovegrove, and that you were not at all surprised at it, and made no inquiry upon the subject?—Very likely not; if he said he had paid it, I suppose I repaid him.

26,673. Is it customary for a gentleman to make payments of 200*l.* for money said to have been spent on his behalf without putting some question as to the circumstances under which the money was paid?—I do not think it is.

26,674. And in any other than an electioneering transaction, I suppose you would not have adopted that course?—I might not probably; I suppose he told me that he had paid the money; I do not know how or to whom.

26,675. You remember, I believe, seeing Mr. Cooke, the barrister, in August 1857?—Was that before the election in 1857?

26,676. No, after the election; in August?—I may have seen him, but I do not remember any particular circumstances occurring.

26,677. Do you remember, or do you not remember, having seen him at that time?—I could not say I remember seeing him; very likely I may have seen him.

26,678. Do you remember telling him that the expenditure at your election in 1857 had caused you great surprise, that it was a large amount that had been expended, and that you could not understand it?—I do not remember saying so; but if I did speak of the expenditure I meant all the expenditure, including the petition.

26,679. Do you remember an application being made to you by Mr. Cooke for some money?—I should think that Mr. Cooke would not have applied to me for money.

26,680. Do you remember his doing so or not?—I do not remember it; I should not think that Mr. Cooke would apply to me for it; I do not know why he should.

26,681. Do you remember to have given Mr. Cooke a cheque for 1,000*l.*?—Never.

26,682. You never did?—No; not that I know of.

26,683. Or to have paid 1,000*l.*?—I paid 1,000*l.*; I think I stated in my former evidence that one of my cheques was a cheque for 1,000*l.*

26,684. Did you pay that to Mr. Cooke?—I do not think so; I think it went to Mr. Lovegrove.

26,685. As far as you recollect, it was not given to Mr. Cooke?—I really cannot tell you; Mr. Lovegrove will tell you, I dare say.

26,686. Do you remember an interview in August 1857 with Mr. Cooke, at which interview money was given by you to him?—Was anybody else present? was Mr. Lovegrove present?

26,687. We understand not; Mr. Cooke has been examined, and he has told us that he received 1,000*l.* from you; I wish to know whether you remember Mr. Cooke coming to you, and asking you for that

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sum of money ?—I really do not ; my impression was that I gave Mr. Lovegrove 1,000*l.*

26,688. Will you venture to say that you did not, upon that occasion, complain to Mr. Cooke of the expenditure in your election, and say you could not understand how so large an amount of money could have been spent ?—I do not remember saying so, unless I combined the two things, and put the expenses of the election and of the petition together.

26,689. We did not gather that from Mr. Cooke's evidence ?—I did not read Mr. Cooke's evidence ; if Mr. Cooke came to me he must have come relative to the petition, I suppose, for he had nothing whatever to do with the election.

26,690. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect to whom that cheque for 1,000*l.* was made payable ?—My impression is that I wrote a cheque, and went over to my bankers and got 1,000*l.*, or two 500*l.* notes, and gave them to Mr. Cooke or Mr. Lovegrove; I thought it was to Mr. Lovegrove. I remember going over to my banker's, and drawing a cheque for 1,000*l.* and paying it (as I thought) to Mr. Lovegrove.

26,691. The question put to Mr. Cooke is this ; "There was a sum of 1,000*l.* which came to your "hands from Sir Robert Carden ?" and his answer was, "That is so. Mr. Lovegrove, at the summer "assizes, said he did not like asking Sir Robert "Carden for money, and he asked me how he was to "get it. I said, 'If I see Sir Robert Carden, I will "'tell him that he ought to send you down some "'money.' On my return to London I called on Sir "Robert Carden, and said to him, 'Your friends at "'Gloucester, now that the petition is over, would "'like a little money'" (showing they had abstained from making any application to you until the petition was over). "Your friends at Gloucester, now that "the petition is over, would like a little money. He "said, 'How much do you think I should send ?' I "said, 'I should think about 1,000*l.*' He then gave "me 1,000*l.*" Then he is asked, "When you applied "to Sir Robert Carden for money for his Gloucester "friends, did Sir Robert Carden express to you any "surprise at the large amount that his election "had cost him ?" and he answers, "He did ; he "began to ask me some questions about it. I said, "'Every candidate, when he starts for a place, is sup-"'posed to have a mint of money, and everybody likes "'to put his hand in his pocket ; it is impossible to "'prevent it.'" The next question is, "Did he lead "you to understand that he believed a considerable "portion of the money that had been spent had been "spent in bribery ?" The answer is, "No, I did "not go into anything of that sort." He is then asked, "Did he himself express any opinion of that "kind ?" and he says, No ; I do not remember his "expressing an opinion one way or the other. I "think he merely said, 'It seems a large sum of "'money'"?—Yes, I consider my election and petition together as my election, because the one is consequent on the other.

26,692. But this 1,000*l.* was going down to Gloucester ?—No, I did not send it down to Gloucester.

26,693. You gave it to Mr. Cooke. Mr. Cooke says, "I said, 'If I see Sir Robert Carden, I will tell "'him that he ought to send you down some money.' "On my return to London, I called on Sir Robert "Carden, and said to him, 'Your friends at Glou-"'cester, now that the petition is over, would like a "'little money'"?—That was, I suppose, to pay the fees of the lawyers, and so on ; that was what I concluded.

26,694. Money which is paid to counsel for fees is usually paid through parliamentary agents ?—But they do not advance money if they can help it.

26,695. This money was going down to Gloucester, and Mr. Cooke says you did express some surprise at the election having cost more than it ought ?—Yes ; I include all the consequences of my election.

26,696. Those circumstances being brought to your attention in this way ; first of all, the small amount of money which you understood from the deputation your election would cost you, and then, the fact of an application being made to you by Mr. Bernard for the 200*l.* which had been paid to Mr. Lovegrove, and your own expression of opinion that your election had cost a large sum of money, how was it that the accounts of Mr. Lovegrove were settled without your making from first to last a single inquiry as to the mode in which the money had been spent ?—You speak of my election ; I consider the cost of the election and of the petition to be all the cost of the election. If you ask me what my election cost me in 1857, I should state it at 4,000*l.*, or whatever the sum is. I consider that the cost of protecting your seat is part of the cost of your election ; and when I complained of the expenses, I meant the expenses both of the election and of the petition.

26,697. As a man of business, paying away upwards of 4,000*l.*, looking to the fact that you went down to Gloucester professing to be anxious that your election should be a pure election, do you think it consistent with your duty that you should abstain from making any inquiry whatever with respect to the cost of your election proper ?—I never thought of it, and never wished to do it ; in the case of lawyers' bills, I always look to the sum total, and pay it.

26,698. You had it brought to your notice, by a letter from Mr. Phillpotts two days after the election, that your election was supposed to have been obtained by bought votes, and yet you paid away that large sum of money without making any inquiry of your agent whether your election had been obtained by means of bought votes or not ?—I had no reason to believe it had been, and therefore I did not ask the question.

26,699. Now, with regard to the sum of 500*l.* which you paid to Mr. Bernard in the present year on account of the election in 1859 ; I understood you to say that you had no communication with Mr. Bernard prior to his going to Gloucester, as to the expediency of his going there or as to his providing himself with a sum of money for the disbursement of expenses at Gloucester?—Never in any shape or way whatever; I purposely abstained from having anybody with me in Gloucester, that there should be no communication whatever.

26,700. You stated that you did expostulate with Mr. Bernard when he told you that he had paid 500*l* ? —I did.

26,701. Did you say anything more to him than this, "How came you to do so without consulting "me ?"—I think I said, "What business had you to "do that ?" or something of that kind.

26,702. Did you say anything more to him than "How came you to do that without consulting me ?" —I am sure I do not remember the conversation that I had with him at all.

26,703. He made an application to you for the payment of that money ?—He did not make an application to me for it ; it came out incidentally.

26,704. He informed you that he had paid that money within a few days after the election in the present year ?—Yes, within a few days.

26,705. And he having told you that 500*l.* had been spent by him for election expenses, all you said to him was, "How came you to do that without con-"sulting me ?" is that so ?—I do not really remember the words that were used.

26,706. Would they be something like that ?—I really do not remember at all ; I was very indignant at the fact, and very much surprised at the fact.

26,707. We do not gather from Mr. Bernard that there was any large amount of indignation ; you told us you were disgusted ?—And so I was.

26,708. Mr. Bernard seems to think that the disgust arose rather from your having to pay so much money out of your own pocket ; do you think that would be a right interpretation to put upom it ?—Of course that was the disgust.

26,709. It was not a disgust at the supposition that the money had been improperly spent ?—If it

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R. W. Carden.
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had not been taken out of my pocket it would not have been spent; the one is a consequence of the other.

26,710. From what circumstances did your disgust arise?—That money had been spent at all without consulting me.

26,711. Your indignation did not arise from any supposition on your part that the money had been improperly spent?—The thing had been done, you see.

26,712. It was of no use your being indignant when the evil had been accomplished?—It had been accomplished; but I was indignant at the supposition.

26,713. At the time when you paid that 500*l.* to Mr. Bernard were you not well aware that that sum had been spent in bribery and corrupt practices?—Certainly not; at the time I paid it to him, do you say.

26,714. Yes?—I could not tell; when I had an application from Mr. Lovegrove for 500*l.* and from Mr. Bernard for 500*l.* I began to fancy that everything was not quite correct.

26,715. When you paid the 500*l.* to Mr. Bernard did you not know that it must have been spent in bribery and corrupt practices?—I did not know it, certainly.

26,716. Had you no suspicion that it had been so spent?—I could not understand how it had been spent; I supposed that it had been spent improperly, but I knew nothing of the facts.

26,717. Did you not believe that it had been expended in bribery and corrupt practices?—I supposed that it had been spent improperly in some way or other. I could not tell how it had been spent; at Norwich we hear that 500*l.* has gone to one man.

26,718. I must have an answer to my question, and the term "improperly" must be more fully explained; did you not, when you paid that 500*l.*, suppose that the money had been expended in bribery and corrupt practices?—I had no right to suppose that at all; I was sure it must have been spent improperly because it was a larger sum than could have been spent in legal expenses.

26,719. Did you suppose anything?—I can only say I supposed it was spent improperly, but I cannot say I supposed it was spent in bribery; it might have been a fee to some man there.

26,720. What do you mean by the term "improperly"?—Illegally; but as to bribery I knew nothing of it whatever.

26,721. (*Mr. Welford.*) When we examined you at Gloucester you told us that if you had been aware or had suspected that there was bribery at the election in 1857 you would not have been a candidate in 1859?—I do not think I should.

26,722. Is that still the impression on your mind?—Yes.

26,723. First of all you have had recalled to your attention the letter which was addressed to you by Mr. Phillpotts, telling you, two days after the election, that there had been bribery; then the accounts which were furnished to you by Mr. Lovegrove. Mr. Lovegrove has told us that he offered that his accounts should be audited by Mr. Bernard, and you were informed of that and declined to have such an investigation?—Mr. Lovegrove, as I stated before, was perfectly willing, I believe, to furnish me with every item of expenditure.

26,724. You settled the account with Mr. Lovegrove in August 1857, I believe?—I do not know.

26,725. That is what Mr. Lovegrove has stated?—I dare say it is so.

26,726. And he has told us that an account was then before him in which the expenses of the election were distinguished from the expenses of the petition, and that you might, if you had pleased, have examined that account?—I dare say I might.

26,727. Did you not purposely abstain from examining that account in order to avoid knowing that there had been any illegal expenditure of money?—No; I have frequently said I did not.

26,728. Do you say so now?—Yes, I say so now.

26,729. Let me call your attention to what Mr. Lovegrove has said upon that point. He was asked, "Did he ask you at all whether any portion of that "money had been spent illegally?" His answer is, "Well, I think it must have been from a suspicion "that he must have had that he preferred not to have "any accounts." He was then asked, "You think "that was in consequence of some suspicion that he "had?" And he says, "I think that is the right con-"struction." The next question is, "And you think "that in consequence of that suspicion he preferred "not to make any inquiry with reference to the dif-"ference existing between the two accounts?" (that is, between the amount of the published auditor's account and the amount which appeared as the expenses of the election upon the account settled with you). And he says, "I really think so." The impression therefore on your own agent's mind was, that you declined to investigate the accounts in order to avoid having brought home to you a direct knowledge of the fact, that there had been bribery?—That is his impression.

26,730. You say that that is not the fact?—Certainly not; I am not bound by my agent's impressions. Professional men, when they send in their accounts, I dare say, generally have them scrutinized and looked into; and it may have struck Mr. Lovegrove as very extraordinary that I should not have gone into his accounts; but I had no other motive for not looking into them than that I wished to pay the whole of them and to get quit of them.

26,731. You have told us that you would not have gone down to the election in 1859 if you had known at that time that there had been a corrupt expenditure of money in 1857?—Yes.

26,732. Were you not wilfully blind to the corrupt practices which were resorted to in 1857?—Whether I was wilfully blind or not, I was blind; I have told you over and over again that until the examination at Gloucester I was not at all aware that my election in 1857 had not been honest and correct; I cannot say more than that.

26,733. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you recollect how much money you sent to Mr. Lovegrove during the time that you were member for Gloucester, for the purpose of its being disbursed in charities?—I really do not know.

26,734. Would it amount, do you think, to so large a sum as 300*l.* or 400*l*?—I should think so.

26,735. Did you receive from Mr. Lovegrove any account of the charities which had the benefit of that money?—I think I may have seen some account of it; I do not think I have got it; it may have been just put before me and taken back again, as far as I know.

26,736. You had no reason to be dissatisfied with Mr. Lovegrove?—No; I placed the most perfect confidence in him. If Mr. Lovegrove had told me at the end of the year that he had paid a couple of hundred pounds for me, I should have given him a cheque for it at once. There was no application made to me from Gloucester, I believe, that I did not attend to. Mr. Lovegrove said, "It is usual to do these things." And if Mr. Lovegrove had said to me, "I have paid "250*l.* for you to charities," I should not have asked him a question upon the subject, but should have given him a cheque at once; it would not signify to me whether it was 5*l.* to a lying-in hospital, 5*l.* to some other charity, and so on; it was the total that I wanted.

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SAMUEL DERRICK PATCH sworn and examined. *S. D. Patch.*

24 Nov. 1859.

26,737. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Were you, in the month of April in the present year, a clerk or assistant of Mr. Gilbert's, in Parliament Street?—No, I was not a clerk to him at all at any time.

26,738. Were you in the habit of going to Mr. Gilbert's office?—I was.

26,739. Do you remember, in that month, Sir William Hayter calling at Mr. Gilbert's?—I recollect very well Sir William Hayter sending a messenger to Mr. Gilbert.

26,740. You do not remember his calling himself?—Not in the month of April.

26,741. In consequence of that message, did you communicate with Mr. Webb?—The message came about half-past six in the evening; Webb was not there, and the messenger left word that the party was to call on Sir William Hayter the next morning at 10 o'clock in Ryder Street. Webb not arriving at half-past 10, I went to Ryder Street, and saw Sir William Hayter myself.

26,742. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Can you fix the day?—The message was on the 14th.

26,743. The 14th of what?—Of April.

26,744. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) On the 14th of April the message came?—Yes, it was on the Thursday prior to Mr. Gilbert coming to London, which he did on the 18th.

26,745. How do you know that it was not at an earlier period of the month than the 14th that the message arrived?—I should say it was not for this reason; that I know it was the Thursday prior to Mr. Gilbert's arrival in town, and I take it from those dates.

26,746. You know that?—I am certain of it.

26,747. Did you see Webb on the 15th?—I did.

26,748. After you had seen Sir William Hayter, on the morning of the 15th, you saw Webb?—Yes; I went up to see Sir William Hayter; I was going to explain. He said I was not the person he wanted, and I explained to him that Webb had not arrived, but that I would send him up, which I did.

26,749. That, in point of fact, is all the communication that took place between you and Sir William Hayter?—That is all.

26,750. The Thursday prior to Mr. Gilbert's arrival, I understand you to say, would be the 14th?—Yes, Thursday was the 14th, and Friday the 15th.

26,751. Had there been any quarrel between yourself and Webb?—Not at that time.

26,752. But between that time and the end of the month had there been a quarrel?—There had; on the 22nd—Good Friday.

26,753. In consequence of that had there been a cessation of all communication between yourself and Webb?—Yes, from that day, the 22d, till the 2d of May.

26,754. Did you at all know that Webb was stopping at the King's Arms?—I did not.

26,755. Did you know of any telegrams being received by him?—Certainly not.

26,756. Nothing of the sort?—Nothing.

26,757. In short, as far as regards the Gloucester election, or anything connected with it, you have no knowledge, except the circumstance which you have mentioned, of a message having been received at Mr. Gilbert's office from Sir William Hayter, and your seeing him the next morning?—No.

26,758. Was the message which you received in writing?—No, it was a verbal message, brought by a messenger who came from the House of Commons.

26,759. Was that a message for Webb to see Sir William Hayter?—The words were these: that any person in Mr. Gilbert's office, Sir William Hayter would be glad to see.

26,760. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you receive any message about the Gloucester election at any time?—Never.

26,761. You received no telegraphic message?—Never.

26,762. Had you any communication from him, or from any other person?—No, none.

26,763. Nor from Thompson?—None.

26,764. You know Thompson, do you not?—Yes, I know Thompson.

26,765. Did you know that he was at Gloucester?—No, I did not.

26,766. You did not consider yourself a person in Mr. Gilbert's office, so as to answer the description given by the messenger?—I did not.

26,767. And when you saw Sir William Hayter, you told him so?—Yes, otherwise I might have gone to Sir William Hayter that night, which I did not do.

26,768. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) It was on the 15th that you saw Sir William Hayter?—Yes, on the Friday morning.

26,769. What did you do upon that?—I returned back to the office, and then I found Webb, and told him he had better go to Sir William Hayter.

26,770. Did Webb go to him?—He did; at least he told me so, and Thompson went with him.

26,771. When was that?—On the Friday morning, the 15th.

26,772. On the same day?—Yes; I do not know that Thompson went in; they went away together and returned together.

26,773. (*Mr. Welford.*) Was Thompson in the office when you gave the message to Webb?—He came in just after.

26,774. Did he and Webb leave together to go to Sir William Hayter's?—They did; they left the office together.

26,775. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You do not know for what purpose they left the office, do you?—No more than that Webb said he was going to Ryder Street to see Sir William Hayter.

26,776. (*Mr. Welford.*) And that was in Thompson's presence?—Yes.

26,777. Was your message delivered in Thompson's presence?—It was.

Sir WILLIAM GOODENOUGH HAYTER, Bart., M.P., called and further examined. *W. G. Hayter.*

26,778. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were examined at Gloucester?—Yes. Perhaps before you proceed with my further examination, you will allow me to say that I believe the evidence which has just been given by Patch is quite correct, and it is not inconsistent with anything I have said, except in one respect, as to which I think he is wrong. When I sent a messenger to Mr. Gilbert's office, I sent for Mr. Gilbert; I did not know at that time that he was out of town. The answer that was sent to me, I believe, was that he was out of town, and my message, therefore, could not have been for any person to be sent to me from Mr. Gilbert's office; my message was that I wished to see Mr. Gilbert himself.

26,779. How long before you sent that message to Mr. Gilbert's office was it that you had the conversation with Mr. Moffatt that you spoke of in the evidence you gave to us at Gloucester?—I believe it was either a day or two days before, or perhaps on that very day. My impression was that it was a day or a day or two before.

26,780. It was, at all events, within a day or so?—Yes, I am not quite sure that it was not the same day.

26,781. I do not know whether you have been able to discover any letters with reference to these transactions?—There were three letters; there was one letter that I received at Wells, as to which I was not

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W. G. Hayter.
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perfectly certain whether it was an extract from Mr. Price's letter or Mr. Price's letter itself. My impression was that it was his letter, and that I received it with a letter from Mr. Parkes. I stated before that I thought the whole matter was concluded, and that I tore those letters up. Then there was a letter from Mr. Moffatt, containing the cheque. I stated on my former examination, that my impression was that I had put that letter in the envelope, or that if I had not done that, I had put it by the side of the envelope in the despatch box; but I have not seen that letter from that time, nor have I been able to find it.

26,782. With regard to that portion of your evidence which related to the receipt of Mr. Price's letter that he sent to you at Wells, you know there is a variance between you and Mr. Parkes, do you not?—I cannot help that. Mr. Parkes says he has no recollection of any such letter, but I have a distinct recollection of it; and I can state a fact which, I think, will demonstrate that there was such a letter; because either in the letter or extract (I think the letter) the money was, by Mr. Price's direction, ordered to be paid to Mr. John Wilton, and under the words "John Wilton" there was a dash. Now that implies, to my mind, that it must have been the letter itself, because Mr. Parkes, if he had made an extract from the letter, probably would not have copied the dash.

26,783. Have you that recollection in your mind, irrespective of any conversation between yourself and anybody else since that time?—Perfectly.

26,784. Mr. Price told us that the second letter was simply a letter saying, "Send the money to Mr. "John Wilton, King Street, Gloucester." Your impression, therefore, corresponds with the evidence given by Mr. Price, and I merely put you the question in consequence of Mr. Parkes's evidence?—Mr. Parkes has no recollection about the matter, but I have a distinct recollection of it.

26,785. At all events, all the letters that passed on the subject you have destroyed?—I do not know that they are in existence.

26,786. Will you tell us, as nearly as you can, what it was that Mr. Moffatt said to you when he spoke to you in the House of Commons upon this subject?—I have thought so much of it, that I have no doubt about it.

26,787. Have you turned the matter over in your mind since you were examined at Gloucester?—Yes, and before; and I am perfectly certain that what I stated in my evidence is what actually took place; there were very few words passed at all; Mr. Moffatt told me that he had been in communication with Mr. Price with reference to sending down a sum of money to Gloucester on behalf of Mr. Monk, whose friend Mr. Moffatt was. Mr. Price had suggested, I think, that the money should go down by some private hand, and Mr. Moffatt asked me if I could recommend a trustworthy person to take it; I said I would see if I could; Mr. Moffatt says I said I would make a memorandum of it; I do not think I said that, indeed I am sure I did not, for I am not in the habit of making memorandums; what I said was, "I will see if I can "find some one." That I am perfectly certain was everything that took place between Mr. Moffatt and me. I have seen reported in the newspaper a statement as having been made by Mr. Price, which appears to me to be somewhat inconsistent with that; Mr. Price appears to have said that he had received a letter from Mr. Moffatt, stating that he had seen me behind the Speaker's chair in the House of Commons, and that I had undertaken to send the money down. I see that is what Mr. Price stated.

26,788. That was Mr. Price's evidence with regard to Mr. Moffatt's letter?—With regard to a letter which he did not produce.

26,789. With regard to a letter stated to have been received by him from Mr. Moffatt; he said he had received only one letter from Mr. Moffat, to this effect: "I have seen Sir William Hayter behind the Speaker's "chair; I have provided the money, and he will take "charge of it when I go to Ashburton?"—That is Mr. Price speaking of the contents of a letter received from Mr. Moffatt; all I can say is, that if such a letter were produced, I cannot help thinking the contents would show, not that I had taken charge of the money, but that I had found some person to take the money down. It certainly is not the fact, but is directly contrary to the fact, that I had undertaken to send the money down, or that I knew that any money at all was going; for it was stated only by Mr. Moffatt at that time as a probability and not as a certainty. In my first statement with regard to the letter which I received from Mr. Moffatt, I think I said I received a letter from him stating that he was going out of town; the fact is, I should have said, and I think I did say, he was gone out of town; because the letter I received enclosing the money came from Devonshire.

26,790. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Moffatt wrote the letter to Mr. Price from Devonshire also?—There were two letters.

26,791. Mr. Moffatt might very well have written this letter to Mr. Price after he had procured the money and sent you a cheque?—If that letter came from London, it could not have been so; of course if the letter from Mr. Moffatt to Mr. Price was written in the country, it might be so; but Mr. Price does not say whether the letter came from the country or not.

26,792. Yes; this is the evidence, "This was about "twelve days before the election; Mr. Moffatt was "canvassing at Ashburton; he was then returning "to town, and then going down again to his election; "and I have a strong recollection that Mr. Moffatt's "letter was posted from Ashburton, and that was how "I accounted for his sending it to me at the committee "room in Gloucester. I supposed that he had not my "letter with him; however I may be mistaken about "that; that is my impression, but it is only an im-"pression. I have a strong impression that the letter "was written from Ashburton, though I can hardly "tell you why I have that impression; the substance "of the letter, however, remains the same. I never "received more than one letter from Mr. Moffatt, and "I have an impression that that letter came from Ash-"burton?"—If that letter was written from Ashburton, and was to that effect, I presume that what Mr. Moffatt must have meant was that he had seen me in the House of Commons; that he had sent the money to me; and that as I had not sent it back (I wish I had), I had therefore undertaken to send it forward.

26,793. That letter of Mr. Moffatt's explained that he had sent the money to Ryder Street?—Yes.

26,794. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We have letters here, written by Mr. Moffatt to Mr. Ralli, which will entirely clear up the question as to where the cheque was sent from, and the circumstances under which it was sent. I may as well read them to you, because they will probably enlighten your mind to some extent on the subject. This is a letter dated "Fenchurch "Street, 19th April," and addressed to Pandia Ralli, Esq. "My dear Sir,—May I ask you to be so good as "to call on me this morniug touching Gloucester? "My hours in London are numbered, so I cannot very "well come to you." Then we find, on the 20th of April, a draft is drawn on Mr. Ralli in these words; it is dated at Ashburton; it is clear, therefore, that Mr. Moffatt left London either on the 19th or 20th of April, most likely on the 19th; "Dear Sir,—Please "to pay to Mr. Richard Thompson, the bearer of this, "and taking his receipt for the same, the sum of five "hundred pounds sterling, in pursuance of your "wishes expressed to me yesterday." That is on the 20th of April; and it clearly refers to an interview which had taken place between himself and Mr. Ralli on the 19th. Then, on the 21st of April, we have another letter written by Mr. Moffatt to Mr. Ralli, and also dated from Ashburton. "My dear Sir,—I have "sent, through Sir William Hayter a cheque upon you "for 500*l.*, payable to Mr. Thompson, in pursuance of "your request and arrangement of Tuesday last." Then we have a letter of the 22d of April from Mr. Ralli to Mr. Moffatt, in which he says he will take care

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that the cheque is provided for. Now, according to these letters, it is clear that, somewhere between the 19th and the 21st, the arrangement was made between Mr. Moffatt and Mr. Ralli, that the cheque was drawn and sent to you, and that there was a statement sent to Mr. Ralli by Mr. Moffatt as to what he had done? —What is the date of the cheque?

26,795. The 20th?—When was it passed?

26,796. On the 26th; the receipt is dated the 26th of April; there is no doubt, therefore, that that cheque was sent to you, that you received it in London, that after you received it you went out of town to go down to your election, and that you left it, according to your statement, in your despatch box in charge of Mr. Parkes?—Yes.

26,797. Now, I want to ask if you can tell how it was that Mr. Moffatt came to make an application to you for a person to take this money down to Gloucester?—I have not a conception; Mr. Price and Mr. Moffatt were talking together, and, I think, Mr. Price, in some part of his evidence, says that he suggested an application to me; he says he told Mr. Moffatt that he thought I should be the last member in town, and that if he (Mr. Moffatt) was going out of town he had better send the cheque to me; I presume, therefore, it was through Mr. Price.

26,798. Mr. Price's evidence is this: both Mr. Moffatt and Mr. Price agree that there were only two letters written; Mr. Moffatt fixes the date when the first letter came from Mr. Price as the 20th of April? —I do not apprehend that the suggestion was made by letter, but in the House of Commons, by Mr. Price to Mr. Moffatt.

26,799. That is not what appears by the evidence? —I recollect seeing Mr. Price and Mr. Moffatt talking together.

26,800. We have this evidence clear from Mr. Price, that from the time when Mr. Monk accepted the candidatureship for Gloucester, which was somewhere about the middle of March, no further oral communication took place between himself and Mr. Moffatt, and then it rests entirely upon letters. The date of the letter as conveyed to us by Mr. Price is somewhere about 10 or 12 days before the election?—I think it is not unnatural that Mr. Moffatt might apply to me; holding the position I did, I think I should be the most likely man in the House of Commons for him to apply to; for I was at everybody's call.

26,801. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know whether Mr. Moffatt stated that it was in consequence of a communication he had received from Mr. Price by letter that he made the application to you? Did he say that he had received a letter from Mr. Price, in consequence of which he applied to you?—I do not recollect whether he said it was by letter or in conversation. He told me that he had had a communication from Mr. Price, and my impression was that it was in the House of Commons; that he had been talking over the matter with Mr. Price, and that they had agreed that some money should be sent down by a private hand; and that, in consequence of that suggestion coming from Mr. Price, he applied to me; beyond that, I do not know why he applied to me, except, as I say, that I was at everybody's call.

26,802. (*Mr. Welford.*) There was nothing said by Mr. Moffatt to lead you to make the selection of the sort of person that was sent down?—Not the least in the world. I am very sorry that I have not brought with me a letter which I have in my possession from Mr. Foley, containing a testimonial with regard to Mr. Gilbert, in which he spoke of him in the highest terms, and said that, in the event of any other contest, he should be extremely happy to have the services of so useful a man as I had sent him down.

26,803. Then the man who was to go down was intended to be an active agent of some sort rather than a mere carrier of money?—I did not think much of that; I thought it better to send a man who had been somewhat engaged in electioneering matters; those are the sort of people that you look for in elections. I might have gone to a solicitor's and got him to send a clerk; but there are electioneering agents about at such times, and if you believe them to be respectable and responsible men, you refer to them naturally in such cases, at least I do.

26,804. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Price did not at all understand that such a man as Thompson was to be sent down?—Not at all.

26,805. He expected, he says, that if the money was to be sent down by a private hand, Mr. Moffatt would send it by one of his own clerks?—He never made any such suggestion to me; he certainly did not give me the slightest notion that he wanted such a man as Thompson to go down, nor did I intend to send such a man as Thompson.

26,806. You had no knowledge of Thompson yourself?—No; I have never seen him in my life; I do not know him by sight.

26,807. The reason why you sent to Mr. Gilbert was, because from the character given to him by Mr. Foley with regard to the part he had taken in the Worcestershire contest, you thought he would send you a proper person to take the money down?—Yes; he was the only electioneering agent (if I may say so) that I knew at that time.

26,808. (*Mr. Welford*) The application that was made to you rather implied, did it not, that an electioneering agent was to be sent down?—I thought so; not a mere clerk.

26,809. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you know what sum of money was to be sent down until you received the cheque?—No, I had not the least conception; indeed I did not know that any money at all was to be sent down; it was merely stated by Mr. Moffatt as a probability, and not as a fact.

26,810. Did Mr. Moffatt ask you to recommend him a trustworthy person to take money down to Gloucester?—Yes.

26,811. Therefore it was clear that money was to be sent to Gloucester?—He said that he might possibly want somebody; whether anybody was to go there or not was to be contingent on Mr. Price's approval.

26,812. That was stated to you at the time?—Yes; that was stated to me in the letter which I am sorry I cannot produce. When the money came it was to be retained, and not sent to Gloucester unless Mr. Price approved of its being sent, and named the person to whom it was to be paid.

26,813. Can you furnish us with any reason why a clerk should not have been sent down with the money instead of the person who was sent down with it?—No, not all; Mr. Moffatt must furnish that reason. I do not suppose that Mr. Moffatt would have liked to send one of his own clerks down. I do not know how that may be; I can only state what the facts were; any reasons that I might assign would be merely conjectural on my part; I have no knowledge on the subject.

26,814. From the time when the first communication was made to you by Mr. Moffatt, and you put the matter in train to get a person to take the money down to Gloucester, to the time when you left London and went down to Wells, was any communication made to you of any sort which should induce you to infer that the money was to be expended for improper purposes at Gloucester?—No; certainly not.

26,815. Was there anything from which you should infer that the money was to be spent improperly?—There was no communication, either verbal or by letter, or in any other way. I was wondering every day that the money was not sent for, that Mr. Price's letter did not come; and when I went out of town I asked Mr. Parkes when he received that letter, and not before, to hand the cheque over.

26,816. You placed reliance on the character of Mr. Price, and you were satisfied that Mr. Price would not be the means of causing money to be sent by you, or through you, to Gloucester, except for the purpose of its being employed in a legitimate manner?—I had no notion that it was intended to be employed in any other than a legitimate manner; and really the

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openness of the whole transaction, the money being sent by the father-in-law of the candidate, and sent down to Gloucester with Mr. Price's knowledge and by his direction to any person he appointed, would disarm any suspicion that the money was to be applied to any improper purpose.

26,817. Up to the time when you left London was there any suspicion in your mind that there was to be an improper application of that money?—I really did not think about it; I do not believe I gave it a thought. My mind was full of other matters, and it never occurred to me to think about it. The money was there waiting to be called for, and I thought nothing about it one way or the other.

26,818. You told us at Gloucester that you considered it not desirable that such a man as Thompson should have been sent down?—Yes, I thought that Gilbert would not have sent me such a man; I thought Gilbert a very respectable man.

26,819. You never saw Thompson yourself at all?—No.

26,820. Was there any reason why you should not have seen the man you were going to send down?—I do not know why I should. Mr. Moffatt asked me to send him a man, and I sent him, and I thought that my mission was closed until the letter came from Mr. Moffatt; in fact my mission would have closed then but for the circumstance of my remaining in town longer than other members.

26,821. After the election had you anything to do with or had you any communication with Thompson in any way?—No.

26,822. You did not write him a letter signed with the initials "W. H."?—No; those are not my initials.

26,823. However, it is right I should put you the question. You did not write any letter to Thompson with any initials?—I never wrote to him in my life with or without initials; I do not know his address; I do not know where to send to him.

26,824. There was a statement made with regard to a note purporting to have been received by Thompson, and therefore we felt it our duty to put that question to you?—I know nothing about it.

26,825. Do you remember the day on which you left London to go down to your election?—I think it was on the day that the writs were issued.

26,826. It was stated to have been the day before the day of your nomination?—No; I was down there before that; that is a mistake of Mr. Parkes's; it was the day on which the writs were issued; there were four clear days.

26,827. That would have been on Saturday the 23rd, would it not?—I think so.

26,828. In fact you would have received that letter of Mr. Moffatt's one or two days before you left town?—Yes.

26,829. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I am asked to put a question to you, which, I believe, we did put at Gloucester, whether any money was sent down to Gloucester at the election in 1857?—I am much obliged to you for putting that question to me; there undoubtedly was not.

26,830. Have you ascertained that since your former examination?—Yes; there was a sum of money—400*l.*, as was stated by Admiral Berkeley, advanced for the petition; I had thought it was 300*l.*; that sum was subsequently repaid. I was also asked by the Chief Commissioner whether I could fix the time when the conversation took place between me and Mr. Moffatt in the House of Commons, and whether it was before or after the division upon the Reform Bill; if I had not been embarrassed at the time, I should have said, of course, it could not have been until after the division on the Reform Bill, because until that time there was no notion that there would be a general election.

26,831. You stated at Gloucester that it was in the early part of April?—Yes, I believe the Chief Commissioner asked me if I could say whether it was before or after the division on the Reform Bill; it would appear to be absurd in me to say that I did not know, because of course it must have been after the division; it did not occur to me at the moment.

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and further examined.

26,832. You told us at Gloucester that you went to the station to meet Mr. Bernard, in consequence of having received a telegram?—I did.

26,833. And you told us that the telegram was sent in a feigned name?—That was my impression.

26,834. Do you know at all what the contents of the telegram were?—I know now what the contents were; to meet the writer at the platform at 2.40.

26,835. Will you just look at that telegram (*handing a telegram to the witness*)?—That would appear to be the telegram.

26,836. That telegram purports to come from a person of the name of "Clily"?—I read it "Cluly" or "Chuly," or it may be read "Jeuly."

26,837. Whatever may be the name, what was it that caused you to think that that telegram came from Mr. Bernard?—Well; from the fact, as I said before, that Mr. Bernard was down at Gloucester at the 1857 election, it occurred to me as just possible that it was Mr. Bernard who had sent that telegram; nothing more.

26,838. There is a telegram of the baldest description possible, "Meet me at the station at 2.40;"—it is dated from Swindon; it purports to come from a person named "Clily" and is addressed to you at Gloucester; a telegram of that sort coming into your hands without anything else, why could you or why should you arrive at the conclusion that that telegram came from Mr. Bernard?—From the fact, that I did not know anyone of that name; indeed, I looked upon it at the time as being a feigned name, and hence from that, I fixed, in my own mind, upon Mr. Bernard as the sender of it, even at that time, or soon after.

26,839. What circumstance is there in that telegram to point to Mr. Bernard as the sender of it rather than any other person?—Nothing more than I tell you, nothing whatever; no circumstance of any kind.

26,840. Do you adhere to the statement that there had been no communication, of any sort, between you and Mr. Bernard, with reference to the election before that telegram arrived?—I do, most decidedly; there had been none at all.

26,841. (*Mr. Welford.*) Had the circumstance, that Mr. Bernard had advanced two sums of money, in 1857, nothing to do with your impression?—I say, in consequence of what he had done in 1857, and not knowing anyone to answer that description, (I read the name as being, "Chily,") I fixed on Mr. Bernard as the sender of that telegram.

26,842. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "Chily" would not point to it any more than "Clily"?—I did not know any one of the name of "Clily"?

26,843. Did you know any one of the name of "Chily"?—No.

26,844. (*Mr. Welford.*) Did you think it meant "Chuly" or "Julius?"—I think in the telegram that I had it might have been read as either.

26,845. That being something like the Christian name of Mr. Bernard, might also have led you to think he was the sender of the telegram?—No, I do not say that; I do not think that. I forget what my impression was the moment I received it; but soon after I had received it, and thought it over, I fixed on Mr. Bernard as the sender of it.

26,846. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Had you ever received a telegram in this name before?—No, never.

26,847. What time of the day was it when you received it; do you remember?—I do not.

26,848. It purports to come from Swindon?—Yes.

26,849. Mr. Bernard did not live at Swindon?—

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No; at all events, I went to the station in consequence of that telegram, and there I saw Mr. Bernard.

26,850. Had any suggestion been made to you previously by any person, that it was likely that Mr. Bernard might come to Gloucester?—Mr. Bernard's name had not been mentioned by any one, nor had any suggestion been made by any one that he was likely to come to Gloucester.

26,851. There had been no communication between you and Mr. Bernard?—None whatever; that I most positively say.

26,852. Having received this telegram, you at once jumped to the conclusion that Mr. Bernard was the sender of it?—That was the impression on my mind, and I went up to see who it was.

26,853. (*Mr. Welford.*) At the time you received this message you were aware, were you not, that it would be necessary to provide a fund to secure Sir Robert Cardeu's election?—We had not arrived at that conclusion at all; nothing had passed between myself and Mr. Whithorn as to providing a fund beyond the fact of there being extensive bribery on the other side, and we had talked of the probable chances of the election.

26,854. That was in the interval between the receipt of the telegram and your interview with Mr. Bernard?—I told Mr. Whithorn that I had received this telegram, and I think I showed it to him.

26,855. Before you saw Mr. Bernard?—Yes.

26,856. And then you began to estimate the chances of the election?—No, nothing particular had taken place on the receipt of the telegram until after I saw Mr. Bernard.

26,857. When you first saw Mr. Bernard did you tell him that money would be required?—I did not go into particulars with him at that time.

26,858. Did you intimate that money would be required?—I think it is very likely I did.

26,859. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Was it from the fact that Mr. Bernard had taken a part, which was probably an advantageous part, in the election of 1857 for Sir Robert Carden, that, this telegram coming at this critical time, you arrived at the conclusion that the sender of it was Mr. Bernard?—Yes, no doubt those were the reasons giving rise to my impression; it was nothing more than an impression after all.

26,860. You probably heard Mr. Whithorn's opinion as to the knowledge that Mr. Bernard had of the mode in which the second hundred pounds supplied by him had been expended in 1857?—I forget it; I do not think I have read his evidence.

26,861. Apart from Mr. Whithorn's evidence, are you of opinion, yourself, that Mr. Bernard well knew in 1857 that at all events one cheque for 100*l.* had been spent in corrupt practices?—That was my impression most certainly.

26,862. That was your impression in 1857 as well as in 1859?—Yes.

26,863. And thinking that, when you received this telegram, you considered that the same good genius was about to come to Gloucester again on a similar errand?—No; I would not go so far as that. It did not occur to me the errand (supposing it should turn out to be Mr. Bernard) upon which he had come at all.

26,864. Do you mean to say that you went to meet Mr. Bernard without any belief in your mind that he was come to advance money for the support of Sir Robert Carden as he had done in 1857?—I had not any belief upon the subject.

26,865. We are requested to put a question to you with reference to the charities amongst which a sum of from 300*l.* to 400*l.* (which you mentioned to us at Gloucester as having been contributed by Sir Robert Carden in 1858) has been spent?—I said that I thought that Sir Robert Carden had probably spent as much as 300*l.* or 400*l.*, and I should still think that he has spent it; for last night, from recollection, I just ran through the various charities to which he has subscribed, and I found the number of charities to amount to not less than 16 or 18, so that I should think he has spent that sum in that way; there was 50*l.* I know given to the Benevolent Society.

26,866. Was this in 1858?—Yes.

26,867. Because the evidence was limited to that; you spoke of the year 1858?—He subscribed, I know, to the Benevolent Society, to the Female Benevolent Society, the Infirmary, and the Dispensary.

26,868. Can you give us the sums?—I have not got the particulars with me. I merely ran through these different charities last night from memory; Mr. Wilton told me that he should ask me a question about them, therefore I ran over them.

26,869. Have you no means of ascertaining the different sums given to each of these charities?—No, not here; he subscribed very liberally.

26,870. Looking at the names of the different charities that you have put down upon the paper to which you are referring, can you not give us some notion of the amount that was paid to each charity?—No; I should think that these charities would have received as much as 200*l.*, but I am speaking only from recollection.

26,871. (*Mr. Welford.*) How many are there altogether?—Eighteen; I recollect Sir Robert Carden subscribed 16*l.* to placing the Russian gun in Gloucester; the others are all charities.

26,872. There are sixteen or eighteen public charities to which Sir Robert Carden subscribed, and you think that those sixteen or eighteen would exhaust about 200*l.*?—I think so.

26,873. How do you account for the disposition of the balance?—I cannot recollect; when I said that he had subscribed 200*l.* I spoke merely from recollection, without having anything in my possession to inform me what the exact sum was that he had subscribed.

26,874. If you received a sum of money from Sir Robert Carden, did you not keep an account of the mode in which you had disbursed it?—Yes; I generally did it myself; it was in this way, that with reference to any object that appeared to me to be a public object, a charity, and so on, I generally, when I was asked for a subscription, put down a subscription, and at various times Sir Robert Carden would send me his cheque.

26,875. Did you not keep a debtor and creditor account with Sir Robert Carden? If you received 500*l.* from him, did you not keep an account, showing how the money was expended?—Yes.

26,876. Have you not that book at home?—Yes.

26,877. Have you not had an opportunity of looking at it?—I left Gloucester on Sunday evening last; I have been in town on other matters, and have not returned home; if I had I should have brought up the particulars.

26,878. The suggestion that is made is this; that a portion of that money which has been received, or which is stated to have been received, for the purposes of the charities, has been employed in corruption at municipal elections?—With the exception of the 50*l.*, which I informed the Committee of in my former evidence, Sir Robert Carden has subscribed nothing; he has subscribed no other sum for any such purpose.

26,879. But with reference to the sum of from three to four hundred pounds, which you stated was a contribution by Sir Robert Carden for the purposes of charity, has any portion of that sum been expended otherwise than in charity?—No; not for illegal purposes.

26,880. Just answer the question, if you pleased has any portion been expended otherwise than in charity?—I hardly know what you mean by charity; a man would come into the office with a petition, to which I would probably put Sir Robert Carden's name down for a sovereign, and all that kind of thing; that has been the sort of expenditure. No

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doubt it was in connexion with his being a member for the city; but it was not done with a view to corrupt the place, or to corrupt the people in any way.

26,881. Would any portion of that be applied to the payment of persons who had taken a part in the municipal elections for the Conservative party at Gloucester?—Certainly not.

T. H. Baker.

THOMAS H. BAKER sworn and examined.

26,882. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a Parliamentary agent, I believe?—Yes.

26,883. Were you in the habit, in the month of April last, of going to some lodgings of Sir William Hayter's in Little Ryder Street?—Yes.

26,884. Did you attend there most days?—Yes.

26,885. And a great portion of those days?—Yes.

26,886. From the early part of that month down to the end of it?—Yes.

26,887. And during the time that the elections were proceeding throughout the country?—Yes.

26,888. Were you cognisant of any money having been sent down to Gloucester?—Yes.

26,889. Was that any other sum of money than that which has been spoken to by Sir William Hayter in his evidence here?—Only that sum.

26,890. As far as you know, with the exception of that sum, no money was sent down to Gloucester for election purposes?—Decidedly not.

26,891. Or for any purposes?—Or for any purposes.

26,892. Did you know of any application having been made by any person for money to be sent to Gloucester in the latter part of April?—Certainly not. I am quite sure there was no such application.

26,893. Do you remember the time when Sir William Hayter left London?—I do.

26,894. After Sir William Hayter had left London were you in the habit of attending at, or being in, the lodgings in Ryder Street pretty nearly the whole day?—Yes, the whole day.

26,895. Do you know a person of the name of George Webb?—I do: that is, I saw him the first time in my life at Ryder Street one morning. I had not known him before.

26,896. He is a person in the employment of Mr. Gilbert?—I knew nothing of him. I saw a person one morning when I came to the lodgings, and asked him what he wanted. He said he wanted to see Sir William Hayter. I did not know his name; I told him it was too early for Sir William Hayter to be there, and to call again.

26,897. Was that about the middle of April?—I should say so.

26,898. From that time down to the end of the month did you see that person at Little Ryder Street?—No; I never saw him afterwards at Little Ryder Street, but I know he was there once.

26,899. You never saw him afterwards?—I never saw him afterwards. I know he was there once, and that was the day on which he got the enclosure delivered to him,—the 500*l.* order. I know he was there that day, because I was there when it was given to him in the adjoining room, or stairs.

26,900. That was when he obtained the cheque which Sir William Hayter has told us was left by him in the dispatch box?—Yes.

26,901. Except those two occasions you do not remember Webb having come to Little Ryder Street?—I know he was not there, or I should certainly have heard of it.

26,902. If any application had been made by Webb for money to any person at Little Ryder Street, do you think you must have known of it?—It is impossible that it could have been made without my knowing of it. I was there from an early hour in the morning until a late hour in the afternoon, and I never left the house, particularly at that period of the month.

26,903. Were all applications that were made by parties that were left in charge in Little Ryder Street communicated to you?—Yes.

26.904. All applications which had any reference to elections that were then pending in various parts of the country?—Certainly; I must have heard of it; if there had been any application it generally took place in the room in which I was sitting, and if I was not in that room I should immediately hear of it from Mr. Parkes, who may have seen the parties; there was nothing secret that I know of in the place.

26,905. What persons besides yourself and Mr. Parkes were in the habit of attending those rooms?—A number of Sir William Hayter's friends and several strangers; deputations from the country; country attornies; and various persons.

26,906. They were political friends of Sir William Hayter's, I suppose?—Yes.

26,907. Do you know any person whose name commences with the initial letter "P," and who was in the habit of attending those rooms besides Mr. Parkes?—I do not; the only person that occurs to my mind is one of our leading counsel, Mr. Phinn.

26,908. Was Mr. Phinn in the habit of attending those rooms?—No; he called in but very little. At that time I know he was in Bath.

26,909. As far as you remember was there any person except Mr. Parkes in the habit of attending those rooms whose name began with the initial letter "P"?—No.

26,910. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Phinn was not in town at that time you say?—He was not. I do recollect Mr. Phinn calling in sometimes; but he was not in the habit of attending there; he merely looked in.

26,911. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Between the time when Sir William Hayter left town on the 30th April, and the time of the Gloucester election, Mr. Phinn, I understand you to say, was not in London?—He was not in London.

26,912. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know a person employed in elections of the name of John Clarke?—No, I never saw him until I saw him before the Committee of the House of Commons on the Gloucester petition. I do not recollect ever to have seen him before; he may have been one of Mr. Croucher's men; Mr. Croucher had a great number of men in his employment.

26,913. He stated that he was constantly employed in the city of London elections?—Mr. Croucher had a great deal to do with metropolitan elections, and with the London election particularly; he was an admirable manager in getting up meetings, posting placards, and so on.

26,914. But I mean lately?—I know nothing at all about him lately; I never saw him employed, and never employed him myself; in fact I never spoke to him.

26,915. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you know Thompson?—Very well indeed; I have known him twenty years.

26,916. Do you know anything of his employment?—No; I never employed him myself, and I never knew him employed except as assistant to Mr. Croucher in arrangements about elections; I never knew him to be employed for the purpose of bribery in any case, and I do not believe that he was so employed.

26,917. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did you know at this time that he was the person employed to take money down to Gloucester?—No; I never heard his name.

26,918. You did not know it from Webb?—No; I had no conversation with Webb except on my first meeting him, when I asked him what he wanted and he said he wanted to see Sir William Hayter; I did not know that Thompson was employed until long after the election.

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26,919. Or Clarke?—I did not know that Clarke was at all employed until I saw him in the committee room of the House of Commons.

26,920. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What did you understand was Thompson's occupation?—Taking care of witnesses on election petitions when Mr. Croucher died.

26,921. Taking care of witnesses?—Yes, he was a very useful man and was employed to bring them from their lodgings or from public-houses where they were, taking care of country witnesses and so on; he has asked me to employ him in that character; he was a very useful man in that way, but I never employed him in any shape or way at an election.

26,922. During the twenty years that you have known him has that always been Thompson's occupation?—When I first knew him his occupation was as assistant to Mr. Croucher; subsequently to that, when Mr. Croucher died, I have seen Thompson about the House of Commons and I have seen him engaged in attending on election committees with witnesses, and he has asked me to give him that kind of employment, but I have not employed him in that character.

26,923. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) I suppose you have read the evidence which Mr. Clarke gave before the Committee of the House of Commons?—Yes.

26,924. Do you recollect that part of his evidence in which he stated that money had been sent to him?—Yes.

26,925. Do you know anything of that?—No, I do not.

26,926. Or have you ever heard anything of it?—No.

26,927. (*Mr. Welford.*) You say you have known Thompson as taking care of witnesses on election petitions; I suppose you know very little of elections until they come on in the shape of election petitions?—Until of late years when I got a little old in practice I used to attend elections when specially employed by the candidate.

26,928. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) But you never knew Thompson engaged, for the purpose of taking down money to places where election contests were going on?—No, not as a bribery agent certainly.

26,929. You never knew him as a bribery agent?—No.

26,930. Did you ever know him employed as manager of an election?—Never.

26,931. Did you ever know him take any part in the management of a contested election?—Only when he was an assistant to Mr. Croucher. I have known him engaged in that way then.

26,932. But since Mr. Croucher's death, have you not known him employed in the same way as he was employed when Mr. Croucher was alive?—No.

26,933. You saw Mr. Webb, when he came the second time for the cheque of which you have spoken?—No; he was in the adjoining room; I know it from Mr. Parkes coming to me. I know the instructions which were given were, that the money was to be taken to Mr. John Wilton, of King Street, Gloucester.

26,934. Did you see any note that was said to have been brought by Webb on that occasion?—I think Mr. Parkes came in with a note in his hand, and went to the box and said, "Where is that cheque "that was left?"

26,935. Did you see the note which Mr. Parkes had in his hand, when he came into the room, or did you read it?—No; I did not read it.

26,936. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know from whom it came?—I do not.

GEORGE WEBB called and further examined.

G. Webb.

26,937. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You went to Ryder Street for the purpose of getting a cheque for 500*l.*?—I took a note from Mr. Thompson to Ryder Street.

26,938. From whom did that note come?—As I understood from Mr. Thompson, it came from Mr. Moffatt.

26,939. The note was open was it not, you took it in your hand?—I do not recollect whether it was open or whether it was in an envelope.

26,940. We were told by Mr. Parkes that the note was brought to him open, and that it was not addressed to any person?—I do not recollect, as I said before, whether it was in an envelope addressed to any one, or whether it was an open note given to me by Thompson; I think Thompson received it, and I think that I took Thompson's envelope; I think I took it with the enclosure and delivered it; I did not know Mr. Parkes at that time.

26,941. The envelope was open when you received it, was it not?—I do not recollect whether it was open or sealed.

26,942. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) How do you know that the note came from Mr. Moffatt?—Mr. Thompson told me so.

26,943. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Then the note was addressed to Thompson, as I understand, by Mr. Moffatt, and that note so addressed you took to Ryder Street?—No doubt.

26,944. Do you know why Thompson did not take the note himself?—Because Thompson had not been at Ryder Street at all.

26,945. Because he had not been to the house?—Yes.

26,946. He had been to Ryder Street with you, had he not?—Just so.

26,947. He had been to the end of the street; you told us so before?—Yes.

26,948. He having gone with you to Ryder Street, what occasion was there for him to come to you before going to Ryder Street with the note, instead of going himself with it?—Because I had the letter of introduction from Sir William Hayter to Mr. Moffatt, and I was the only person who had been there about the Gloucester business.

26,949. What occasion was there for you to go instead of Thompson?—Thompson said, "You have "been there before. They would not know me. You "had better take the note;" that is all that transpired.

26,950. Do you know what the contents of the note were?—No, I do not; I do not recollect that I read it; I do not recollect having read it at all.

26,951. Was it not simply a note sent to Thompson directing the party to whom it was addressed to pay to the bearer a cheque for 500*l.*?—Thompson told me I was to go there, and that I should receive a cheque for 500*l.*, or something to that effect.

26,952. And you took the letter which Thompson himself had received?—Yes, I did.

26,953. Why was it that Thompson, having been with you to Ryder Street, and having himself received that note, authorizing him to receive that money, should not himself have gone, and why should you have taken the note?—Thompson had never been there; he had not been into the house; he did not go into the house when he went with me. I did not know that he would suit Sir William Hayter, and therefore he remained outside; I mentioned his name and the recommendation I gave him, and then I brought the note out to him to take to Mr. Moffatt; that was one occasion: and the other occasion was when I received a note to take to the same place.

26,954. Was it that you thought there would be some misgiving on the part of those gentlemen in Ryder Street to letting Thompson, whom they had not seen, have the cheque which he was authorized by that letter to obtain?—I had no misgiving at all about it; that did not occur to my mind at all.

26,955. Then your explanation is simply this, that you thought he was a stranger, and that you were not a stranger?—Just so; I had been there before.

26,956. Did Thompson ask you to go?—He certainly did, or else I should not have gone.

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26,957. Do you remember on what day it was that you went there?—I do not.

26,958. You saw upon that occasion Mr. Parkes, did you not?—I received it from some gentleman; I did not know who it was then; I have since learnt that it was Mr. Parkes.

26,959. Did he give you at that time a slip of paper besides giving you the order?—No; he gave me a sealed envelope addressed to Mr. Thompson.

26,960. Are you quite sure that you did not receive a slip of paper, upon which there were instructions given as to what Thompson was to do?—Certainly not.

26,961. Did you not know before you saw Thompson where Thompson was to go?—I knew he was going to Gloucester.

26,962. Did you not know to whom he was to go when he got to Gloucester?—He told me before he left.

26,963. Before you saw Thompson did you not know to whom he was to go at Gloucester?—No; certainly not.

26,964. Do I understand you to say that it was only upon Thompson's opening the envelope which you had received from Mr. Parkes that Thompson was able to tell you where he was to go to in Gloucester?—I had no conversation with Mr. Parkes, but simply "Deliver this to Thompson."

26,965. After you had seen Thompson and had given him the envelope did you understand from him where it was that he was to go when he got to Gloucester?—He told me he was going to Mr. Wilton or Wilson, or some such name, in Gloucester.

26,966. That he told you after he had opened the envelope?—Certainly.

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

26,967. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We asked you if you would, in conjunction with Mr. Lovegrove, prepare a statement, with reference to the rentals of the occupations of some persons, whose names we would send down to you. I believe you received from our secretary a list of names?—Yes; Mr. Lovegrove received it, and I made a copy of it.

26,968. Have you, as far as you have been able, prepared a statement showing the rentals of the occupations of those persons?—I have.

26,969. Will you have the kindness to produce it?—This is it (*producing a paper*).

26,970. I see at the top of the column "annual or estimated rent;" have you ascertained the rentals, as far as you could, from the parties themselves?—There were but very few persons as to whom I could do that; and, therefore, I thought the better course was to take them all in the same manner; that is, as to those persons who were resident in the town; and the way in which I did it was to apply to the clerk of the Board of Health, who has two returns made to him, one a return of the estimated value, and the other of the rateable value.

26,971. By whom are those returns made?—I believe by the overseers of the parishes. They have to collect them from the several parishes, and then they are returned to the clerk of the Board of Health.

26,972. How do you know that the returns are made by the overseers to the clerk of the Board of Health?—I do not know it of my own knowledge.

26,973. Did the clerk of the Board of Health tell you so?—I believe he told me so. I could have got it from the separate parishes; but the rateable value is two-thirds of the estimated value.

26,974. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) And the estimated value is taken by the surveyor of the parish for parish purposes?—Yes.

26,975. And that is furnished, I suppose, to the Board of Health?—Yes.

26,976. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I understand you to say that you made inquiry of the clerk of the Board of Health as to the returns furnished by the overseers?—Yes.

26,977. How should we know whether the sums put down here are the actual annual or the estimated rentals?—If you observe, there is a little cross against some of the names; those are taken from the books of the Board of Health; all the others, on the first page, are out voters or persons whose estimated rental I could not get in that way.

26,978. As to those persons whose estimated rentals have been obtained in some other way, and not from the books of the Board of Health, in what way have you obtained them?—By taking the opinion of two or three persons concerned in house letting and house building. I have taken the opinion, among others, of Mr. Ward, a man who has very extensive experience. He is a gentleman who was an active partisan in the Conservative interest. I took his opinion, among others, and we formed as good an opinion as we could between us. He was familiar with most of these houses, and, from his knowledge of what houses let for in other parts of the neighbourhood, he formed an opinion as to what was the worth of these houses. Then, in most instances, I had the benefit of a second opinion from other people,—in all cases experienced persons,—and we formed as near an estimate as we could. And then when we came to the householders' list, all those against whom there is any figure put, are taken from the books of the Board of Health. You will see 543 is the first.

26,979. That is the first of the householders?—Yes; all the rest are freemen.

26,980. Then, with regard to those names in the freemen's list, against whose names there is no cross, you have relied upon the best information you could obtain as to what the estimated rentals might be?—Yes, I have; we have made the best estimate we could, and, in very few instances, have I relied on my own judgment, because I know nothing about the value of such property; but I have endeavoured to get it as nearly as I could.

26,981. Are all those against whose names there is no cross put out-voters?—Yes, or persons that were not in the books, because there are some persons who live in the town as to whom there is no return; that applies to some two or three.

26,982. But, for the most part, they would be the names of persons who are out-voters?—Yes; and as to those in one or two instances I have asked the landlord or the agent of the landlord, or persons who have been neighbours, who would be likely to give me a correct opinion.

26,983. With regard to all those persons whose names are in the second list, the list of householders, I understand the particulars are obtained from the books of the Board of Health?—Yes, they are; the heading is "gross estimated value;" that is estimated by the parish officers; and then there is the rateable value; I take that as two-thirds.

26,984. These various rentals being taken from the books of the Board of Health, are assumed to be such rentals as the tenants would themselves pay?—I think that in very many instances the sums put down are less than the tenants pay; in fact I should think that they must be; there is No. 549, the third in that list, only 7*l.*, No. 611 is 8*l.* Then there are Nos. 651 and 672, 9*l.* 10*s.* and 9*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

26,985. They are all voters?—Yes, they are all voters.

26,986. And they are all upon the register as 10*l.* householders?—Yes; No. 692 is 4*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*

26,987. In such a case as that would not the person be upon the list of voters as a freeman?—I think not; I can tell you in an instant; I see (*after referring to the register*) that that person is not on the list of freemen.

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26,988. Did you understand from the clerk to the Board of Health, that these various figures which are stated to be the gross estimated annual value, represent the full rent?—I must confess that I understood it was the gross estimated rent, but whether it was the rent that was paid or not, I do not know; in some instances I have been told it is wrong.

26,989. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You have nothing to do with watching the registration?—No.

26,990. (*Mr. Vaughan to Mr. Lovegrove.*) Have you seen this list?—Yes; I saw it this morning.

26,991. What do you say with regard to the different rentals placed against the names of these parties?—I think it may be relied on as to the rentals not being an increase; it is not the full rental in any case.

26,992. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you attend before the revising barrister on behalf of your party?—Mr. Taynton does.

26,993. How do you account for a voter being on the list as a householder, when the estimated value of the house in the parish books is only 4*l.* 15*s.*?—The value of property varies very much in different parishes; it depends upon the situation of the property, whether it is in a low situation, or whether the property is good; they would never take this as evidence before the revising barrister; this is the result of a surveyor's valuation; but Mr. Taynton, I think, could give you much better information than I can upon this subject.

(*Mr. Wilton.*) I think the difficulty is this, that Mr. Lovegrove (if he will excuse me for saying so) is confounding the two rates; I do not think that the rate of the Board of Health is the same as the poor rate.

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) I think it is.

26,994. (*Mr. Fitzgerald to Mr. Lovegrove.*) The rateable value is calculated upon the estimated value by the surveyor?—Yes, I think so.

26,995. Is it not the fact that in a case of that sort the voter would probably have come up before the revising barrister, and sworn that his rental was actually 10*l.*, although it appeared on the parish books to be much less?—Yes; and there is no doubt that in all these cases the rent is more than is actually put down here; if it were otherwise the party would appeal in all probability against the assessment; I think you may take it that in all these cases the actual rent is higher than the returns by the Board of Health.

26,996. (*Mr. Welford.*) And you think that that applies as well to those rentals which are above as to those which are under 10*l.*?—Yes.

26,997. And that a certain proportion must be added to all the rentals that are set down in this list?—No; the parish perhaps was surveyed twenty years ago, and has not been surveyed since, and they have from time to time carried into the rate books and into the Board of Health books the rating at that time.

26,998. The property has been improved and the valuation not altered?—Yes.

(*Mr. Wilton.*) Or its value may have diminished.

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) If it was diminished, in all probability the party charged would have appealed.

GEORGE MOFFATT called and further examined.

G. Moffatt.

26,999. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Thompson came to you with a note or a few lines from Sir William Hayter a short time before you were going off to Ashburton?—Precisely so.

27,000. From letters which we have here it would appear that you must have gone to Ashburton on the 19th of April. Do you agree that that would be the day upon which you went from London to Ashburton?—It would be the 19th or 20th; certainly one of those two days.

27,001. You wrote from Ashburton?—Yes.

27,002. You had an interview with Mr. Ralli on the 19th of April?—Then that was the day on which I went to Ashburton.

27,003. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) The same day that you saw Thompson?—The same day that I saw Thompson. He was with me for a very few minutes; I wrote to Mr. Ralli something to the effect of "My hours "in London are numbered," and asked him to be so good as to call upon me.

27,004. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) After you went to Ashburton on that day, did you return to London before your election was over?—Certainly not.

27,005. How many days before you went to Ashburton was it that you had the communication you told us of with Sir William Hayter in the House of Commons?—To the best of my memory, four or five days or a week; some time certainly in the preceding week.

27,006. You had had, we understand, no verbal communication with Mr. Price upon the subject of Gloucester from the time when you saw him at the Reform Club in the middle of March, I believe?—No. I think you will find in my evidence in chief I stated that I had had several conversations with Mr. Price in the House of Commons with reference to the prospects of himself and Mr. Monk.

27,007. That was about the middle of March, was it not?—No. The first interview that I had with the gentlemen who came from Gloucester was in the middle of March, and it was subsequent to that; it was between that period and the 19th of April that I had two or three conversations with Mr. Price in the House of Commons on the prospects and progress of the canvass.

27,008. When was the last time that you had any conversation with Mr. Price in the House of Commons, or anywhere, upon the subject?—The last conversation would be in the House of Commons, but I cannot recollect the time. The conversations that I had with him on the subject were always of a very light and passing and general character, and I am not able to fix the precise date of any one of them.

27,009. Was it after those conversations that you communicated to Sir William Hayter your desire that some trustworthy person might be selected to take money down to Gloucester?—No; that was in consequence, as I believe, of a letter received from Mr. Price from Malvern, or Gloucester, suggesting that some money would be required to be sent down by hand, that Mr. Monk had not appointed an agent, and that if I had to go into Devonshire before an agent was appointed, I had better speak to Sir William Hayter, and see if he could find a person to take down the money.

27,010. Are you still of opinion that you received only two letters from Mr. Price?—I am quite of that opinion.

27,011. When you were examined at Gloucester you stated that the first letter was received by you, you believed, about the 10th of April. Have you thought upon this matter since your examination, and are you still of opinion that that was about the date?—I am still of opinion that that was about the date; I cannot say that I have given any great consideration to it since that time.

27,012. Mr. Price told us that he wrote you two letters; that the first letter was written about ten or twelve days before the election at Gloucester, and that the second letter was written one or two days before the nomination?—Yes.

27,013. That was the effect of his evidence; now supposing Mr. Price's recollection to be accurate, it differs considerably from yours as to the date of the receipt of the first letter?—It must be, I think, quite clear to the Commissioners that my evidence must be in the main correct, because I left London on the 19th, several days before which I certainly had spoken to Sir William Hayter, and the nomination was not till the 29th of April; the tenor of my

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evidence would be that it must have been at least fourteen days before the nomination that Mr. Price wrote to me.

27,014. You think that Mr. Price's evidence with regard to the date of the note is inaccurate in that respect?—Yes, by two or three days; it is a question from the 10th to the 14th.

27,015. Are you able to speak with certainty to this; that your communication with Sir William Hayter was not the result of any conversation that you had had with Mr. Price?—I am able to speak with the most positive certainty to that effect, that it was not with reference to any conversation that I had had with Mr. Price, for assuredly if Mr. Price had been in town, I should have said, "You had better "speak to Sir William Hayter yourself;" it was a letter I am certain that authorized and originated my conversation with Sir William Hayter.

27,016. What was it that induced you to apply to Sir William Hayter to know if he could recommend you a trustworthy person to take money to Gloucester?—It was Mr. Price's own suggestion; he requested me to do it; he said, "You will be going out of town "for your own canvass, and consequently, if an agent "is not appointed by Mr. Monk, to whom the money "should be sent before that time, you had better get "Sir William Hayter to find a person to take the "money down."

27,017. Did you not apply to Sir William Hayter to recommend you a trustworthy person, or did you not ask him if he knew a trustworthy person to take the money to Gloucester?—I apprehend that that would be the object of my application to him; to find a trustworthy person to take the money to Gloucester.

27,018. Could you not have found a trustworthy person yourself?—I dare say I could, but I just followed Mr. Price's requisition in the matter.

27,019. Mr. Price informed us that Richard Thompson was not the sort of man he had intended should be employed to take the money down, but that he thought you would have sent down a clerk with the money; that is what Mr. Price says he intended. Supposing that to be Mr. Price's impression, what should have induced you to think differently with regard to the person that ought to be employed?—That is rather a matter for Mr. Price to reconcile, I only know that he suggested that I should leave the matter in the hands of Sir William Hayter, and I followed his instructions in that respect. Mr. Price wrote to me, and requested that if I was going out of town I should put the affair in the hands of Sir William Hayter.

27,020. That was with regard to sending the money down?—Yes.

27,021. And not with reference to the employment of a person to take it down. I do not gather from the evidence that you were to apply to Sir William Hayter to nominate a person to take the money down, but rather (as Sir William Hayter would be the last member in town) that when an agent was appointed, if you were going to Ashburton, Sir William Hayter would be a proper person with whom to leave the cheque to be sent down. I want to ask you this, did you yourself believe that by Mr. Price's letter it was intended that you should apply to Sir William Hayter, not only with regard to sending the money down, but also with regard to the employment of a person to take it down?—Most assuredly.

27,022. And that, you thought, was intended by Mr. Price's letter?—Most assuredly.

27,023. Did you know Thompson before he came to you?—I had never seen the man before.

27,024. Were you surprised that such a man as Thompson should have come to you?—I did not know anything of Mr. Thompson.

27,025. Were you not surprised that he should come to you?—He was not a very attractive person. I gave him a very brief interview. I do not know that I had any strong feeling of surprise; I was much hurried at the time; he came and delivered a short note, and I gave him as brief an interview as possible, telling him that I would refer the matter to Sir William Hayter, which I did.

27,026. Do you remember telling Mr. Monk that you were very much astonished that such a man as Thompson should have been sent to you?—It is quite possible that with the subsequent knowledge I acquired I may have stated something of the kind, but I do not recollect it; after what appears to have come out with regard to Mr. Thompson's antecedents, it is quite possible that I may have made such a statement to Mr. Monk.

27,027. It could not have been from subsequent knowledge; if you felt surprise it must have been surprise that you felt at the time, because there is a further statement made to this effect; that you said you were astonished to see a person like Thompson come; that you declined to give him any money whatever, and sent the cheque to Sir William Hayter?—It is possible I may have said that.

27,028. That would have been astonishment felt at the time?—Yes.

27,029. And not felt subsequently?—Yes.

27,030. That at all events is the evidence which has been given to us by Mr. Monk; he says you made a statement of that sort to him; I therefore ask you, did you feel astonished at seeing such a man as Thompson come to you recommended by Sir William Hayter?—I had nothing to guide me but what passed in a three or four minutes' interview; he certainly did not appear to me to be a man I should have selected to take money down; I will state unreservedly, unless I knew something very favourable with regard to his antecedents, I do not think I should, judging from his personal appearance, have recommended Mr. Thompson as a fit person to take money down to Gloucester.

27,031. Did you make any arrangement with him as to the terms on which he was to be employed?—Most distinctly and positively not.

27,032. You are aware, are you not, that he has stated you did?—I am told he has stated that I engaged to pay him so much a day, or 100*l.*, or 50*l.*, or some other sum.

27,033. His statement is that the arrangement that you made with him was that you were to pay him 100*l.* if he won, and 50*l.* if he lost?—I feel much indebted to the Commissioners for calling me before them again to-day, and affording me the opportunity of giving a most distinct denial to that statement; I had no power or authority from any one to make any stipulation of the kind, and most assuredly I entered into no terms whatever with the individual in question.

27,034. Was nothing said by you to him, or by him to you, with regard to any remuneration that he was to receive for the service on which he was going?—Yes, I think as far as my memory serves me he stated that he had had great experience in elections, and that he should expect to be paid, and he named, a sum very similar to that you have stated. My reply was, "I have no authority whatever in the matter, but I will take your address and communicate with Sir William Hayter."

27,035. Your denial then only extends to this; that you made no contract with him; you do not deny that he stated what he expected he should receive, but you say you told him you were not authorized to make any terms or to enter into any arrangement with him?—I do not think it went so far as that; I think he said he had had great experience in elections, and that he had received 50*l.* or 100*l.*, or some other sum for his services, but I think he did not go so far as to ask me whether I was prepared to pay him such a sum; I am bound to say that the gentleman appeared to be much more inclined to talk than I was to listen to him; I was very much hurried at the time.

27,036. He was not long with you?—No, not more than three or four minutes.

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27,037. Did you receive a note from him after the election?—Yes; I received a note from him after the election, something to the effect of "Pay my fee "for Gloucester to the bearer," and I sent him word back that I had no fee to pay him; that I knew nothing of any fee that was to be paid to him.

27,038. You did receive a letter from him?—Yes.

27,039. And you wrote to him?—Yes, some time in June, after the election.

27,040. Then his evidence in that respect is true?—I do not know what his evidence has been.

27,041. Did you sign your full name when you wrote to him or only your initials?—I should think I signed "Geo. Moffatt," George in short.

27,042. But not your initials only?—No, I should think not.

27,043. Would you have had any objection in signing your note with your initials only?—No.

27,044. Because it is stated in his evidence that the note he received from you was a note initialled only "G. M."?—My impression would be that I signed my name in full; but he can produce that note, I dare say.

27,045. You had no object when you wrote to him in answer to his letter in concealing your name?—No, not the slightest.

27,046. You told him in answer to his letter that you had nothing to do with the matter?—Precisely; that was the substance of what I wrote; I wrote as briefly as possible.

27,047. You informed us, at Gloucester, that you were not aware that this money was to be employed for purposes of bribery?—Yes.

27,048. Do you adhere to that statement?—Perfectly.

27,049. Had you not been informed that the election in 1857 had been determined by the votes of venal voters?—I have stated that all the information I gathered at that period with reference to that was from the communication which was made to me by the two gentlemen who came to London, who stated their belief that at the election in 1857 Sir Robert Walter Carden's agents had bribed to a considerable extent; that was all I knew.

27,050. That you did understand?—Yes, it was only a hearsay conversation, but beyond that I knew nothing.

27,051. Mr. Monk has stated that he heard there were a number of venal voters who had turned the election in 1857, and I presume that you knew as much as he did upon that point?—No, I do not think I did; I do not think I knew anything beyond what was mentioned incidentally at the meeting when the deputation came to town.

27,052. It would seem to come to pretty much the same thing whether you were informed that there had been a considerable amount of bribery, or whether what you were told was that the election had been won by venal voters, so far as it would acquaint you with the fact that Gloucester was not a very pure place, having the fact impressed upon your mind that there had been bribery at the election in 1857; when you found that there was a person to be employed to go down to Gloucester with money, did you not yourself suspect that that money was to be employed for the purpose of corruption?—I have before stated to the Commissioners that I had no suspicion of the kind. When Mr. Price (who had had great experience there) said that money was required for preliminary expenses, it seemed to me to be reasonable that it should be required, considering there was a six weeks' canvas with an extensive constituency, and a great many out-voters, and I had no doubt that the money was to be employed for legal and proper purposes.

27,053. Do you mean to state deliberately that you had at that time no suspicion that that money would be employed for improper and illegal purposes?—I had no facts brought to my mind that would warrant such a suspicion.

27,054. Did you not think it rather a circuitous mode of sending money down to Gloucester, and did it not appear to you strange that if the money was only required to be sent down for legal and proper expenses, it should be sent in the way it was instead of being taken down by one of your clerks, or through a bank or the post-office?—Unquestionably the most direct way of sending the money would have been through a banker, but Mr. Price selected this mode of sending it, and he gave as a reason that it was not desirable that the bankers should know that money was going down to Gloucester. That was his explanation to me. I thought very little of the matter, and only followed the instructions I received.

27,055. Looking at the circuitous mode in which this money was to find its way to Gloucester, and having regard to the fact that you knew that bribery had been practised to a considerable extent at the previous election, did you not at that time think or suspect that that 500*l.* was to go down to Gloucester for the purpose of bribery?—It does not appear to me that sending down money by hand is a circuitous mode of sending it.

27,056. What I refer to is the number of agents employed for the purpose of getting the money down to Gloucester. I refer to Sir William Hayter, Thompson, and yourself—the cheque going up to Sir William Hayter, and so forth; do you regard that as a direct or a circuitous mode of sending the money down?—I think, with the explanation I have given of how the money came to be deposited with Sir William Hayter, the mode which was adopted was as direct a mode of sending the money as the Commissioners themselves could devise. As I was engaged out of town, I deposited the money with Sir William Hayter to be paid to Mr. Price's order.

27,057. Whatever opinion may be formed either by you or by us as to the mode of sending the money being direct or circuitous, were you at that time free from any suspicion as to the way in which the money was to be expended?—I had nothing before me to warrant a suspicion that the money was to be spent improperly.

27,058. (*Mr. Welford.*) Then why should not Mr. Monk have paid the money himself?—Mr. Monk's agent was not appointed when I was asked to send the money down.

27,059. Mr. Monk himself was down at Gloucester, was he not?—Yes; in what I did I only followed the instructions of Mr. Price.

27,060. Did you write to Thompson after you got down to Ashburton?—My belief is that I wrote to Sir William Hayter; I am not sure whether I wrote to Thompson or not. I wrote to Sir William Hayter, I know. I wrote to him very hurriedly from Newton while I was on my canvass, I believe, and sent him up the money, and I think it possible that I may have written to Thompson (though I do not know that I did) to instruct him to call on Sir William Hayter.

27,061. From the letters, we have no doubt that you did send the cheque from Ashburton. The second letter from Mr. Price you received, I suppose, at Ashburton?—I believe so.

27,062. And you wrote after that to Sir William Hayter?—Yes.

27,063. Did you not also write to Thompson?—I think it very probable I did, but I do not distinctly recollect having done so.

27,064. You wrote to him for the purpose of directing him to go and receive the cheque?—No; it would be to tell him to call on Sir William Hayter, I think.

27,065. For the cheque which you had sent to him?—The cheque was sent to Sir William Hayter conditionally; it was to be given up on Mr. Price's approval.

27,066. I do not exactly understand what you mean by Mr. Price's approval, because Mr. Price does not appear to have written at all to Sir William Hayter. Mr. Price wrote to you, but beyond that there was apparently nothing written by him?—He was to write when the cheque was to be sent down.

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27,067. He wrote to you ?—Precisely.

27,068. Upon your receiving that letter from Mr. Price you wrote to Sir William Hayter ?—Yes.

27,069. And you wrote to Thompson ?—Yes; probably.

27,070. Those two letters put the cheque in motion. The cheque was cashed, and Thompson went down to Gloucester with the money. What do you mean by Mr. Price's approval?—The money was to be delivered on Mr. Price's approving its being sent to Gloucester. That would be when an agent was appointed.

27,071. Mr. Price had written to you upon the subject ?—Mr. Price did approve, and the money was consequently sent down. The money was lodged with Sir William Hayter to be transmitted on Mr. Price's approval. Mr. Price approved, and the money was sent down.

27,072. Mr. Price approved in his letter to you ?—Yes.

27,073. Did not Mr. Price write to you to say that the money was to be sent to Mr. John Wilton ?—No; I am not certain that the agent's name was mentioned.

27,074. How came you to write to Thompson ?—On Mr. Price's letter, which I presume I received at Ashburton.

27,075. Mr. Price's letter to you ?—Certainly.

27,076. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You went to Mr. Ralli on the 19th of April, you say ?—No; I wrote to Mr. Ralli to request him to come to me.

27,077. What induced you to write to Mr. Ralli on the 19th to ask him to come to you ?—Simply in consequence of Mr. Monk having stated before he went out of town, that if any money was required for preliminary expenses, he had no doubt that his father-in-law would pay what was required.

27,078. Did you not write to Mr. Ralli in consequence of receiving Mr. Price's letter ?—In consequence of receiving Mr. Price's first letter?

27,079. Did you not receive that letter on the morning of the 19th ?—No, certainly not.

27,080. You wrote to Mr. Ralli to request him to go to you, and asked him if you might draw on him for a sum of money ?—In the first place allow me, if you please, to clear up a discrepancy in dates which appears to exist in your mind, but which I do not think exists in fact upon the evidence; I have stated that I went down to Ashburton on the 19th; in the preceding week I spoke to Sir William Hayter, which would put it back to about the 12th, that is about the time Mr. Price says he wrote the letter, I think.

27,081. Pardon me; Mr. Price stated that he wrote the letter ten or twelve days before the election, and that he wrote a second letter two or three days before the nomination; now ten or twelve days before the election would bring the date of Mr. Price's letter to Monday the 18th; was it not in consequence of Mr. Price's writing to you on the 18th the letter which you received on the 19th, that you sent to Mr. Ralli ?—Most assuredly not; it was in consequence of a letter I received in the previous week that I spoke to Sir William Hayter, and I received no other letter from Mr. Price, except the one I received at Ashburton.

27,082. Was it not in consequence of what Mr. Price wrote to you that you sent to Mr. Ralli ?—I spoke first to Sir William Hayter, and then, when Sir William Hayter had sent a person to me, recommending him as a proper person, I sent a communication to Mr. Ralli, to say I should be glad to see him if he would call upon me.

27,083. I want to know why you went to Mr. Ralli, unless it was in consequence of the letter you had received from Mr. Price ?—It seems to me to be quite clear and to follow as a natural sequence, that when I was leaving town I should send to Mr. Ralli to ask whether it would be agreeable and convenient to him to pay the money, to tell him that a sum of 500*l.* would be required, and to ask him whether he was willing to honour a cheque to that amount. It was on the day of my leaving town that I sent to Mr. Ralli, and that was the day on which Thompson was sent with the introductory note to me.

27,084. Mr. Price stated that his first letter was to this effect:—"That the canvass had been far more "satisfactory than I had any reason to anticipate; "but that Mr. Monk had not yet selected an agent; "that things were consequently in a good deal of "confusion; that I hoped he would select one soon; "and that, in the meantime, I thought it expedient "that a sum of 500*l.* should be provided, ready to be "transmitted to his agent as soon as he was appointed." Was that the effect of Mr. Monk's letter, as far as your memory goes ?—I think so.

27,085. Did you not, on receiving that letter, go to Mr. Ralli ?—No.

27,086. You waited several days ?—Certainly.

27,087. There is nothing in this letter of Mr. Price's with reference to the money being transmitted by a private hand, and, according to Mr. Price's recollection, he made no mention of a private hand in the letter at all, though he says he might have done so. Are you positive that in his letter it was stated that the money was to be transmitted by a private hand ?—Yes. There could have been no other point in regard to the money but that, because it was a request that I would speak to Sir William Hayter with reference to finding a person to take down the money.

27,088. Mr. Price also stated in another part of his evidence:—"I remember, in my first letter, suggesting to Mr. Moffatt that if he was going down to "Ashburton he had better leave the money with Sir "William Hayter, who, I knew, would most likely be "the last member in town, and therefore I may have "written to him, but I am not clear as to that?"—That, I believe, is the fact.

27,089. But Mr. Price stated to us that he had no recollection of having made use of the term "private "hand." He did not recollect saying that the money was to be sent down by a private hand. Are you prepared to state that that was in the letter ?—I do not know what could be the use of my applying to Sir William Hayter to find a person to take the money down, unless it was meant that it should be sent down by a private hand.

27,090. Are you confident that Mr. Price suggested to you that the money should be sent down by a private hand ?—There can be no doubt about that; I have stated most unreservedly that it was from a suggestion made by Mr. Price that I applied to Sir William Hayter.

27,091. Mr. Price stated to us, and so did you, that there were only two letters written, and Mr. Price put the date of this letter at about the 18th; you say it must have been written very much earlier than that; you stated, at Gloucester, that you thought you received the letter about the 10th ?—And I have stated before you again to-day, that that is my impression.

27,092. Mr. Price stated to us his reason for writing his letter which showed that it could not have been as early as the 10th, because he stated that the reason why he wrote it was that during his canvass he had been applied to by parties in Gloucester for money on behalf of Mr. Monk, and that no agent had then been appointed; now Mr. Price did not commence his canvass till the 9th, and therefore it is not possible that he could have written from that motive on the 10th; we have it in Mr. Monk's evidence that Mr. Price commenced his canvass on the 9th, and Mr. Price stated in his letter to you that the canvass had proceeded very satisfactorily, and that would seem to place it still later ?—It certainly must have been in the week previous to my going down to Ashburton, that I received that letter from Mr. Price, and spoke to Sir William Hayter.

27,093. Are you confident that you spoke to Sir William Hayter after or before you received that letter ?—I am as confident of it as I can be with re-

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gard to any transaction in which I have ever been engaged.

27,094. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you feel quite confident that the application was not made in consequence of a suggestion in your own mind that it would be desirable to send the money down by private hand?—I am quite clear about that, and I am equally clear that I should not have thought of troubling Sir William Hayter on the subject of remitting the money, or for any other purpose, had I not been requested to do so. I was not on such terms of intimacy with Sir William Hayter as would have warranted me in asking it of him.

27,095. Mr. Price said that if you stated that he had directed you to send the money down by private hand you probably were correct, but he did not appear to have any recollection of it himself?—My recollection is distinct upon that point, and the facts will fully support me. It never would have occurred to me to ask Sir William Hayter to take charge of the money if Mr. Price had not requested me to do so.

27,096. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) No doubt you asked Sir William Hayter to take charge of the money in consequence of Mr. Price's letter; but was your first application to Sir William Hayter to name a person to go down to Gloucester made before Mr. Price's letter?—I am quite clear that it was not; it never could have occurred to me to ask Sir William Hayter to name a person to convey the money to Gloucester if Mr. Price had not suggested it.

27,097. Sir William Hayter said there was no mention made of any particular sum of money; it was only in the event of money being required to be sent down that a person would be wanted; and he stated that you asked him whether he could recommend such a person. I suppose you are aware of the position that Sir William Hayter occupied with reference to political matters?—Perfectly.

27,098. You say you were not on such terms with Sir William Hayter as would have warranted you in asking him to take charge of the money yourself. I suppose that when you said that you alluded to your private acquaintance with Sir William Hayter. Knowing the position that he occupied with reference to political matters, would you not at such a time have felt yourself justified in asking him if he could recommend a person to take money down to Gloucester at the period of the election?—It never occurred to me, and I do not suppose it would have occurred to me, to apply to Sir William Hayter if the necessity for applying to some person had arisen.

27,099. You do not know that it is the practice to apply to him when elections are going on?—I never heard of it in the House of Commons.

27,100. Were you not aware that he had lodgings in Ryder Street, where he conducted matters relating to elections?—I think I heard that he had done so at the previous election, and at the last election I think there were two rooms taken by the Liberal party in Ryder Street.

27,101. Had not those rooms been occupied by Sir William Hayter for years?—In 1857 and 1859 I think they were, but I am not aware that they were before that.

27,102. Did you not direct your letter to Ryder Street?—It was directed there by Sir William Hayter's request.

27,103. Did you not know that he had the appropriation of a fund which was subscribed for election purposes?—Certainly not, I never heard of such a fund, and I do not much believe in its existence.

27,104. Sir William Hayter told us so himself, and you were at Gloucester when he was examined; he said there was a fund subscribed for election purposes, of which he had had the disposition, except at this last election?—I understood your question to apply to the last election.

27,105. No, I was asking you as to his position with regard to political matters for years past; is he not a person to whom members of his party might apply on the subject of elections?—Yes, I should think they might apply to him on the subject of elections.

27,106. Would there have been anything extraordinary in your applying to him if you wanted a person to go down to Gloucester?—Yes, I should think it would be a very unusual thing; I might apply to him with reference to elections, but not to send down a messenger with money to Gloucester.

27,107. But to conduct the election?—If it was to conduct the election that might be another thing; I think it is quite possible that a person might apply to Sir William Hayter to ascertain whether he knew a fit and proper person to conduct an election; that I think is very likely.

27,108. Do you not think that if you went and said to Sir William Hayter, "Probably money will be wanted to "be sent to Gloucester; can you recommend me any-"body?" Sir William Hayter would have immediately drawn the conclusion that you wished him to recommend you a person to conduct the election at Gloucester?—Certainly not.

27,109. Sir William Hayter himself, told us that he did draw that inference from what you said to him?—Then it was an inaccurate inference, because there was nothing requisite but just simply to send the money down; I never understood that the man who was to take the money down was to conduct the election, but that he was to be simply a messenger to take the money down; that was all that Mr. Price's note conveyed to my mind.

27,110. Did you tell Sir William Hayter that the application which you made to him was made in consequence of Mr. Price's letter?—I believe I did; in fact upon that point I am clear that I did say so.

27,111. You had had some conversation with Mr. Price on the 27th of March, in the Reform Club here with reference to money affairs at Gloucester?—I do not recollect that I had.

27,112. Had you no conversation with Mr. Price in the Reform Club before Mr. Monk became a candidate?—On the day on which Mr. Monk determined to become a candidate I saw Mr. Price at the Reform Club, but I do not think that that was on the 27th of March.

27,113. Had you no conversation with Mr. Price on that day with reference to the money that would be required for the purpose of the Gloucester election?—Yes, there was certainly a conversation with reference to that when Mr. Monk became a candidate.

27,114. Did Mr. Price inform you of the cost of his past elections?—I believe he did.

27,115. And did he state it as his opinion to you that Mr. Monk's expenditure ought to be about 500*l.*?—I doubt whether that was stated to me. I have stated precisely what was stated in the main to me—that the deputation told me that the election would cost the two candidates 1,200*l.* or 1,300*l.*; but that, in any event, it would not cost more that 1,500*l.*

27,116. But Mr. Price told us that you asked him what the expenditure was likely to be, and that he told you he could not say what Mr. Monk would have to pay, but that he would tell you what he had paid, and that he concluded by expressing his opinion that Mr. Monk's election ought to cost about 500*l.*?—It is very likely that Mr. Price told me that, but the deputation told me it would cost more.

27,117. Did you ever communicate to Mr. Monk Mr. Price's opinion as to what ought to be the probable expense?—I am not sure whether Mr. Monk might not have been in the room when Mr. Price made that statement. I am quite sure I told Mr. Monk what the deputation said the election would cost.

27,118. Mr. Monk has told us that you never stated to him that Mr. Price had informed you that his (Mr. Monk's) election ought to cost him about 500*l.*?—It is quite possible that I did not inform Mr. Monk of that.

27,119. What was your motive for keeping back what I should have thought so material a matter?—I had no motive in keeping it back. I have no recollec-

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tion that the fact was not named by me, but my main business at that interview, as Mr. Monk's friend, was to ascertain from the deputation what the expenses of the election would be. Those expenses, it was stated before Mr. Price, would probably be about 1,200*l.* or 1,300*l.*; they had Mr. Price's sanction as to that; that the legitimate expenses for the two candidates might be from 1,200*l.* to 1,500*l.* I stated that to Mr. Monk, and told him that he must be prepared for that if he stood for Gloucester.

27,120. Had you not undertaken to manage the expenditure at the election for Mr. Monk?—Certainly not.

27,121. Had you not told Mr. Monk that you would see to the expenditure in respect of the election?—Certainly not.

27,122. Had you not acted in the same manner for Mr. Monk at his former election?—I stated to you in my examination at Gloucester, that subsequent to the election at Cricklade, I looked over the whole of Mr. Monk's accounts, and settled them with his solicitor who came to town, but I had undertaken no such task with reference to the Gloucester accounts.

27,123. You had undertaken, however, to provide the money, had you not?—Certainly not.

27,124. Do you recollect a conversation between you and Mr. Monk on the Saturday evening before Mr. Monk went to Gloucester?—I do not know when Mr. Monk did go to Gloucester.

27,125. Mr. Monk in his evidence has said,—"On "the Saturday evening as Mr. Moffat was leaving "the club, he said to me, as far as I can recollect, "'After a dissolution takes place, go down to "'Gloucester and canvass, and stick to the place till "'the election comes off. You need not trouble "'yourself about any expenses connected with the "'election; if any money is wanted for the prelimi-"'nary expenses I will provide it myself; or if I go "'to Mr. Ralli I suppose he will have no objection "'to advance me some money for that purpose.'"?—(*Mr. Monk.*) I think that must be a misprint.

27,126. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Did such a conversation take place between you and Mr. Monk?—I have no recollection of such a conversation having taken place, my belief is precisely what I stated before; that he told me that if I should receive an application for money for preliminary expenses, he had not the slightest doubt that Mr. Ralli would advance it.

27,127. You went to Mr. Ralli, did you not, in consequence of this?—No, I never went to Mr. Ralli; I wrote to him and he came to me; I sent for Mr. Ralli, as I have already told the Commissioners three times in consequence of Mr. Price's letter; when I was about leaving town I sent for Mr. Ralli to say, "If it is agreeable to you I will draw a cheque for "500*l.* upon you."

27,128. Why should you send to Mr. Ralli in consequence of Mr. Price's letter?—Because Mr. Ralli was Mr. Monk's father-in-law.

27,129. Had you not ascertained from Mr. Monk beforehand that Mr. Ralli would advance the money?—Mr. Monk's statement to me was that if any money should be required he had no doubt that Mr. Ralli would advance it.

27,130. Then it was in consequence of that that you sent to Mr. Ralli?—No. I sent to Mr. Ralli at that time in consequence of my being about to leave town for Devonshire.

27,131. But at the time you sent to him you did so because you supposed, from something that had occurred before, that Mr. Ralli was a person who would advance the money?—I have stated in my evidence in chief several times over that the intimation I had from Mr. Monk was, that if money was required he had no doubt that Mr. Ralli would advance it.

27,132. Did you tell Mr. Ralli that it was improper for a candidate to know anything about expenditure before the election?—If you had looked at my former evidence, it would have been almost superfluous for you to ask me that question. I stated in my evidence-in-chief that your secretary, Mr. Coleridge, was the first person who brought that to my mind.

27,133. Did you acquaint Mr. Ralli that it was improper for candidates to know anything about expenses before the election?—Certainly not.

27,134. I will read to you what Mr. Ralli has said in his evidence. He said, "I heard from Mr. Moffatt "and others that the candidates ought not to interfere "with the expenses of the election till after the "election should be over?"—That is quite true—that they *do* not.

27,135. The expression is that they *ought* not?—I should think it is much more likely that I should have told him they *do* not if he asked me for an explanation.

27,136. Why do they not interfere?—It is the established usage at elections for them not to interfere with the expenditure of money while the election is going on. I have now a very sufficient reason why they do not; because it is illegal.

27,137. Is it your habit with regard to your own elections never to know anything about your expenditure until after the election is over?—I have in several cases, when there has been a contest, remitted the solicitor who had the management of my election money on account while the election was pending.

27,138. Why should you tell Mr. Ralli that candidates ought not to interfere with expenses until after the election?—I should tell Mr. Ralli that with perfect propriety.

27,139. Would the reason be that the candidate should not know that there had been an illegal expenditure of money?—When you give money to your solicitor, you give it him in perfect confidence that the money is to be legally expended.

27,140. You told Mr. Ralli that candidates ought not to interfere with expenses until after the election; and you told me just now that it is always so, but now you tell me that it has not been so in your own individual case?—I think you have misunderstood what I have said; I distinctly say that I have not interfered with the expenses, although I have frequently paid money to my solicitor while the election has been pending.

27,141. Giving money to your solicitor for the expenses of the election is what I call interfering?—It is not what I call interfering.

27,142. Why should you tell Mr. Ralli that candidates ought not to interfere with expenses until after the election, as a reason for his advancing money for preliminary expenses and not Mr. Monk?—Be so good, if you please, as not to assume that I did tell Mr. Ralli that a candidate ought not to interfere. My belief would be that I should inform Mr. Ralli (if I informed him anything) that it was not customary for candidates to interfere with the disbursement of money prior to the election; your own experience, I am sure, would tell you that it is so.

27,143. That comes pretty nearly to the same thing?—Then let it stand so, if you please.

27,144. I cannot conceive any possible reason for giving such advice unless it be an impression that some illegal expenditure might possibly take place which it was advisable that the candidate should know nothing of?—I have stated that at several of my own elections I have paid money in that way, and I am quite prepared to prove that this money has never been paid for any illegal expenditure at any of my contests; I believe it is the general practice of candidates to put money into the hands of their solicitors.

27,145. I should have thought so too, but you appear to have told Mr. Ralli that it is not the practice?—No; I think if you will be good enough again to refer to the words, you will find that what I told Mr. Ralli was that it was not customary for candidates to interfere in the disbursement of money during an election; that is what I said; it is common sense that I should say that.

27,146. It would have been equally so if you had got the money by cheque from Mr. Monk himself, instead of going to Mr. Ralli for it?—Mr. Ralli, I

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presume, is Mr. Monk's banker; and I was told by Mr. Monk, if money was wanted, to draw on Mr. Ralli as his banker for the amount; that is practically what it comes to; it admits to my mind of no other solution.

27,147. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We have it in evidence that Mr. Monk has two bankers; a banker in London and also a banker in Gloucester, although he does not keep much balance there; and one would certainly have thought that the more direct course would have been for Mr. Monk to have given a cheque himself, and to have his expenses paid out of the produce of that cheque?—Probably Mr. Monk may have had a more intimate acquaintance with the Corrupt Practices Act than I had; he may have known that it was not strictly legal, and may therefore have asked me to do it.

27,148. It certainly does appear extraordinary that you should have taken upon yourself to act for Mr. Monk in making all the money arrangements for him, and requesting Mr. Price to write to you on Mr. Monk's behalf, if he had any communication to make about money, if you did not wish to prevent Mr. Monk from being inculpated by any practices of an unlawful character that might take place at Gloucester?—It would appear, according to the Act of Parliament, that Mr. Monk would be inculpated if he knew of the money being sent down before the election.

27,149. Be good enough to put that Act of Parliament out of your mind altogether. It is perfectly clear that it could not be in consequence of that that this arrangement took place between you and Mr. Monk, because you did not know what the provisions of the Act of Parliament were. Putting the Act of Parliament, therefore, aside altogether, and looking to the fact of Mr. Price being requested by you to write to you in the event of his having any communication to make respecting Mr. Monk's election, does it not appear to be somewhat singular, and so singular as to require some explanation from you as to the reason, why you did that?—It is exceedingly difficult to answer questions as to slight and casual conversations occurring many months ago. My impression is, with reference to Mr. Price, that I said, when I spoke to him in the House of Commons, "Let me "know from time to time how the thing is going on." I may have said to him, "Write to me," but I have no recollection of distinctly authorizing him to write to me if he wanted money. I do not believe I said, "Write to me if you want money."

27,150. Mr. Price's evidence is that you asked him to write to you, to let you know how the canvass was going on, and that you said at the same time that if there was anything he wished to communicate about the business of the election, he was to write to you?—It is possible that I may have said that.

27,151. Then seeing that you spoke to Mr. Monk yourself as to the provision of the funds, that is to say, as you had said to him, "I suppose, if any money "is wanted, Mr. Ralli will let me have it," does it not appear to you to be singular, and so singular as to require some explanation from you, that Mr. Monk was to remain such an entire cypher in these transactions, and that you were to act for him with reference to all the arrangements that were to be made?—I am not aware that I acted for him with reference to any arrangements that were made, except to the extent I have stated, that he asked me, if money was wanted for preliminary expenses, to obtain it for him from Mr. Ralli.

27,152. There was more than that. We hear that after the election was over bills were directed to be sent in to you, and that there was a portion of a sum of 500*l.* which you actually sent down to Gloucester for payment of bills after the election. You seem, therefore, to have taken upon yourself the whole pecuniary management of the expenses of Mr. Monk's election?—That was subsequent to the election. I am quite unaware of having taken upon myself the whole pecuniary management. I think you will find, if you refer to my evidence, that what I stated in my former examination was that parties having written from Gloucester very earnestly and urgently for more money, I told Mr. Monk that as they asked for 500*l.*, he had better send 200*l.*; he asked me to do so, and I did it, but in doing that I simply complied with Mr. Monk's own request.

27,153. It is suggested to the Commissioners that you did that because you were aware that corrupt practices had been resorted to, and that if Mr. Monk had nothing to do with them, his seat would not be endangered by the part you were taking for him?—I must beg at once to disabuse the minds of the Commissioners upon that point, and to deny most distinctly the imputation which is sought to be cast upon my character and standing by charging me with having been in any way instrumental in sending 500*l.* down to Gloucester for illegal purposes. I assure you that it is a most unfounded calumny, and I know of no evidence which could reasonably lead to the inference that I had been guilty of such conduct.

27,154. We have given you every opportunity of affording an explanation of what you have done, and one object of our examining you to-day has been to enable you to clear up any contradictions; at the same time I must say that the impression on our minds has been very strong in one direction?—I have yet to learn what contradictions there have been; the Commissioners have not been so good as to state to me where there has been any contradiction with reference to my evidence, save and except that which relates to my alleged engagement of Thompson, and with regard to that I must leave it to the Commissioners to determine whether they will give credit to my statement or to his; as to the date of a letter which Mr. Price says he believes was written about the 19th of April, my belief is that it was written about the 10th or 12th of April.

27,155. There were discrepancies in your evidence with regard to the time when letters were written by you to Sir William Hayter, but they were cleared up prior to your examination?—I have stated to the Commissioners that all this was a matter of memory; what was done was done in the great hurry of a dissolution; I had only to rely on my own memory. I might, in many cases, not be strictly accurate as to dates, and I stated that distinctly in my examination in chief, saying I could give you no information but with that reservation. If there is any point on which you are not perfectly satisfied, I shall be very glad if you will continue my examination.

26,156. I will just read you two or three questions in Mr. Price's examination. He is asked, "Did you "say how that money should be transmitted?" and his answer is, "I have no recollection that I did, but "I am sure if I mentioned any mode of transmitting "it, it would be by private hand. The note was "written in a great hurry in Mr. Ellis's office, and I "cannot pretend to say what its exact wording may "have been; but I am sure that if I expressed any "opinion as to the mode in which the money should "be transmitted, I should have said that I should "recommend its being sent by private hand"?—That confirms my statement.

27,157. The next question is, "Why should you "suggest that the money should be sent by a private "hand?" and the answer is, "Of course I expected "that you would ask me that question, and I have "thought of it repeatedly; I did not know any other "mode of sending it. It has been said, Why not send "it through a bank? If I had asked that the money "should be sent to me, I should have said, 'Pay it to "'Williams, Deacon, and Co., to my credit with the "'Gloucestershire Banking Company;' but, first of "all, I did not know who was to send the money; "and, in the next place, I did not know who "was going to receive the money; and, there-"fore, contemplating that this money would have "to come down at a moment's notice, it seemed to "me that the most natural thing in the world was to "send it down by a clerk. The railway fare would "cost no more than the commission that would be

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"charged by a banker for transmitting it, and it "would come down in half the time." Then he is asked, "You did not say, 'Send it by a clerk,' did "you?" and his answer is, "I do not know what "words Mr. Moffatt used; I think I saw something "about 'trustworthy' or 'trust.' I have no doubt "I used any word he repeated; nothing is more likely "than that I should have asked him to send it by "some trustworthy person; and if Mr. Moffatt says I "did, I have no doubt he is correct"?—I think upon that you must see that my statement must be accurate, because if Mr. Price had said, "Send it by a "clerk," there would have been no necessity for making an application to Sir William Hayter.

27,158. Mr. Price's recollection, according to his evidence, is very faint?—But he goes on afterwards to tell me to apply to Sir William Hayter; and if I was to send the money down by a clerk, there would have been no necessity to apply to Sir William Hayter.

27,159. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Mr. Price said he thought that as you were going to Ashburton, the money had better be sent to Sir William Hayter, in order that it might be sent down if it should be wanted, when Mr. Monk should have appointed an agent?—My conviction, as I stated in my evidence in chief, is that Mr. Price requested me to go to Sir William Hayter and ask him to find some person to take the money down, and Sir William Hayter, I think, says the same thing. I should not have gone to Sir William Hayter to find a man to take the money down if Mr. Price had not requested me to do so.

27,160. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Mr. Price is then asked, "What was the nature of the second letter?" and he says, "I should think the second letter, which was "written either to Sir William Hayter or to Mr. Mof-"fatt, (I think it was to Mr. Moffatt, but I am not quite "sure which) was to this effect, 'Send the money to "'Mr. John Wilton, King Street, Gloucester;' I do "not think there was a word more or less." Then he is asked, "You are not sure to whom that second letter "was addressed?" and his answer is, "I am not very "certain about it; I remember in my first letter sug-"gesting to Mr. Moffatt, that if he was going down to "Ashburton, he had better leave the money with Sir "William Hayter, who, I knew, would most likely be "the last member in town, and therefore I may have "written to him, but I am not quite clear as to that. "I think, having stated that in my first letter, it is "very possible that I may have written my second "letter to Sir William Hayter." I have read this to you to show that, although Mr. Price is perfectly clear in his own mind that he wrote to you to say that if you were going to Ashburton, you had better leave the money with Sir William Hayter, he is not at all clear as to his having stated to you that the money should be sent down by a trustworthy person or by private hand?—Upon that point I am quite clear, for it never would have occurred to me to speak to Sir William Hayter upon the subject, if Mr. Price had not suggested his finding a proper person to take the money down.

27,161. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You are clear that you went to Sir William Hayter in consequence of what Mr. Price wrote to you, and not in consequence of any previous communication that you had had with him?—Most assuredly; I am as clear and distinct as to that as my memory would enable me to be upon any point.

27,162. Have you looked for the letter which you said you would endeavour to find?—I have, but I could not find it. You mean, I presume, the letter from Sir William Hayter to me introducing Thompson.

27,163. No; I am referring to the letter from Mr. Price?—No, I have not got that letter; I have searched for it, but have not been able to find it, which to me is a great annoyance.

27,164. Had you any communications at all with Mr. Wilton?—Yes; before the election I had one communication with him at the Reform Club in London.

27,165. But besides that?—No.

27,166. Had you none between that period and the period of the election?—No, none.

27,167. Did you, when you were at Ashburton, receive any telegram in relation to the Gloucester election?—Yes, there was a telegram came, and I think it was from Mr. Wilton, (but that, I think, was on the day of the election,) saying that they wanted more money; it was some apocryphal thing; I do not clearly recollect what it was.

27,168. It was a telegram from Gloucester to you at Ashburton, saying that they wanted more money?—Yes; it was something to that effect, and I had nothing to do with giving money.

27,169. Did you answer that telegram?—Yes; my impression is that I did answer it. I remember I was requested to give an answer to it; one word or sentence was to say, if I would sanction a further expenditure, and another word or sentence was to say, if I would not sanction it, and I sent the word which said I would not sanction it.

27,170. Did you not think it extraordinary, Mr. Monk being at Gloucester and engaged at the election, that parties acting on his behalf should telegraph to you?—Very extraordinary indeed, and my reply was a perfect commentary upon it.

27,171. Did you think that anything you had done before warranted Mr. Wilton in sending you such a telegram?—Certainly not; nothing had passed between Mr. Wilton and me to warrant him in sending me such a telegram.

27,172. You had sent Mr. Thompson down to him?—Mr. Thompson was recommended to me by Sir William Hayter; it was not I who sent him down, except as a person who had been nominated by Sir William Hayter.

27,173. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You were a link in the chain, you know?—I was unfortunately made a link in the chain, but not with any knowledge on my part of the character which Mr. Thompson appears to bear.

27,174. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) From whom did the telegram come?—I think from Mr. Wilton; from Mr. J. P. Wilton.

27,175. Was it a telegram from Gloucester or from London?—I cannot recollect.

27,176. You are sure it was not from Webb?—I am satisfied it was not from Webb. I never heard the name of Webb until long after the election.

25,177. Did it come from Ryder Street?—Certainly not.

27,178. I understand Mr. Wilton states that he did not telegraph to you?—He made some application to me; he either wrote or telegraphed to me. I am satisfied that the request was made, and that I was asked whether I would sanction a further expenditure or not.

27,179. You said it was a telegram that you received?—Then perhaps you will allow the shorthand writer to alter the word "telegram" to the word "communication."

27,180. Did you receive a telegram from anybody about it?—It was either a telegram or a letter; it might have been a letter.

27,181. (*Mr. Welford.*) If it was a telegram, it must have been rather a long one to give the two alternatives?—You can put a great deal into twenty words if you are accustomed to write telegrams.

27,182. You are not certain whether it was a telegram or a letter that you received?—No; I think it is quite probable that it was a letter.

27,183. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you the documents that were sent to you from Gloucester and that were numbered one to five?—No.

27,184. You told us that you had handed them to Mr. Price?—No; I think I told you that I had handed some papers to Mr. Price, and that probably they might be among them.

27,185. Mr. Price says he thinks he sent them back to you; is Mr. Price incorrect in that?—Mr. Price sent me back some of those documents, and I think they were sent on to you.

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27,186. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) You say you had a note from Mr. Thompson, and that you wrote to him in reply, was that since the election?—Yes, since the election.

27,187. Have you ever asked Mr. Thompson for an account of the expenditure of the 500*l.*?—I have never since seen Mr. Thompson, and had no more to do with Mr. Thompson than you have had.

27,188. Mr. Thompson being the person to whom you entrusted the 500*l.*, have you never made any endeavour to ascertain whether he delivered that 500*l.* according to the directions he received?—I must correct that statement; Sir William Hayter entrusted him; I entrusted Sir William Hayter with the cheque, and he entrusted Thompson with the 500*l.* to be delivered to the agent at Gloucester.

27,189. Mr. Thompson came to you with a note from Sir William Hayter stating that he was a trustworthy person?—Yes.

27,190. Subsequently to that, did you not write to Thompson to go to Ryder Street to get the cheque?—It is quite possible that I did, but I do not know that I did.

27,191. How is it possible that Thompson could have gone to Ryder Street without having received some communication from you?—It is quite possible that he might have gone there if Sir William Hayter communicated with him.

27,192. Sir William Hayter says he had nothing to do with it, except giving the cheque to a person who came from Mr. Moffatt. He says that a person came with a note or with an authority from Mr. Moffatt, and that authority must have been from you?—Yes; but that person was Sir William Hayter's own nominee.

27,193. Is not that entrusting the money to Mr. Thompson? At all events you did not consider that you had entrusted the money to Thompson in a manner which called on you to inquire what Thompson had done with it?—I was satisfied, from the introduction of Sir William Hayter, that he was a trustworthy person to take the money down.

27,194. When Thompson first called upon you, you did not give him the cheque?—No, I sent the cheque to Sir William Hayter before leaving town.

27,195. Was it your wish to throw off the responsibility of the matter on Sir William Hayter?—I do not know that; it seemed to me that to follow instructions was the proper and business-like way of doing it.

27,196. You asked Sir William Hayter if he could recommend a trustworthy person to take the money down to Gloucester; Thompson came to you with a recommendation from Sir William Hayter, and you declined to give the money at that time?—Yes; and I afterwards received a communication from Mr. Price, saying "Money is now wanted;" upon which I wrote to Sir William Hayter, and I think it is quite possible that I wrote to Thompson.

27,197. Surely that is not the way in which transactions in business are usually carried on. If this had not been an election affair, would you have acted in that way with reference to a sum of 500*l.*?—If I was requested by anybody to send the money down by a private hand, and to take the recommendation of another party as to the person who should be sent down, I should send it in that way. I left the money in the hands of Sir William Hayter. I do not know that I told Thompson to go to Sir William Hayter; if I did, it would have been in Sir William Hayter's discretion to give him the money or not. I knew nothing of the messenger, and consequently I should send the money to Sir William Hayter, to fix on him a greater responsibility for the due delivery of the money.

27,198. But Sir William Hayter threw off all responsibility, and said he had nothing to do with the money, except sending it down, according to Mr. Price's directions?—And I threw off all responsibility in precisely the same way; I say, I had nothing to do with it, except to give a cheque on Mr. Ralli for the money when it was wanted.

27,199. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) In point of fact there is no person responsible for the way in which the money got down to Gloucester?—There is certainly a link wanting in the responsibility, except that the man who took the money down, if he did not properly account for it, would be liable to punishment.

27,200. Did you consider that if anybody had a right to call on Thompson, to show that he had acted according to his directions, you were the person who had that right?—Assuredly not.

27,201. Have you heard what he did with the money?—I have heard that he kept back 100*l.*

27,202. Did he not write to you afterwards for his fee?—Yes.

27,203. And did you hear that he had, according to his own account, taken his fee out of the money with which he had been entrusted?—I do not think I heard that when he wrote to me.

27,204. Did you make any inquiry of Mr. Wilton afterwards as to whether he had received the whole of the 500*l.* that was sent down?—Not the slightest.

27,205. You received some accounts from Gloucester, did you not?—Not one.

27,206. Did you receive no accounts at all as to the expenditure?—None whatever.

27,207. Did you receive no applications for money?—Yes, I received applications for money, but that is quite a different thing from receiving accounts.

27,208. Were no claims sent in to you?—None whatever. May I ask whether it has been stated in evidence that claims were sent in to me, because these seem to be questions put to me which involve an imputation on my character?

27,209. Every question I have put has reference to some evidence that has been given before us. I will read to you this passage from Mr. Monk's evidence. He says, "I had better add here, that when Mr. Mof- "fatt found that there was a petition before the "House of Commons, he stated to me that he would "rather not have the further claims sent in by Mr. "Jones to him,—that was in July,—as he presumed "that he would be examined himself." Did you ever state that to Mr. Monk?—I could not have said "further claims," for I had had no bills whatever sent in; they proposed to send in bills.

27,210. Then Mr. Monk has made a mistake?—He has indeed.

27,211. You see there is a justification for my question?—I regret having raised a question upon it.

27,212. In point of fact no claims were sent in?—No.

27,213. And you were not the person who ought to have been applied to at all to settle the accounts of the election?—Certainly not; mine was a casual acquaintance with Mr. Monk, and I ought not to have been involved in any matter of the kind.

27,214. People at Gloucester seem to have drawn the conclusion that you were the proper person to apply to?—They drew a very inaccurate conclusion if they drew any such conclusion as that; and there was nothing in my conduct or in my statements to warrant them in drawing such a conclusion.

27,215. I am not prepared to say that when I find that Mr. Thompson went down to Gloucester with 500*l.*, which was afterwards spent in purchasing votes?—I think you might be prepared to say it when you remember that Mr. Price sent to me, requesting me to send down money for preliminary expenses; that I applied to Sir Willlam Hayter to recommend a fit person to take the money down; and that the man who was employed to take it down was a person he recommended, I never having seen him before or since, I am at a loss to know what there is to inculpate me; I had not the slightest suspicion that any illegal expenditure was intended when I sanctioned the 500*l.* cheque on Mr. Ralli, and there was nothing to warrant any such suspicion.

27,216. The witness Clarke stated that a sum of 25*l.* was sent to him afterwards. I do not think you were asked as to that at Gloucester. Had you anything to do with the sending of that money to him?

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G. Moffatt.

24 Nov. 1859.

—I never heard the man's name before in connexion with Gloucester.

27,217. But you knew that he was a witness before the Committee of the House of Commons, did you not?—No, indeed I did not.

27,218. The traitor, in fact?—No, I did not know that.

21,219. (*Mr. Welford.*) The money did not come through you in any way?—Most assuredly not. Let me again remind the Commissioners that the whole money that passed through my hands was 500*l.* in the first instance, and early in June a further sum of 200*l.*; that is all the money that passed through my hands with reference to the election.

27,220. Clarke stated that he received 25*l.*?—Who did he say sent it to him?

27,221. He did not know; he said that a man named Kingdon paid him the money?—I assure you I do not know anything about it, nor have I been applied to by any person in Gloucester for a shilling with reference to this matter except by Mr. Wilton, to whom I sent 200*l.*

27,222. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have been examined before us at Gloucester and you have been examined here; you are under the obligation of your oath, and you have been yourself a member of Parliament?—Yes, for 14 years.

27,223. And you are an eminent merchant in London, and a man of the world. Now at the time when you were requested to send this 500*l.* down to Gloucester, had you no knowledge whatever, nor any suspicion that that money was to be expended in Gloucester for improper purposes?—I desire to answer that question in the most clear, distinct, emphatic, and unreserved manner. I had no knowledge whatever to warrant any such suspicion, nor had I any grounds for such suspicion. The money was sent down by me with a *bonâ fide* belief that it was to be spent in perfectly legal expenses; and I may state further, that nothing would have induced me to have had anything to do with the election had I had any suspicion to the contrary. I may state that when I first became a candidate for a seat in Parliament for the borough of Ipswich, I believe I could have been returned if I had sanctioned an expenditure of 150*l.* in bribery; but I refused to do so, and I presented a petition, which cost me 1,500*l.*, to turn out two members who did bribe, and I did not attempt to take the seat afterwards. To that course I have adhered throughout my life, and I am bound to say that I feel much pained at a great number of the questions which have been put to me, seeking to impute to me a guilty knowledge with regard to the 500*l.*, after I have been 14 years in Parliament, and have never spent a farthing at any one of my three contested elections except in a perfectly legal manner.

27,224. The great bulk of the questions which have been put to you we have felt it our duty to put; and if you are entirely innocent of a guilty knowledge as to the mode in which the money was spent, you ought to be rather glad than otherwise that such questions have been put. We have offered you a most abundant opportunity of giving your explanation, and we shall give of course every effect to it?—Will you allow me to say that I should be very much pained if the Commissioners thought I intended to impute to them any other than a thorough desire to do their duty.

27,225. (*Mr. Welford.*) It was the particular sum of money that was sent down to Gloucester through your agency that produced a great deal of mischief?—No doubt; and it is not a pleasant looking thing, there is no question about that; but the solution I have given of it has been clear and distinct.

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

27,226. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you send a telegram to Mr. Moffatt?—No, I did not. I will tell you exactly what I did. I received a telegram from Mr. Moffatt in reply to a letter which I sent him the night before the nomination. At that time Mr. Thompson had refused to let us have about 150*l.* of the money he had brought for us; he subsequently to that gave me 50*l.*, but when I found that we were not to have this 150*l.*, I did not know what was best to do, and under the circumstances I wrote to Mr. Moffatt at Ashburton. I proposed to him in my letter two alternatives, and suggested that if he would, in his answer, use one word I should understand it to mean one of the alternatives, and if he used another I should understand it to mean the other; the second alternative was the one he chose; but before he sent that telegram, which arrived during the nomination of the candidates, just at the time when Sir Robert Carden was speaking, other means had been taken; in point of fact, I had borrowed the 200*l.* from Mr. Bretherton, and, therefore, there was no use made of the telegram.

27,227. What were the two alternatives?—One was whether he would give me authority to raise more money in Gloucester; and I stated also that young Mr. Ralli was in Gloucester, and that if he would wish me to do so, I would apply to him. I think I asked him if the first alternative should be adopted to use the word "authority," which I should understand; and if the second, to use the word "apply." Whilst I was in the Shire hall at the nomination, I received this telegram with the word "apply;" but having, as I have told you, made other arrangements, I did not do as I had proposed; and you have heard from Mr. Ralli, junior, that I had no communication with him; the thing entirely fell to the ground; the telegram contained just the one word "apply;" there was no use made of it, and nothing further occurred in the matter.

27,228. The cause of your having that communication with Mr. Moffatt was that you had not obtained at the time you wrote to him the whole of the money from Thompson?—Exactly.

27,229. Have you with Mr. Lovegrove and Mr. Taynton gone into the figures which you were giving us just now?—I have gone into them with Mr. Taynton as well as we could. I should mention, though it never occurred to me till the day before yesterday, when it was too late for me to prepare the evidence in any other form, that with regard to many of these rentals, where there is a smaller sum stated as the gross estimated value, the actual rental does amount to 10*l.* I believe that is the case, though they are certainly returned to the parish officers at less.

27,230. If you were to take that list back with you, would you have the means of putting it into a more complete form than it is at present?—I could do it in some instances; and if you will allow me I will do so; but I think, unless it is made out in some such form as this, there will be very few returns that we shall be able to get.

27,231. Could you not apply to the landlords of the different properties?—If you will direct Mr. Lovegrove and myself to do so, I think that would give us some authority.

27,232. Would it be a matter of serious difficulty in consequence of the number of persons to whom you would have to apply?—Yes, there are a very large number of landlords.

(*Mr. Lovegove.*) It would be very difficult to get the information.

(*The Witness.*) Mr. Lovegrove and myself had a consultation upon this subject; there was some doubt whether we should even obtain this information from the Board of Health; we went together to ask the clerk, and he said that, as the information was required for the purpose of a Parliamentary inquiry, he would give us the information he did, though it was information which otherwise we should have had no right to obtain.

Adjourned to Wednesday next, Two o'clock, at No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.

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Twenty-sixth Day.—30th November 1859.

(At No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.)

The Commissioners met this day, but examined no witnesses.

Adjourned to Monday, 5th December, Twelve o'clock, at this place.

Twenty-seventh Day.—5th December 1859.

(At No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.)

Philip Rose sworn and examined.

P. Rose.

5 Dec. 1859.

27,233. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You are a member of the firm of Baxter, Rose, and Norton?—I am.

27,234. At the last election in 1859 you acted, I believe, as parliamentary or political agent for the Conservative party?—Do you mean in connexion with Gloucester?

27,235. I put my question generally?—Yes, I did.

27,236. Are you acquainted with a person of the name of Richard Thompson?—I once saw a person of the name of Richard Thompson under circumstances which I will state to the Commissioners.

27,237. When was it that you saw him?—I am fortunately able to fix the precise date; it was on the 8th of April 1859.

27,238. Was it at your office that you saw him?—At my office.

27,239. Upon what occasion was it that he came to your office?—A person sent up this card (*producing a card*), "Mr. Richard Thompson," and asked to see me; I desired him to be admitted, and he was shown in to me. I said, "I believe you are Mr. Thompson?" "Well," he said, "that is my card, but my name is "not Thompson; I have come to you from Mr. "Crutwell, of Frome; I am told that there are anticipations of a great deal of illegal practice on the "part of the Liberals, and I am asked to provide a "considerable staff for watching different public-"houses; but that," he said, "requires authority and "means, and I have come to you to ask if you will "supply me with either one or the other." I said to him, "You have evidently quite mistaken my voca-"tion; I never interfere in any elections, and I can "have nothing whatever to say to you, nor do I "understand your coming to me in this way; I can-"not imagine that you have been sent in the way you "state, and I really can have nothing to say to you;" he then said, "May I call again?" I said, "Of "course you may call again if you like, but that is "the answer I shall have to give you at any time." A gentleman in my office, Mr. Spofforth, was present at the time, and I desired him, as soon as Mr. Thompson was gone, to enter in his diary the purport of the conversation, and he thereupon made the entry which I have here (*referring to a diary*).

27,240. Is that in Mr. Spofforth's handwriting?—Yes, this is his memorandum: "Mem.: a Mr. "Thompson called on Mr. Rose, stating he had come "from Frome for instructions. Mr. Rose replied he "thought there was some mistake, that he knew no-"thing of him, and could not have any communication "until he heard more. Told him to call to-morrow." The next day I had another similar card sent to me, and I stated that I should decline to see Mr. Thompson under any circumstances; I sent word to him that it was of no use his waiting; he then sent back a message saying he hoped he should get his expenses paid. I said, "He must go for his expenses to the "person who employed him;" and I told Mr. Spofforth to communicate that to him, which I believe he did, for I find that on the 9th Mr. Spofforth made this memorandum in his diary: "Mem.: Mr. Thompson "came again and Mr. Rose refused to see him—saw "him myself, and said Mr. Rose refused to have any "communication, and that with regard to his expenses "he must look to those who employed him." I had never seen him before, and I have never seen him since.

27,241. You never had any previous knowledge of the man?—No; nor do I know that the man I have spoken of is the man you are inquiring about; the man I saw told me (though he sent me a card with the name of Thompson on it) that his name was not Thompson.

27,242. Was he a man with a red face?—A red pimpled face; I had never seen him before; but I am wrong in saying I have never seen him since; I did see him on one occasion afterwards crossing the road in Parliament Street.

27,243. Did he at that time wear glasses?—I do not remember.

27,244. I understand you to say he did not go to Frome with any commission from you for the purpose of making inquiries?—I had never seen him before in my life, and never had any communication whatever with him; in point of fact I tell the Commissioners frankly that I looked upon his visit to me as a trap.

27,245. Had he, at the time when he saw you at your office, an opportunity of seeing any paper which might have been there, containing a list, or mentioning the names of places, to which it was proposed that money should be sent on behalf of the Conservative party?—Inasmuch as there never was any such list, or anything at all in the nature of such a list, it is quite impossible that he could have seen it.

27,246. He stated to one party that he himself had seen a list, in which the name of Gloucester was visible, with a sum of 2,000*l.* appended to it?—That is a total fabrication.

27,247. And to us he stated that he did not himself see the list, but that he had received information of it from another person?—In the first place, as I said before, inasmuch as there never was such a list of any kind or description, or anything of the sort, it is utterly impossible that he could have seen it; I suppose he was not in my room more than three or four minutes; Mr. Spofforth was sitting at my side, and I was talking to this man while I was opening my letters.

27,248. We have felt it necessary to put the question to you, in consequence of the statement made to us by Thompson?—There is not one scintilla of truth in it; that is all I can say.

27,249. Had you anything whatever to do with the Gloucester election?—Nothing whatever; I am not acquainted with one single incident in either of the Gloucester elections.

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P. Rose.

5 Dec. 1859.

27,250. And you do not know of any money having been sent to Gloucester for any political objects?—Not the least; nor do I believe there was any sent.

27,251. Had you any communication with respect to Gloucester with a person named Frail?—Never; nor with respect to any other place at the last election.

27,252. At all events you had no communication with him with reference to Gloucester at the last election?—Certainly not, nor with reference to any other place; I wish to state that distinctly.

27,253. Are you aware of the evidence that was given by Mr. Lovegrove with respect to a telegram which had been sent by yourself to him with reference to a person of the name of Wood?—I did not read it, but somebody told me of it; I do not remember the fact at all; I think it more than probable that any telegram that was sent, was sent by my directions; and on looking at the file of letters relating to Gloucester, I see a letter from Mr. Lovegrove, dated the 26th of April 1859, written on one of the printed papers containing the sheriff's arrangements of the poll, inclosing a copy of a letter he had received from a Mr. Wood, of Sandwich, relative to the candidature of Mr. Monk for that place, and saying, "Do you "know anything of Monk's willingness to stand for "Sandwich or Deal, or anything of the writer, Mr. "Edmund F. Wood." I do not remember telegraphing, but I have some impression that I gave directions to have it communicated to Mr. Lovegrove that Mr. Wood was a highly respectable man whom I had known for many years.

27,254. The telegram stated that he was a trustworthy person; the Mr. Wood referred to in the telegram was Mr. Wood of Sandwich?—Yes; a very influential and leading man there.

T. Evans.

THOMAS EVANS sworn and examined.

27,255. You are a bootmaker in Gloucester?—Yes.

27,256. At the election in 1857 you received some money from Brewer Monk, did you not?—I did.

27,257. How much money did you receive?—From 11*l.* to 12*l.*

27,258. Did you receive that money from him for the purpose of bribery?—Well, sir, I did.

27,259. What time in the day was that?—I think it was from half-past two to a quarter to three; I cannot say exactly.

27,260. Whom did you bribe with that money?—John Emmings, of Littleworth.

27,261. What is he?—A stonemason.

27,262. How much did you give him?—£6.

27,263. Was that in 1857?—Yes.

27,264. Is he a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

27,265. Did you give that to him for his vote?—Yes, for his vote.

27,266. For Messrs. Price and Berkeley?—Yes.

27,267. And he accepted it for his vote?—Yes, for his vote.

27,268. To whom else did you give money?—To John Puttick.

27,269. Of where?—Of the Ship and Castle, High Orchard.

27,270. Is he a publican?—Yes.

27,271. How much did you give him?—£5.

27,272. Was that for his vote?—For his vote.

27,273. For Price and Berkeley?—Yes; he said he could have it on the other side, and I gave him 5*l.*

27,274. Did you give any money to any one else?—No.

27,275. Is Puttick a freeman or a householder?—A householder.

27,276. Was that all the money that you had to spend for the purpose of bribery at the election?—Yes.

G. Allen.

GEORGE ALLEN sworn and examined.

27,277. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I believe you are a builder?—Yes.

27,278. At Gloucester?—Yes.

27,279. How much did you receive from Brewer Monk for the purpose of bribery at the election of 1857?—I did not receive any money for the purpose of bribery.

27,280. How much money did you receive from him for any purpose?—I think 7*l.* 10*s.* or 8*l.*; somewhere thereabouts.

27,281. Was that on the polling day?—Yes.

27,282. At about what time in the day?—About a quarter to three.

27,283. For what purpose did he give you that money?—I asked him for something for travelling expenses for men that I had brought from Henley-on-Thames.

27,284. How many men had you brought?—Five or six.

27,285. Were they voters?—They were.

27,286. Did they vote for Messrs. Price and Berkeley?—Some of them did.

27,287. Not all?—Not all.

27,288. Did you pay the money which you had received from Brewer Monk to any of those men?—Nothing, unless it was giving them a glass of ale or spirits and water.

27,289. Did you pay any part of the 7*l.* 10*s.* or 8*l.* to any of those men?—No, none at all.

27,290. In what way did you spend the money?—The fact is, I paid their fare, and they had to go up to Henley again to work. I paid for them from Henley-on-Thames, and for myself.

27,291. Do you mean to say that you expended the 8*l.* in paying the expenses of those men in coming to Gloucester, and returning again to Henley-on-Thames?—Yes.

27,292. (*Mr. Welford.*) That included your own expenses?—Yes.

27,293. Were these men at work at Henley-on-Thames?—Yes, they were employed with me and under me; I was building the station at Henley.

27,294. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) And you mean to swear that no portion of that money was devoted to the bribery of any voter?—None at all.

27,295. Did you expend any money in bribery at that election?—No, none at all.

JULIAN BERNARD is called, but does not appear.

J. P. Wilton.

JOHN PLEYDELL WILTON called and further examined.

27,296. Have you had the means of correcting the list showing the rentals of those voters who were bribed at Gloucester since you were examined before us on the last occasion?—I have, with regard to a very great many of them. I think that this list (*producing and handing it to the Commissioners*) is now, with a very few exceptions, a correct list of the actual rentals.

27,297. Do you distinguish in this list between those electors that are freemen and those that are householders?—I can show you where the freemen cease; the last freeman is No. 530 on this list.

27,298. Then the freemen are entered on this list continuously from the beginning down to No. 530?—Yes; those are all freemen. That is a copy of the list as made out by Mr. Coleridge, and sent to me.

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27,299. Do you know from an examination you have yourself made that all the names down to No. 530 are the names of freemen?—Yes.

27,300. (*Mr. Welford.*) Are they only freemen?—No; some of them are householders as well. I think if you have a corrected register you will see that that is so.

27,301. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) With regard to the names of the freemen, in what way have you ascertained that the rentals which are stated here are the correct rentals of their occupations?—In different ways; some persons I have asked myself, and others I have got other persons to ask; I have written to the landlords in some cases, and have obtained what appears to me to be authentic information; I got in each case the best information I could obtain, and where I could not get any actual return I took the valuations of persons who were familiar with the property, and the rental value of the property.

27,302. You took the valuation of persons who you considered were competent to inform you as to the annual value of those properties?—Yes.

27,303. From inquiries which you yourself made, and from information which you have yourself received, do you believe that this return of the rentals of freemen is a return that may be relied upon?—I do.

27,304. Has Mr. Lovegrove had an opportunity of inspecting that return?—A very slight opportunity; he has known the course that I have adopted.

27,305. With regard to those persons who are householders; in what way have you ascertained that the various rentals here specified represent the actual rentals of their occupations?—In the same way that I have with regard to the others; by making inquiries from the landlords, or from the rent collectors. In one or two cases where persons have owned large holdings, I have seen the collectors of the rents, and got the information from them.

27,306. Either from the landlords or from the rate-collectors you have obtained the information which is here given?—Yes.

27,307. Have you also tested those rentals by the returns that have been made to the Board of Health?—Yes, I have; and I have found that some of them are very different; but there are various ways in which those differences are explained; against some of the names you will observe that I have made notes, which will explain some of the discrepancies; there are some persons who appear there as being returned for less than 10*l.* rentals; in those cases they are either persons whose landlords have compounded with the parishes, being large holders, or else there has been a large sum expended on the property, which the revising barrister considered made the rental equivalent to 10*l.*; for instance, there is a man returned here at 7*l.* 10*s.* to the Board of Health rate; but the revising barrister considered that as he had expended from 60*l.* to 80*l.* on his property, that had raised it to the value of 10*l.* a year.

27,308. Putting out of view those exceptional cases, may it be taken that the rentals that are here stated for the most part correspond with the returns made to the Board of Health?—Yes, I think so.

27,309. You have had an opportunity of inspecting the return that was made to the Board of Health?—Yes, I have; and you will find it here in every case. The first column is the gross estimated rental, as returned to the Board of Health. I may mention, also, that the clerk of the Board of Health has allowed me to bring up the books, and if you should wish to see them, or if you should require them to be left, the figures I have given you can be verified from these returns.

27,310. That is with reference to the estimated annual rent?—Yes.

27,311. But you say you have examined this column with, or have prepared it from those books, and that you are satisfied that that column is correct?—Yes, every one of these figures is correct, I believe.

27,312. I see on inspecting this list, that in a great number of cases, the estimated annual rentals and the actual annual rentals agree?—Yes, they do.

27,313. And where they do not agree may it be taken that the difference arises from circumstances, some of which have been specified under the head of "observations"?—Yes, or from other circumstances, such as a change in the value of property; and it some years having elapsed since there was any assessment made for the purpose of the poor law, the value of property in some parishes has diminished, while in others it has increased.

27,314. Can you inform us when it was that the return was made to the Board of Health, from which the figures in the first column were extracted?—In different parishes the returns have been made at different times; in some parishes there has not been an assessment for many years.

27,315. But although a fresh assessment has not been made for some years, is it generally understood that the assessment existing, a return of which was made to the Board of Health, is a satisfactory one, and may it be taken to be tolerably accurate, so far as you know?—As far as I know it is.

27,316. I see here that Henry Reed, No. 1679, is assessed in the books of the Board of Health at the estimated annual rent of 8*l.*, whereas his actual rent appears to be 13*l.*, and there is no observation put to explain that; can you inform us how it is that that difference arises?—No, I cannot, unless it is that in the part of the town where he lives the value of property has increased.

27,317. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Do you know anything of this: "D. Best, junior, actual rent 3*l.* 18*s.*?—He told me himself that he pays at the rate of 3*s.* 6*d.* a week.

27,318. (*Mr. Welford.*) He is a freeman, is he not?—Yes. I do not think there is any person put down there who is actually paying less than 10*l.* a year; there is one name against which I have made a memorandum, where the party has been objected to twice, on the ground of not paying 10*l.* a year, but he has produced his receipts in court, and has always proved that he paid 10*l.*; he has been objected to on two occasions, once, I believe, by each party.

27,319. Independently of such accidental circumstances, I understand you to say you think this list represents the real rentals?—Yes; if the Commissioners should entertain any doubt about it, there is no man more competent to give an opinion upon the subject than Mr. Ward, who is now present; he knows the value of all the property in Gloucester, and has been extensively engaged there for many years; he has gone through the list with me, and has assisted me in preparing it; I did not like to act quite alone.

(*Mr. Lovegrove.*) I asked Mr. Ward to go through the list.

JOHN WARD called and further examined.

27,320. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Have you, at Mr. Lovegrove's request, assisted Mr. Wilton in the compilation of this list of householders and freemen?—I have.

27,321. Have you yourself looked at the various rentals of the occupations of the parties who are named in the list?—Yes.

27,322. In your judgment, do the rentals which are affixed to their names correctly represent the value of their several holdings?—I think so as nearly as possible.

27,323. Have you yourself been a builder in Gloucester?—Yes, I have.

27,324. And from your occupation as a builder have you had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the value of property in Gloucester?—I have.

27,325. From actual observation and inquiry of the parties who are owners and occupiers of property,

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J. Ward.
5 Dec. 1859.

have you been able to arrive at the conclusions which are stated in the list that has been handed to us by Mr. Wilton?—From my actual knowledge, without inquiry at all.

27,326. Have you any doubt that with the exception of some few cases that have been adverted to by Mr. Wilton, these rentals may be relied on by us as accurate?—No doubt of it.

[Julian Bernard is again called, and does not answer.]

C. E. Coleridge.

CHARLES EDWARD COLERIDGE (the Secretary to the Commission) sworn and examined.

27,327. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Did you summon Mr. Julian Bernard to attend and give evidence before us at our last meeting at the Committee Room, No. 10, in the House of Commons?—Yes; I sent the summons by post to Mr. Bernard's chambers in the Albany, and the receipt of it was acknowledged by Mr. Mount, a solicitor in Size Lane, who called upon me several times.

27,328. Mr. Bernard did not attend that meeting; have you subsequently seen Mr. Mount on the subject of his non-attendance?—Yes; upon the last occasion when the Commissioners were sitting at the House of Commons he sent a declaration, signed before a police magistrate, stating that Mr. Bernard was too ill to attend; I subsequently saw Mr. Mount—and I think you were present in the room (*addressing Mr. Vaughan*)—Mr. Mount then said that he would see Mr. Bernard, and that any notice that was sent to him (Mr. Mount) should be taken as having been sent to Mr. Bernard; that he would communicate with him, and would undertake that he should appear here as soon as he could.

27,329. After that interview with Mr. Mount, did you write to him to inform him that this day had been fixed by us for the next examination of witnesses?—Yes; the Commissioners had a meeting that afternoon here, and after Mr. Mount had gone away it was settled that this should be the day for the examination of witnesses; and that same evening I wrote to Mr. Mount, and told him that Mr. Bernard would be required to be here this day. Subsequently to that, in consequence of instructions received from you, I again wrote to Mr. Mount to inform him that Mr. Bernard would be required to produce his pass book and cash book, but I have received no reply to either of those letters, both of which I sent to Mr. Mount's place of business in the City.

27,330. Did you quite understand from Mr. Mount that any communication that was addressed by you to him on behalf of Mr. Bernard, requiring Mr. Bernard's attendance before us, would be received by him in the same manner as though the communication had been addressed to Mr. Bernard himself?—Yes; I suggested that I should write to Mr. Bernard at the Albany, but Mr. Mount said that Mr. Bernard was not in town; that he was not to be found at his chambers in the Albany, but that if I would send to his (Mr. Mount's) place of business, it would be the same thing; or that if I sent it to the Albany it would be forwarded to him. He said at the same time that Mr. Bernard was ill, but that he hoped he might be present.

Adjourned to Friday next, Three o'clock p.m., at No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.

Twenty-eighth Day.—9th December 1859.

(AT NO. 8, FLUDYER STREET, WESTMINSTER.)

F. W. Mount.

FRANCIS WILLIAM MOUNT sworn and examined.

27,331. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) What are you?—A solicitor.

27,332. Are you the solicitor of Mr. Bernard?—I am.

27,333. Do you attend for the purpose of assigning any excuse for Mr. Bernard's non-attendance here to-day?—Yes.

27,334. What excuse have you to assign?—He is too unwell to leave his bed.

27,335. Have you seen him to-day?—I have; his medical attendant is here in the room.

J. Duncan.

JAMES DUNCAN sworn and examined.

27,336. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Are you a surgeon or a physician?—I am a graduate of the University of London.

27,337. Do you practise generally as a surgeon?—No, I practise in a pure way.

27,338. As a physician?—Yes.

27,339. Where do you reside?—At No. 18, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

27,340. Are you Mr. Julian Bernard's medical attendant?—Yes.

27,341. When did you last see him?—About half an hour ago.

27,342. Was he in bed at that time, or was he up?—In bed.

27,343. From what complaint is he suffering?—He has been suffering from boils; during the last three weeks he has been in bed.

27,344. Was that the complaint under which he suffered at the time when you went before a magistrate and made an affidavit which was sent to us?—Yes.

27,345. Has he been suffering ever since from the same complaint?—Ever since, until last Monday.

27,346. Do you remember that at the time you made your affidavit you stated that you thought he would probably be able to attend in ten days?—Yes.

27,347. That expectation has not been borne out by the state of Mr. Bernard?—No, he has relapsed; fresh boils have appeared one after another; but his present state is not from boils, it is from the extreme exhaustion produced by them, and from the state of health which induced those boils in the first instance.

27,348. Have the boils for the most part left him?—Yes, there are just the scars; he is suffering no annoyance from the boils just now.

27,349. Are you of opinion that it would be at all dangerous to him to leave his bed, for the purpose of attending here to be examined as a witness?—Decidedly.

27,350. It would be dangerous?—I do not believe he could do it. At half-past two o'clock, when I saw him, he declared he would come out; he attempted to get out of bed, and immediately sunk back.

27,351. From the state in which he appears to be

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at present, when do you anticipate that he will be able to attend to give evidence before us, without danger to himself?—If he should have no fresh symptoms, I should say in ten days or a fortnight; but it is impossible to give a decided opinion. He retains nothing on his stomach; and while that is the case he has no chance of getting up his strength at all; there has come on, within the last four or five days, incessant vomiting.

J. Duncan.

5 Dec. 1859.

27,352. Is ten days hence the earliest period that you could fix for his examination here without danger to himself?—Yes; even under very favourable circumstances I do not think he will be able to attend earlier than that.

Adjourned to Wednesday next, three o'clock, at this place.

Twenty-ninth Day.—14th December 1859.

(At No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.)

The Commissioners met this day, but examined no witnesses.

Adjourned to Monday, the 19th instant, at this place, at Three o'clock.

Thirtieth Day.—19th December 1859.

(At No. 8, Fludyer Street, Westminster.)

The Commissioners met this day, but examined no witnesses.

Adjourned to Saturday next, the 24th instant, at this place, at Two o'clock.

Thirty-first Day.—24th December 1859.

(At No. 8 Fludyer Street, Westminster.)

Julian Bernard called and further examined.

J. Bernard.

24 Dec. 1859.

27,353. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) When we examined you last at Gloucester you told me a telegram had been sent by you to Mr. Lovegrove from Swindon in a feigned name. We have before us here a telegram, which appears to have been sent by a person of the name of Clyly. Will you look at it, and say whether or not that is the telegram, or a copy of the telegram, you sent to Mr. Lovegrove? (*The telegram referred to is handed to the witness.*)—I should say it was a copy.

27,354. What was it that induced you upon that occasion to assume the name of Clyly in sending the telegram to Mr. Lovegrove?—I really cannot account for it, unless it be that I was in such a very great hurry; the original will show the manner in which it was written; the train only stopped there for a few minutes, and it did not occur to me at once to telegraph to him from there.

27,355. Was there any reason at all for adopting that name in preference to any other name?—Why, yes; being known by the name of Bernard, and also being known to several gentlemen in Gloucester, I wanted to avoid seeing gentlemen in Gloucester, with the exception of Mr. Lovegrove (who could give me positive information with reference to Sir Robert Carden's election), because I was afraid that they would prevail upon me, or induce me, to stay down there, which I did not want to do at the time.

27,356. What made you think that by assuming the name of Clyly, or sending a telegram in that name, Mr. Lovegrove would be enabled to understand that that telegram came from you?—I reasoned in this way,—that he, Mr. Lovegrove, receiving a telegram from any person, would comply with the request to meet that person at the station; and that if his clerk, or any other person in the office, had seen my name, the probability was that he would mention it to persons who might be with Mr. Lovegrove at the time, and that they would then come to see me, and wish me to take an active part in the election matters.

27,357. That is the sole reason which you have to offer for having communicated in that furtive manner with Mr. Lovegrove?—That is the only reason; it really is the case; the proof of it being that I did not wish to publish to all the people in Gloucester that I was there.

27,358. When you were at Swindon on your way to Gloucester you, I believe, intended to proceed upon urgent business into the West of England?—Not upon particularly urgent business, commercial business of great importance to myself; not so urgent that it was required to be done on that special day.

27,359. I thought you told us at Gloucester that the business upon which you were going was of a very important nature, and so urgent that you could not await the arrival of a letter in answer to one you might have sent to Mr. Lovegrove to satisfy yourself as to the prospects of success of Sir Robert Carden?—I made the one journey serve the other; it was to satisfy my curiosity.

27,360. Do you remember telling us that the reason why you did not write a letter to satisfy yourself as to the prospects of success of Sir Robert Casden, was that you had no time to await the arrival of an answer from Mr. Lovegrove, in consequence of the urgency of the business that took you to the West of England?—It is very probable, Saturday being a holiday, that I wanted to make use of the Saturday.

27,361. Do you remember stating that to us at Gloucester?—The business was important.

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J. Bernard.
24 Dec. 1859.

27,362. Was the business so important that you could not really await the arrival of an answer from Mr. Lovegrove to the questions you wanted to put to him with regard to Sir Robert Carden's prospects of success?—Certainly; because I attached more importance to my own business; it was a secondary consideration my seeing Mr. Lovegrove at all.

27,363. You went down and saw Mr. Lovegrove on the Saturday, and you returned again, I believe, to London on the Saturday evening?—I returned again on that very night, about half-past twelve.

27,364. Your journey to the West not having been carried into effect?—It was not.

27,365. You stated at Gloucester that Mr. Lovegrove, in the interview which he had with you, did not give you to understand that a sum of 1,000*l.* would be required to be provided for the purchase of votes?—He did not say that it would be required for the purchase of votes.

27,366. That you mean to swear?—I swear it most positively.

27,367. Are you aware that in that you are entirely contradicted by Mr. Lovegrove?—I was not aware of it. I know that Mr. Lovegrove did not tell me it was for the purchase of votes; I have no recollection of it. I speak to the best of my recollection of the facts.

27,368. Mr. Lovegrove told us that the effect of the conservation between you and him was this:—"Here "are parties being offered very considerable sums on "the other side, and how can we expect to win this "election; in all probability we shall not win it "unless we are in a position to purchase some of the "votes; and what I should recommend is, that there "should be a fund for that purpose provided." That is stated by Mr. Lovegrove to have been the effect of the conversation that took place between you and him. Now do you mean to swear that that was not the effect of the conversation?—Mr. Lovegrove did not give me the particulars to the best of my recollection of what he wanted the money for; he inferred to me that it was for election purposes.

27,369. Pray be careful about your answers, because your testimony is in conflict with that of Mr. Lovegrove upon that very question. Do you mean to swear that Mr. Lovegrove did not represent to you that money would be required for the purposes of bribery?—He certainly did not say to me that it was for bribery.

27,370. If he did not make use of that word did he not convey to your mind the impression that the money which he was requiring was to be devoted to corrupt practices at Gloucester?—That is what I inferred.

27,371. You inferred that it was to be devoted to corrupt practices at Gloucester?—Yes; I should say so, but not for the direct purchase of votes; he did not use those words to me certainly, but I drew my own inference that it was for that purpose. He said this; that the other side were spending so much money that it was not reasonable to expect that they could win without a similar expenditure; I naturally inferred that; but he did not say that it was for the the direct purchase of votes; I have no recollection of it.

27,372. There is another answer given by Mr. Lovegrove in which he states that in his conversation with you he informed you "we must take into consideration "the profuse offers of money, and the bribery that was "going on on the other side, and that we should have "a difficulty, I thought, in getting the voters to the "poll unless means somewhat similar were adopted;" that is another answer given by Mr. Lovegrove. Now I ask you whether you will undertake to swear that the representations made by Mr. Lovegrove to you were not either that a fund of money would be required for the purpose of obtaining Sir Robert Carden's election by bribery, or that it would be required for the purchase of votes?—I came to the conclusion that it was for corrupt means, but I did not know the special means.

27,373. If you had answered the questions that were put to you at Gloucester in a more straightforward way than you did we should not have required your presence here to day?—I am not acquainted with electioneering matters.

27,374. No; but you are conversant with the English language, and able to understand the effect of a question. An answer which you gave in Gloucester to a question that was put to you as to what you understood the money was to be required for was this: You are asked "did he not say that the election would "not be secured unless such a fund were provided in "case of need" and your answer is "No; that was "not the way he put it; to the best of my recollection "he expressed it as I say. He said that this election "would probably cost more than the election of 1857, "having taken so very long; he said that if Sir "Robert Carden's election was lost, he, it was possible, "might object to pay his (Mr. Lovegrove's) ex-"penses"?—Yes; he gave that as a reason.

27,375. Then again you are asked, "then the in-"ference you drew from that conversation was, that "if this fund was not provided the election would be "likely to be lost," and your answer is "Mr. Love-"grove did not absolutely say the election would be "lost, but he suggested that it would be desirable to "send it in order to secure him, because he did not "like the responsibility; that was the manner in "which it appeared to me." Then the next question is "to secure him, and not to secure the election," and your answer is "he did not say anything about "securing the election. Being the responsible agent, "and having procured such large expenses, he began "to feel nervous that Sir Robert Carden might object, "in the event of the election being lost, to recognize "those expenditures." Now I ask you whether or not Mr. Lovegrove gave you to understand that that was the object for which he required that money?—It was one of the reasons which he gave.

27,376. Compare this answer with the answer which you gave us just now upon that subject; were not the answers which you gave to us at Gloucester upon that subject a suggestion rather of the moment than a statement of what actually occurred?—Why, no; for this reason: Mr. Lovegrove was about, I should say an hour or an hour and a half with me, and he saw my disinclination to comply with his wishes, and he used many arguments to induce me to say that I would send this money. I did not promise to send it even when I left, and he was undecided whether I would do so or not. He urged many reasons; he urged those I gave at Gloucester, and among others he might have said to me what he has sworn to in his evidence, but I have no recollection of it; I mean about the payment of the voters.

27,377. But at all events you are enabled to say now that you did understand that the money was required for corrupt practices, and that that was the understanding conveyed to you by Mr. Lovegrove?—I inferred decidedly that it was for corrupt practices.

27.378. Have you got your bankers book here?—I have.

27,372. Your pass book?—Yes (*producing it*).

27,380. Will you just turn to your pass book in 1857, and show us the entry of those two cheques of 100*l.* each?—This (*pointing to an entry in the pass book*) is one of them.

27,381. "R. R."?—Yes.

27,382. Are those the initials to which the cheque was made payable?—I believe so; I took out some cheques which I thought I should want; I have lost them.

27,383. This appears to be April the 13th?—That is the day it was cashed, but not the day on which the cheque was drawn.

27,384. This appears to be under the head of April the 13th, where is the former cheque; there were two cheques?—This is the other (*pointing out another entry in the pass book.*)

27,385. "730."?—Yes.

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27,386. Just let me understand this; are you not enabled to state, by reference to any paper at all, who the person is that is indicated as the payee of the cheque by the initials "R. R." ?—I really cannot; I have endeavoured to find out but could not.

27,387. With regard to the other cheque made payable to "730" cannot you explain that ?—I cannot. You will observe in my pass book there are several cheques given in numbers.

27,388. You cannot state from any recollection of your own who was the payee of the "R. R." cheque, or of the "730" cheque ?—I cannot.

27,389. Have you endeavoured to discover ?—I have endeavoured to discover, in this manner, by looking over the cheques. I have a perfect recollection of parting with one cheque, giving it into the hands of some gentleman, and the other cheque was sent from London to Mr. Lovegrove after the election.

27,390. You have no book at all to which you can refer for the purpose of explaining it ?—No, I have not.

27,391. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you produce the cheques ?—I have not got the cheques.

27,392. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Your bankers would have them ?—No; I have lost them.

27,393. But they were returned to you ?—I had them at Gloucester, but you will see by that advertisement (*producing it*) that I have lost them entirely.

27,394. When do you say they were lost ? You say "on the afternoon of Wednesday the 9th instant ?"—The ninth of November; I was preparing for this matter, and I thought it was better to look it up; I had them in my possession previously, I get my cheques from my bankers once a month or so.

27,395. The cheque book from which the cheque was drawn will not give you any information with regard to the payees of the cheques ?—No.

27,396. Now turn to the cheque in 1859, if you please, for 500*l.* ?—The sum which I sent to Gloucester was included in this entry (*pointing it out*), in this special sum on the 26th of April.

27,397. On the 26th of April you drew 1,500 ?—Yes.

(*Mr. Welford.*) How do you identify that as being the cheque that included the 500*l.* ?—From recollection, because it was the day before I sent the money; I sent one of the half notes, I think, to Gloucester on the Tuesday following or on that day; I am not quite certain which.

27,399. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You appear to have drawn that cheque on the 26th, that would be on the Tuesday ?—It is quite possible; I do not remember whether it was the Tuesday or the Monday.

27,400. Then you sent it that same day ?—Yes, one half.

27,401. (*Mr. Welford.*) Do you produce that cheque ?—I had that cheque with the other cheques.

27,402. Have you also lost that ?—I have.

27,403. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I see upon the other side that there is an entry to your credit "by cash from "Sir Robert Carden 500*l.*" ?—There is.

27,404. That is April the 2d ?—Yes, April the 2d.

27,405. Has not that entry any reference to the 500*l.* you sent to Gloucester ?—No; most certainly not.

27,406. It has no relation at all to it ?—No. Permit me to point out that the transactions were of such a character that it would not be probable.

27,407. Do you mean to say that there are many other large payments made by Sir Robert Carden to your credit which go to show that this special entry under the head of April the 2d 500*l.* has no reference to the election ?—It has no reference to it whatever; that I can positively swear.

27,408. Do I understand you to say that the payments made by Sir Robert Carden were commercial transactions, payments made in the course of trade ?—Entirely.

27,409. These sums having been placed to your credit by Sir Robert Carden, I suppose you did not consider that there was any very great amount of difficulty in making use of a portion of those sums for the expenses of his election ?—You will see amounts paid in by other persons. I made use of one sum as well as another.

27,410. Where is the entry of the repayment of that sum to you ?—It was included in this special sum (*pointing out an entry*).

27,411. It was included in that 4,000*l.* ?—Yes.

27,412. Under the date of May the 3d ?—Yes.

27,413. It is an entry to your credit of 4,000*l.*, which comprehended the sum of 500*l.* ?—Yes, it did.

27,414. (*Mr. Welford*). At the time you paid this 500*l.* you considered that you had a considerable amount of Sir Robert Carden's money in your hands, did you not ?—Not one single farthing.

27,415. When you paid the 500*l.* it was your own money ?—Most certainly.

27,416. An advance to him upon his behalf ?—No, not on his behalf; I did it entirely on my own responsibility. I had no doubt that I should get the money back if I told Sir Robert Carden that I had advanced it.

27,417. You advanced it for his benefit ?—I advanced it on my own responsibility.

27,418. But for purposes of his ?—Yes; but not with any knowledge on his part, he had no knowledge of it whatever, that I positively swear; the nature of the transactions will show that, there is no difficulty in the matter.

7,419. (*Mr. Fitzgerald*). Was it any part of your motive in sending a telegram in a feigned name to conceal from Sir Robert Carden your presence at Gloucester ?—No; I do not think I had that object in view. I certainly would have avoided Sir Robert Carden if I had given it any consideration. I did not want to go into the town of Gloucester at all. I did not want to see Mr. Whithorn and several of the gentlemen I knew.

27,420. In sending the telegram in a feigned name, was it no part of your motive to avoid seeing Sir Robert Carden at that time ?—No, it was not; it was not likely that Sir Robert Carden would know I was there.

47,421. Sir Robert Carden was in Gloucester at the time, was he not ?—I am not quite certain whether he was or not; he generally came up on Saturday nights, and spent Sunday I think in London. I am not very certain whether he came up every Saturday.

47,422. Why did you wish to avoid Mr. Whithorn ?—Because he would probably request me to interest myself, and remain down at Gloucester, because I was there in 1857, and I had a special objection to that; I was not very well at the time; I had many other important matters on hand in the way of business, and I could not spare the time.

27,423. I do not quite understand how it happened that you did not continue your journey into the West; the journey into the West was the important part of your journey ?—It was in this way, I am engaged generally speaking in the week, and I endeavour to arrange my business engagements in the country on Saturdays, so that my absence in the country will not interfere with my business in town. I endeavour to arrange that very frequently. Now this journey was performed on a Saturday, and I had no time to complete it.

27,424. Having been detained at Gloucester you were not able to continue your journey ?—No; because the next day was Sunday.

27,425. And therefore you abandoned it ?—Yes, for that particular reason; I managed it by correspondence until I was able to have a personal interview.

27,426. (*Mr. Welford.*) I suppose you found it necessary to go back to provide this money ?—I did not fully make up my mind whether I should send the money or not. I was detained so long that the

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J. Bernard.

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only thing to do was to go back to London. I had lost the train, and therefore the only thing I could do was to return to London.

27,427. When did you resolve to send this money?—Coming up in the train I thought it was the right thing for me to do; I felt I could not do otherwise under the circumstances. Mr. Lovegrove appealed to me as Sir Robert Carden's friend.

27,428. Did you lead Mr. Lovegrove to believe that you would send it, or that you would not?—I do not think I said to Mr. Lovegrove, to the best of my recollection, that I should send it, but I asked him this, "when would you require the money"? I think I asked him that, which possibly might lead Mr. Lovegrove to infer that I should send it. He said, "Oh! send it by Tuesday or Wednesday;" but I did not say that I would. I think I should further remark this, that Mr. Lovegrove, to the best of my recollection, in his evidence the first time he was examined, said that he did not tell Mr. Bernard what the money was for; that was in the first part of his evidence which he gave at Gloucester, and it must have been upon his cross-examination that he said that.

27,429. (*Mr. Vaughan*). You were not present when he was examined, and therefore you have no means of knowing what the evidence was that he gave. We know what the evidence was, and therefore we put you questions about it?—This was in his first examination according to the printed report.

J. Lovegrove.

JOSEPH LOVEGROVE called and examined.

27,430. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) We are very sorry that you should have come up to London on purpose to produce the account with which we wished to be furnished (*referring to an account now produced by the witness*). We thought you might have communicated to us the particulars, which would have been quite sufficient?—I thought it very possible that an explanation would be required. I could scarcely make out what you did want, and consequently I thought I would come up, and bring a full account of every farthing that I have expended in the matter during the two elections.

27,431. We were not desirous that you should come at all?—I thought it very possible that you might desire to see me at some future time, and therefore I thought I would came and make an end of it. I thought the best way would be to give you an account of the expenditure of all monies during the election.

27,432. Have you got the account?—Yes.

27,433. An account of the sums sent down to you by Sir Robert Carden for subscriptions applicable either to municipal elections or for charities?—Yes; comprising everything. It has not any reference whatever to either election; one or two items arose out of the election as you will see.

27,434. How much do you say you received altogether from him?—£503 8*s*.

27,435. Commencing when?—August 25th 1857.

27,436. And continued till when?—April the 1st.

27,437. 1859?—Yes; that is the last payment.

27,438. I suppose you will be able to let us keep this account?—Yes; I have brought it on purpose for you. I thought you would like to go through it, and I would give you every explanation you thought desirable.

27,439. The first item is "August 25th 1857, "Tickets for Conservative dinner 2*l*.; August 26th, "Ditto 1*l*.; August 27th, Ditto 1*l*. 5*s*.; September "19th, Harris, Prince-street, 5*s*.; September 22d, "Henley, for 1,000 bills of telegraphic messages "during hearing of inquiries 1*l*.; Bell, printing "bills. City of Gloucester election, 2*l*. 10*s*. Maysey, "over and above 15*l*., charges as remuneration 5*l*.; "September 28th, Mr. Cooke, for superintending "carriage arrangements 2*l*.; September 30th, Why-"man, Cannels driver, 5*s*." The first charitable subscription is to the Infirmary, "September 30th, "Infirmary. 10*l*. 10*s*., Dispensary, 5*l*. 5*s*.?—Yes.

27,440. "J. Downing, White Hart." What is that for?—That is something very small, I think; it is only 11*s*. 1*d*.; it was some small thing that came in afterwards.

27,441. "J. Cockrell, Cheltenham, for bringing "F. L. Clare to poll, 15*s*. 1*d*." ?—That is for some expenses of a witness coming up, I think.

27,442. "Grimmett, 17*s*. 6*d*. October 1st, J. B. "Brown, for messengers, 2*l*. October 10th, Do., 6*s*. "Do., 4*l*. 11*s*. 9*d*. Indian Fund, 25*l*. Messenger to "Hucclecote with briefs, 2*s*. 6*d*. Meaton posting bills, "6*s*. October 13th, Subscription to Literary and "Scientific Association for 1857 and 1858, 2*l*. 2*s*. "Nine Messengers at Parliamentary Revision, 3*l*. 5*s*." What was that for?—Persons to take messages to run about and bring up the people to support their claims, and all that sort of thing.

27,443. Who do you generally employ, now, as messengers?—Various people. I have nothing to do with the employment of them; it is done by Mr. Brown or Mr. Taynton, who attend to the Parliamentary revision.

27,444. Do you, generally speaking, employ on those occasions persons who are connected with your party?—Oh yes, invariably.

27,445. Electors I suppose?—No, not always; sons or cousins; it does not follow; it is a very insignificant thing for them; they generally employ the most intelligent young men.

27,446. (*Mr. Welford.*) Anybody who wants a job?—Yes.

27,447. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "October 15th, J. Haines, "senior, for signing notices of objection for members "and his attendance, 3*l*. James Haines, senior, for "municipal, 1*l*. 15*s*." What is that for?—That is for a revision.

27,448. A municipal revision?—Yes.

27,449. "Mr. Niblet, Upper George, Refreshment "for messengers at Parliamentary revision 16*s*. 9*d*. "October 16, W. Parker (revision services), 1*l*. "Drinkwater, attendance at Registration 5*s*. Tickets "Conservative dinner, 7*s*. 6*d*." To whom do you give the tickets for the Conservative dinner?—To some of the parties on our part who cannot afford to pay.

27,450. Do you mean to say persons connected with your party?—Yes.

27,451. Voters?—Yes; persons who cannot afford to pay for the tickets, and who come and make applications, and so on.

27,452. "October 29th, Subscription to Conser-"vative Society, 1857, 10*l*. 10*s*." Is that the Conservative Society at Gloucester?—Yes.

27,453. Of which Mr. Stafford is chairman?—Yes.

27,454. I suppose Sir Robert Walter Carden was an honorary member at that time, was he not?—Yes.

27,455. "November 14, Mr. J. Brown, Balance "his account for municipal 5*l*. 13*s*. 6*d*. Ditto Ditto "Parliamentary 10*l*. 11*s*. December 8, Phelps, "(Redmarley, per Hulls,) Travelling expenses, 10*s*." What is that for?—Perhaps to go over to Cheltenham to fetch a voter, or something of that kind, to support his claim; I scarcely know what it is for.

27,456. You pay those expenses do you?—Yes.

27,457. The expenses of persons objected to, or the expenses of claimants?—Yes.

27,458. Suppose a barrister inflicts a fine, I suppose you pay that?—Yes; I think so. Mr. Brown pays it, and he comes to me for the money.

27,459. "December 14th, Mrs. Harris, wife of "Harris, late Bell, driver, 10*s*. December 28th, "Merrett, junior, 2*s*. 6*d*.; Merret, senior, 1*s*. Christ-"mas-boxes to 10 men at Saint Bartholomew's "Hospital, at 12 at Saint Margaret's, 11*l*." Are those persons voters?—Yes; they are all voters. I will just tell you the reason why that was done; that was

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the first time we had ever given Christmas boxes, and it was in this way: Mr. Price gave Christmas boxes in the shape of meat, sugar, and tea; he gave certain quantities to the members of those hospitals, and we had to follow the example, that gave rise to it, and that is the first time we ever did it.

27,460. You say you did it in consequence of Mr. Price giving meat away?—Yes; so much beef, tea, and sugar; and there might be some other articles.

27,461. (*Mr. Welford.*) Provisions?—Yes. They said at the time that it came to about ten or twelve shillings a head; I preferred to give them the twelve shilling in cash.

27,462. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Do you know how much it was that Mr. Price expended in that way?—No, I do not; he expended more than we did.

27,463. That did not come out at Gloucester; we; were not informed of that at Gloucester?—No.

27,464. "1858, January 6; Hall, Tailor, 10*s.*; "Merrett junior, 2*s.* 6*d.*, January 18, Pedlingham "(per Calton), Subscription 1*l.*"; what is that for?—I have no recolection of what it was for, but I have no doubt that it was some petition brought to me by Pedlingham, and I put Sir Robert Carden's name down for a sovereign.

27,465. It was for some charity?—Yes.

27,466. Would that person be a voter?—Yes; Mr. Pedlingham is a voter and a very respectable man.

27,467. It is "Pedlingham per Calton"?—I do not know what that would be for.

27,468. It would not be for himself but for some one else?—Yes; paid to Pedlingham at the recommendation of Calton.

27,469. "Tandy do. 1*l.*"?—That is the same thing.

27,470. (*Mr. Welford.*) Tandy is a voter, I think?—Yes; he is a very respectable man.

27,471. (*Mr. Vaugham.*) That would be a pound given to Tandy for some one else, in consequence of some representation?—Yes.

27,472. "Butt, for services and revision, 3*l.* 7*s.*:" that would be the Parliamentary revision?—Yes; it is not the Butt you know.

27,473. "January 21st, Drinkwater, Barton-terrace, gift, 10*s.*" Would he be a voter?—Yes.

27,474. (*Mr. Welford.*) He was a bribed voter if I recollect rightly?—Yes, he was.

27,475. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "Subscription to Soup "Kitchen, 5*l.* 5*s.*; January 22d, he Mayor, sub-"scription to dinner fund, Princess Royal's Marriage, "5*l.*; January 27, Benevolent Society, 50*l.*; Wadley "(Upton Saint Leonard's), 2*s.* 6*d.*;" that is a Christmas-box to him I suppose?—Yes.

27,465*a*. "Infirmary for 1858 5*l.* 5*s.*; Dispensary "for 1858, 5*l.* 5*s.*; National School, 3*l.* 3*s.*; Mag-"dalen Asylum, 2*l.* 2*s.*; Conservative Society for "1858, 10*l.* 10*s.*; Lying-in Charities, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Fe-"bruary 4th, subscription to Blue dinner, 2*l.* 5*s.*;" that is for tickets I suppose?—Yes.

27,476. Subscription for tickets?—Yes; that is I gave away those tickets.

27,477. To voters?—I have no doubt many of them were voters, but they would not be all voters; many of them were voters, but they all belonged to the party.

27,478. (*Mr. Welford.*) What was the Blue dinner?—It was the anniversary of an election, 69 years ago, which lasted 14 days, and which the Conservatives won.

27,479. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) You have perpetuated that by a dinner?—Yes; by a Blue dinner.

27,480. "Donation to Working Men's Institute, "per Mr. Lucy, 5*l.* 5*s.*; Subscription to Ragged "Schools, 3*l.* 3*s.* February 6, Merrett, junior, gra-"tuity, 10*s.*; George Woodward, gratuity, 10*s.* "February 16, J. Clarke, gratuity, 10*s.*, March 5th, "George Cook, Worcester-street, gratuity 2*s.* 6*d.* "March 16th, George Cook, Worcester-street, gra-"tuity, 5*s.*" They are all voters, are they not?—Yes.

27,481. "March 24th, War Office, for gun carriage, "&c., 16*l.* April 10th, Drinkwater, a gift, 5*s.*" Is that the same Drinkwater we had above, or is it another man?—It is very likely the same man.

27,482. He is also a voter?—Yes.

27,483. "April 21, Wilkins, Bristol-road, a gift, 5*s.*" That again is a voter?—Yes.

27,484. "May 3d, Subscription to Stock's mangle, "per Miss Neild, 10*s.*" He is a voter, I suppose?—No; she was a widow.

27,485. "J. G. Jones, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, "10*s.*" That again is an elector?—I should think so; I do not remember that at all.

27,486. "May 12, Two Parliamentary Registers, "5*s.*; Mrs. Retalick 2*s.* 6*d.*; Drinkwater, 1*s.*" That would be of the same nature I suppose?—Yes.

27,487. "June 8th, Major Somerset, Ragged School "Children, 3*l.* 3*s.*; June 17, Merrett, 2*s.* 6*d.*; "June 30, Mrs. Snead, a gift, 1*l.*"?—Her husband had left her, and she was in distressed circumstances.

27,488. "July 17, Subscription to Dispensary, "1858–59, 5*l.* 5*s.*; July 19, Woodward (Kimbrose), "a gift, 10*s.*; August 4, J. Clarke (a blind man), "a gift, 1*l.*" Is that the Joseph Clarke we had before us at Gloucester, a pilot?—Yes; he had a distress in his house or something of that kind.

27,489. "September 2d, Dorn, a gift, 5*s.*" He is a voter is he not?—Yes.

27,490. "September 17, C. Davis, St. Mary's-"square, a gift, 7*s.* 6*d.*; October 9, Walter Wood, "contribution, 5*s.*" These are all voters, are they not?—Most of them.

27,491. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Walter Wood is a voter?—Yes; he voted against us I think.

27,492. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) "October 18, Mrs. Harris, "2*s.* 6*d.*" That I suppose, is the widow or sister of some voter?—Yes.

27,493. "October 23, Merrett, junior, 5*s.*; No-"vember 1, Walter Wood, 10*s.*; November 6, "donation to Young Men's Christian Association, "5*l.* 5*s.*; December 15, Municipal and Parliamentary "revisions as agreed, 105*l.*; contribution, municipal "election, 50*l.*; subscription to School of Art 1858, "10*l.* 10*s.*; literary and scientific 1858 and 1859, "2*l.* 2*s.*; Griffiths, for copying briefs, 2*l.*?"—Revision briefs.

27,494. "December 16, alphabetical voters books, "&c., 21*l.*; Trimmer, for disbursements at election, "1*l.*; Merrett, 1*s.*; Drinkwater, 2*s.* 6*d.*; John Brookes, "Pitt-street, gift, 5*s.* December 24, Drinkwater, 5*s.*, "Merrett, 5*s.*, Christmas Boxes; 11 Saint Bartholo-"mew men, Christmas Boxes, 5*l.* 10*s.*; eight at "Kimbrose, 4*l.*" Those are all voters?—Yes; those are all voters. I do not think Mr. Price gave anything the last time, but in consequence of having given it before I was regularly beset by them.

27,495. Mr. Price did not give anything in 1858?—No; I do not think so. I do not think he followed it up.

27,496. Then comes 1859, "January 3d, Mr. White, "auctioneer, for valuing houses and giving evidence "before revising barrister, 2*l.* 2*s.*; January 4, "admittance of seven members to Conservative "Society, at 5*s.*, 1*l.* 15*s.*; admittance of one member "to Conservative Society, at 7*s.* 6*d.*; making together "2*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*" What is that for?—A new member has to pay five shillings as an extra fee, and Maysey had paid for these men, and he appealed to me, and I repaid him.

27,497. Is the process this, that in order to induce them to join that society you pay their entrance money?—It scarcely amounted to that, because I think Maysey paid it thinking that he should get the money again from them, but at that time he had not got the money; he made an appeal to me, and I paid it, not thinking that there was any prospect of his getting the money from the men; he is the treasurer, or has something to do with the society, and he ought not to have trusted them.

27,498. If they did not pay their entrance money when they were admitted why should they not have been expelled?—Perhaps that was the very argument used to me.

27,499. (*Mr. Welford.*) They would have gone to

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J. Lovegrove.

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the Reform Club instead of the Conservative Club?—Yes.

27,500. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) I suppose it was for the interest of your party that you paid it?—Oh yes; quite so.

27,501. "January 5th, Gloucester Chronicle, subscription to Christmas, 16*s.* 6*d*; Haines (per Whithorn), Contribution, 10*s.* January 10th, Harris, Fly Driver (Christmas box), 5*s.*" I suppose those two are voters?—Yes.

27,502. "January 13th, Benevolent Society, per Reverend Barlow, for 1859, 5*l.* 5*s.* January 18th, A. J. Phelps, a gift, 1*l*; Female Benevolent Society, per Miss Page, 2*l.* 2*s.*: Lying in Charity, per Mrs. Barlow, 3*l.* 3*s.* January 20th, Thomas Baylis (per Mr. Belcher), gift, 15*s.*" That is the man we had before us I think. He is an elector, is he not?—I do not know who he is.

27,503. There is a Baylis, a voter, whom we had before us?—I do not remember his name.

27,504. He was one of the bribed parties. "Mrs. Drinkwater, 1*s.*; Mr. Keveren, gift, 2*s.* 6*d.*" He is a voter I suppose?—Yes.

27,505. "February 14th, Tickets, 14, for Conservative dinner, 3*l.* 10*s.*" I suppose they were also given away again to voters?—Yes, to voters, and voters' sons, and so on.

27,506. "Merrett, 5*s.*; Fly drivers 10*s.*; Gibbins 1*s.* 6*d.*; Mr. Hateh, a gift, 5*s.*; Stafford Ticket Conservative Dinner, 5*s.*" I suppose these are also electors?—Yes.

27,507. Did you pay for Stafford's ticket?—Yes; it is not the secretary.

27,508. He is the chairman, is he not?—No; it is not that man; it is some other man.

27,509. But you paid for his ticket?—Yes; it would not be for the president.

27,510. It was for some other person of the name of Stafford?—Yes.

27,511. For some voter of the name of Stafford?—No doubt.

27,512. "February 23d, Harris postboy, gift, 1*l.*" I suppose he is a voter?—Yes.

27,513. "February 28, Walter Wood, do., 2*s.* 6*d.*; Blackford, do., 5*s.*; Cooke, sculptor, do., 5*s.*" Are they all voters?—Yes.

27,514. "Winfield, senior, Winfield, junior, tickets for dinner, 10*s.* Are they voters?—Yes.

27,515. "March 16th, National School Subscription, 3*l.* 3*s.* March 23d, Merrett, a gift, 10*s.* April 1, Leach, subscription boat, 1*l.*"?—The man lost his boat and I gave him a sovereign.

27,516. He is a voter, is he not?—Yes.

27,517. "Subscription to Cricket Club, 2*l.* 2*s.*" That comes altogether to 503*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*?—Yes.

27.518. That is the total amount you received and expended during the election?—Yes; you have an account of everything else.

27,519. I mean to say this is an account of all the money you received from Sir Robert Carden for the purposes of subscription either to municipal or charitable funds or donations to individuals?—Precisely; I thought it better that you should have a full account.

27,520. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) Were these sums spent by you on a general direction or a general leave that you had from Sir Robert Carden to apply his money, or were any of these cases specifically brought to his notice at the time?—I had no direction except to do anything I thought necessary; I had no general direction.

27,521. Was that when he first became member for Gloucester?—It arose in this way: I had made some expenditure and perhaps three or four months after the election that being repaid the expenditure went on.

27,522. From time to time you communicated with Sir Robert Carden and told him you had spent certain sums on his account?—No; I should not do that; I should probably wait until it amounted to 100*l.*

27,523. When it amounted to 100*l.* you would then communicate with him that you had spent as much money on his account?—Yes.

27,524. And he would send you a cheque?—Yes.

27,525. But you had no specific instructions beforehand as to what charities you might subscribe to, or what sums you might expend on his account?—Yes; Sir Robert Carden said that he should like to subscribe to all the public charities in the first commencement of the matter, as soon as he was returned.

27,526. Did Sir Robert Carden treat this account as he treated all the others, by never entering into the particulars of it at all?—I do not think he looked into the particulars of it at all. With regard to the 50*l.* to the Benevolent Society, I should write to him on a subject of that kind.

27,527. And with regard also to contributions to municipal elections, should you write to him upon that subject?—I should in all probability write to him upon that subject.

27,528. What did you do with regard to the subscription to the municipal and parliamentary revision?—That was arranged when I was in town. I asked him what should be done as to the parliamentary revision. He said, "What will the expense come to?" I said, "It will be heavy this year, and I think a hundred guineas ought to be the sum;" and he said, "Very well, let it be so."

27,529. (*Mr. Welford.*) That was intended pretty well to cover the expense on the Conservative side?—Yes.

27,530. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) Those subscriptions and donations that were so made by you were made, I presume, for the purpose of advancing the political interest of the party, and for the purpose of promoting Sir Robert Carden's chances of success at a future election?—Yes; I think so unquestionably. All members spend money in that way.

27,531. Of course one has one's own opinion upon the matter; I only wanted to know whether those were the objects you had in view when you made those payments?—Yes; there is no question about it; not with respect to all.

27,532. But with respect to a number of the subscriptions and donations, you had those objects in view?—Yes; it is expected of all members that they should subscribe to all the charitable institutions in the town, and particularly in Gloucester; it is looked to that the members should support all those things.

27,533. (*Mr. Welford.*) If a member refuses to subscribe, do you think it would injure his chance at a future election?—I do not think he would be looked upon so favourably.

27,534. (*Mr. Vaughan.*) It would not promote his chances of success?—Certainly not.

27,535. (*Mr. Fitzgerald.*) All the members for Gloucester, as far as you know, have subscribed in this way for a long time past?—Yes.

27,536. Did Sir Maurice Berkeley?—Yes; he subscribed to the Infirmary and other institutions; I believe so.

27,537. (*Mr. Welford.*) With reference to this account which you have produced, was sent to Sir Robert Carden?—Yes: he has been supplied with some of it, I am satisfied.

27,538. And were the items set out in the way they are set out here?—Yes; that is a verbatim copy.

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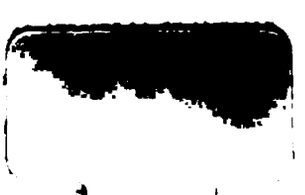
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